

The Weatherly Weekly

August 27, 2017

2017 Edition, Number 35

Unashamed

Author Unknown

I am part of the fellowship of the unashamed. The die has been cast. The decision has been made. I have stepped over the line. I won't look back, let up, slow down, or back away.

My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, and my future is secure. I'm finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tamed visions, mundane talking, cheap giving, and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need pre-eminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded, or rewarded. I now live by faith, lean on His presence, walk with patience, live by prayer, and labor with power.

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is

Heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions are few, my Guide is reliable, my mission is clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded, or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of the adversary, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, let up, until I have stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, and spoken up, for the cause of Christ. I am a disciple of Jesus Christ. I must go 'till He comes, give 'till I drop, preach 'till all know, and work 'till He stops me. And when he comes for His own, He will have no problem recognizing me. My banner is clear: I am part of the fellowship of the unashamed. □

Watch us
LIVE!

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WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

	THIS WEEK AUGUST 27	NEXT WEEK SEPTEMBER 3
Sunday AM		
Announcements	Louis Garrett	Tommy Hill
Song Leader	Jared Jimison	David Jacks
Opening Prayer	W.D. Patrick	Ron Holland
Scripture Reading	Searcy Hall	Wes Caudle
Closing Prayer	Kirk Hatcher	Gene Preston
Sunday PM		
Song Leader	Singing	David Jacks
Opening Prayer	Collis Terry	Will Starks
Closing Prayer	Bobby Wright	Searcy Hall
Wednesday PM	AUGUST 30	SEPTEMBER 6
Song Leader	Mike Coward	Phil Furlough
Invitation	Jim Ehl	Louis Garrett
Closing Prayer	Charley Carter	Ron Harmon
Group Meeting	Group 4	Group 1

QUARTERLY BIBLE CLASSES JULY – SEPTEMBER 2017

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

1 & 2 Thessalonians
Gene Preston

ADITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Study of First Century
Churches
Various Speakers



2018 WEATHERLY LECTURES

TBA

MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES

September	
Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Adam Hagewood Riley Monroe Bobby Wright Forest Summers ** Steve Hagewood
** Overseer	Jim Risner Jeremy Leshko Will Patrick
Lord's Supper PM	W.D. Patrick ** Terry Childress
Visitor Greeting	
Sunday AM	
Rear Door	Doyle & Janice Wray
Side Door	Charlotte Hagewood
Sunday PM	
Rear Door/ Side Door	Hall & Jacks
Communion Prep	Wanda Castleman & Jenny Jacks
Building Lockup	John Stokes

Weatherly's Shepherds

Louis Garrett	(256) 883-7785
Tommy Hill	(256) 883-0010
Will Starks	(256) 883-5273
Forest Summers	(256) 348-2251

Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore	(256) 698-5941
Email:	mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

Steve Hagewood	Ron Harmon	David Jacks
Hill Roberts	Collis Terry	Bobby Wright

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Assembly	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:00 p.m.

Joseph of Arimathea Emboldened!

All four gospel accounts of the life of Jesus mention Joseph of Arimathea (Matthew 27:57-60; Mark 15:43-46; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:38-42). Everything we know about Joseph of Arimathea that comes from inspiration is contained in these few verses. Most intriguing is how he was emboldened by the death of Jesus and honored Him.

Joseph is referred to by John (19:38) and known by most of us today as "Joseph of Arimathea." Luke tells us that Joseph was "a member of the council" (23:50). Mark (15:43) goes further saying he was a "prominent," or "honorable," member of the council.

The character of Joseph is substantiated further by other things said of him in the few scriptures that mention him and from the implications that can rightly be drawn from those scriptures. Joseph had "become a disciple" of the Lord (Matthew 27:57; John 19:38) and was "waiting for the kingdom of God" (Mark 15:43; Luke 23:51). He evidently was able to discern the truth about Jesus and overcome the prejudices and intimidations of many of his peers (John 7:45-49). Joseph was a "rich man" (Matthew 27:57), but he did not allow his riches to deter him from choosing to be a disciple as other rich men did (Matthew 19:16-22). The gospel narratives show us Joseph's willingness to surrender his possessions and riches to provide Jesus with a rich man's burial. But even more, this "council" of which Joseph was a member is spoken of numerous times throughout the gospels and the book of Acts. These passages make it evident that "the council" along with the chief priests and elders were the seat of

power in Judea and southern Palestine, subject only to the authority of Rome. This group was the one that continually sought fault with Jesus and eventually condemned Jesus to death (John 11:47; Mark 14:55; 15:1). But Joseph "had not consented to their decisions and deed" (Luke 23:51). He would not agree to the condemnation and death of an innocent man — especially the one whom he believed to be the Lord!

All four of the gospel accounts inform us that after Jesus was dead, Joseph went and asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Mark said, "coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus (15:43). Some versions translate the verse, "he went in boldly to Pilate" (KJV, ASV). What courage Joseph showed by going and asking for the body of one who was condemned to death only hours before by Jewish leaders and to face Pilate who had demonstrated his willingness to pacify the Jewish rulers by commanding Jesus' crucifixion. Here, Joseph shows remarkable courage, especially when one remembers that Jesus is not yet risen, He is only dead.

