

## WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

	THIS WEEK AUGUST 26	NEXT WEEK SEPTEMBER 2
<b>Sunday AM</b>		
Announcements	Forest Summers	Tommy Hill
Song Leader	Jared Jimison	Charles Hill
Opening Prayer	Collis Terry	Ron Holland
Scripture Reading	Kirk Hatcher	Jim Ehl
Closing Prayer	Gene Preston	Nick Holland
<b>Sunday PM</b>		
Song Leader	SINGING	Charles Hill
Opening Prayer	Tommy Hill	Tommy Hill
Closing Prayer	Nick Holland	Gene Preston
<b>Wednesday PM</b>	AUGUST 29	SEPTEMBER 5
Song Leader	Phil Furlough	Mike Coward
Invitation	Terry Childress	Louis Garrett
Closing Prayer	Ed Dill	Jared Jimison
<b>Group Meeting</b>	Groups 4 & 1	

## QUARTERLY BIBLE CLASSES JULY – SEPTEMBER 2018

### AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Acts of the Apostles  
Mike McLemore

### AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

The People of Acts  
Various Teachers



## 2019 WEATHERLY LECTURES

Speakers to Be Announced  
May 2-5, 2019

## MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES

<b>September</b>	Adam Hagewood
<b>Serving on the Lord's Table AM</b>	Jim Risner Ben Little Forest Summers ** Ed Dill Doyle Wray
** Overseer	Jeremy Leshko Will Patrick
<b>Lord's Supper PM</b>	W.D. Patrick ** Terry Childress
<b>Visitor Greeting</b>	
<b>Sunday AM</b>	
Rear Door	Doyle & Janice Wray
Side Door	Charlotte Hagewood
<b>Sunday PM</b>	
Rear Door/ Side Door	Hall & Jacks
<b>Communion Prep</b>	June Furlough & Diane Dill
<b>Building Lockup</b>	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: mmclmore@weatherlychurch.com

## Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough	Steve Hagewood	Ron Harmon
Kirk Hatcher	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.

# A Closed Mind

Michael W. McLemore

Jefferson, Texas is today a sleepy tourist town in Northeast Texas near the Louisiana border. Years ago it was one of the principle cities of Texas. Merchandise came by steamboat to the landing there and was freighted by wagon westward. The town at its zenith boasted a population approaching forty thousand. Jefferson was one of the first towns in the West to have an ice manufacturing facility. Because Jefferson resisted the railroad line when attempts were made to purchase the necessary land access, companies bypassed the city and within a short period its entire system of commerce failed. It essentially became a ghost town.

The story is told that a deacon from a small denominational church in the country went to Jefferson in July and saw a 300 pound block of ice. He returned to the country community where he lived and reported it. He was brought before the church for examination and trial on the charge of being a liar. He told his story to his brethren. Their decision was classic. He was

found guilty of lying and excluded from their fellowship because, they said, "Anybody knows that only God can make ice, and he can't even do it the summertime."

This comical story illustrates the not so comical reality of the dangers of closed minds. Jesus emphasized the grave expectation of those who would not be healed: "'You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.' For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them" (Matthew 13:14-15).

A closed mind is fatal to future salvation. The man who refuses to acknowledge God as creator, the child who grows up under the influence of Christian parents but refuses to retain God in his knowledge, or the aged religionist unwilling to be "taught of God" all share the prospect of doom because of a closed mind. ☐

# Wash and Be Clean

Michael W. McLemore

Naaman was a very successful man. He was commander of the Syrian army, a great and honorable man in the eyes of his king, a victorious general, and a mighty man of valor. But, he had a terrible disease: leprosy. 2 Kings 5:1-14 gives us the divine record of Naaman.

Naaman learned from a young Israelite slave girl that there was a prophet in Israel who could heal him of his leprosy. As we read the account of how Naaman sought a cure for his leprosy, we may learn some valuable lessons about our own need for cleansing from an even greater malady than leprosy — *sin*.