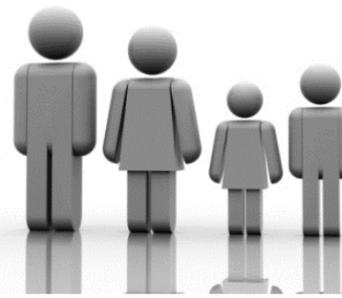
Where does Joseph's newfound courage come from? There is no passage of scripture that gives us a definitive answer; we can only surmise. But, would it not demand courage for one to stand among his colleagues who hate Jesus and refuse to consent to their decision and deeds? Yet, how could Joseph remain true to Jesus and to himself if he did otherwise? Perhaps that is the moment that Joseph began to realize and demonstrate courage; perhaps that courage continued to fill him until he went boldly into Pilate to

ask for Jesus' body. Did Joseph witness the love and humility of Jesus while Jesus was hanging on the cross and when Jesus said, "Father forgive them" (Luke 23:34)? Was Joseph a witness to God's testimony of Jesus during the crucifixion: Did Joseph see the darkness midday and feel the earthquake and hear how the temple veil was rent? These happenings caused a centurion to glorify God and say, "Truly this was the Son of God" (Matthew 27:54; Luke 23:47). If these things had such a profound effect upon a centurion, could they not reaffirm the faith of this disciple and bolster his courage?

The Bible student simply must accept the Holy Spirit's assessment, that Joseph gained new courage asking for the body of the Lord. Pilate granted Joseph the body of Jesus; Joseph did not just "take possession" of the body from Pilate or his soldiers. Luke said "he took it down" (23:53). Joseph removed Jesus' body from the cross! And after removing the bloody, limp body from the cross, Joseph prepared the body for burial. He wrapped the body of Jesus in fine, clean linen cloth (Matthew 27:58; Mark 15:46). He then placed the body in "his new tomb which he had hewn out of rock; and rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb" (Matthew 27:60). Joseph was not only showing courage, he was expending his time, effort, and riches for Christ; Joseph was doing what he could for His Lord.

May we be a disciple of the Lord and be courageous in our faith and do what we can for the Lord just as Joseph did at the burial of Christ. □

Harold Hancock



Family matters

News and Notes of Interest
To Weatherly Members

Pray for Those in Need

Melvin Godette's surgery has been postponed while Cardiologists try to determine the cause of his elevated heart rate. We will update our family as soon as we know when or if *Melvin* will undergo his desperately needed surgery. Please pray for *Melvin's* comfort. This has been very difficult for him and his family.

Elaine Dorris's surgery was also postponed. *Elaine* fell at home last week and broke her ankle. Her ankle will have to heal before she can have knee-replacement surgery. Your prayers are solicited.

Glenda Cavender remains on our prayer list. *The Cavenders* are very hopeful that the immunologist will be able to help her. We continue to trust the Lord for her care and to pray for her comfort.

In the words of his orthopedist, *Marty McLemore* "is suffering from the worst case of spinal stenosis he has ever seen." The search is on for a surgeon that will tackle his case. Please pray for *Marty*.

Ann Summers was with us Sunday. She really is missing being with us, but simply is not able. Your prayers are coveted.

Collis Terry's mom, Carlton Terry, remains on our prayer list. Say her name to the Lord in prayer.

Leslie McCary's ACL surgery went well. She will begin physical

therapy right away. That will be rough. Prayers please.

Carol Blackwood continues in our prayer list. Her condition is not good. Say her name to the Lord.

Betty Reavis, Mike Gore, Art Miller and *Vickie Stevens* remain on our prayer list.

Mike McLemore's Report

Great report for *Mike McLemore*. He went for his first follow-up with his cardiologist on Friday. Results of the EKG were very encouraging. He has been cleared to begin rehab in two weeks. All in all he is making great progress in his recovery. He will see the doctor again in 2 to 3 months. Your prayers for him are solicited.

Our Services Today

Louis Garrett will preach this morning. Tonight we will be singing.

Skills Class Tonight

Remember tonight's Sunday night skills class. Be here at 6. We hope all of our little ones will be able to be present.

Group Four Meets Tonight

Group 4, led by *Ron Harmon*, will meet after services this evening. Please plan to attend your group meeting. □

Weatherly Birthdays

8-28	Adelaide Hatcher	9-5	Kim Barnett
9-7	Dennis Curtis	9-14	Brooke Hatcher
9-19	Hannah Matlock	9-20	Sophia Hunt



AUGUST 27, 2017

Our Real Target

Michael W. McLemore

Businesses must know their target market. Writers must know their target audience. We all make better decisions when we consider the "real target" of our actions.

Have you ever been offended by a neighbor? Have you suffered a verbal blow hurled from the tongue of a classmate? Have you been undercut in front of the boss by a colleague? Have you been insulted by a stranger? Of course you have. We all have. How you respond to those who have upset you often has a costly unintended consequence. Consider the following.

A college professor of religion set up a cardboard target in his classroom. "Draw someone who has upset you," he instructed. Students sketched ex-boyfriends, or girlfriends, coworkers who had mistreated them, childhood bullies. Each, in turn, placed their drawing over the bulls-eye and took aim with a bow and arrow. Afterward, the bulls-eye was riddled with holes. The students celebrated, congratulating one another, until the professor slowly pulled back the target, revealing a representation of Jesus' scarred, torn face.

Silence fell over the class as the professor began reading, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these... you did it to ME" (Matthew 25:40). □

Weekly Walk!