**Naaman thought his healing could be purchased.** When the King of Syria granted him permission to go to Israel, Naaman “took with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing” (2 Kings 5:5). Apparently he thought he could pay someone in Israel to heal him.

Like Naaman, we cannot purchase our cleansing from sin. However, a price must be paid for our redemption, but not with “corruptible things, like silver or gold” (1 Peter 1:18). Christ paid the price for our redemption on the cross. The Apostle Peter states that Christians have been redeemed “with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Peter 1:19).

**Naaman had an idea about how he thought his cleansing would take place.** He said to himself, “He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the

place, and heal the leprosy” (2 Kings 5:11). When the servant of Elisha the prophet told him to go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and his flesh would be restored and he would be clean (v. 10), he became furious. His preconceived ideas concerning his healing were wrong.

When it comes to our own cleansing from sin, we must also seek God’s instructions instead of what we might think would work. We must not approach God’s word seeking to justify our current beliefs; rather, we must seek to know God’s will through His word, and believe His word.

**Naaman tried to substitute his own terms of obedience instead of the Lord’s.** He did not want to wash in the Jordan River. “He asked, ‘Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?’ So he turned and went away in a rage” (2 Kings 5:12 NKJV).

We must never try to substitute our own doctrines in the place of the teaching of God’s word. Only through our obedience to His commands may we ever have the blessings attached to them.

**Finally, Naaman humbled himself and obeyed the Lord’s instructions.** Naaman could see no logical connection between dipping in the Jordan River and being cured of his leprosy, but he obeyed. Obedience brought its reward: Naaman was healed.

A penitent believer in Christ may not see the logical connection between being baptized (immersed) in water and having his sins washed away (Acts 2:38; 22:16). Certainly, as in the case of Naaman, it is not the water that saves. It is God who saves us, when we obey Him. Obedience has its reward: the cleansing of our sins.

**Will you “wash and be clean”? □**

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## Family matters

News and Notes of Interest To Weatherly Members

### Pray for Those in Need

**Edith Turner** spent Saturday evening in the ER at Crestwood after suffering “a stroke-like” event. The diagnosis was mixed but the CAT scan did not show a stroke. We are thankful for that, but **Edith's** blood pressure remains elevated. Your prayers are solicited.

**Andrea Leshko's** grandfather, **Bobby Nordan**, is continuing to recover from his heart surgery. We will try to give an update on him in the morning announcements.

**Melvin Godette** remains in our daily prayers. Your thoughtfulness toward **Melvin** and family is greatly appreciated.

**Betty Reavis** was able to be with us Sunday. We are continuing to pray for her, asking that our gracious God lessen the side-effects of her treatments.

**Sister Barbara Jean Woodard** continues her recovery at home. Say her name to the Lord in prayer.

Please always remember **Glenda Cavender** and **Ann Summers** by name to the Lord as your pray daily.

I was told by **Phil Furlough** that his “nephew-in-law,” **Jason Wallace**, is doing better. That is good news. We are continuing to pray for **June's** sister, **Shirley Davis**, following the sudden loss of her grandson.

### Upcoming Classes

Beginning on Sunday, October 7th a special adult Bible Class will start for our

young married couples entitled “Shepherding a Child’s Heart.” We hope you’ll be planning for that. The class will meet on Sunday mornings.

Also our Sunday Night Study series begins that same night, Sunday, October 7th. It’s going to be great!

Mark your calendars. We are looking forward to the Fall classes.

### Singing Tonight

**Jared Jimison** will be placing a sign up sheet in the foyer today for those who wish to participate in our evening singing. If you would like to lead a song, read scripture or offer a special prayer this evening, please indicate your willingness by signing up. We have a large number who want to participate and this will allow for planning to accommodate everyone.

### Group Meetings

Group Four, led by **Ron Harmon**, will meet this evening following worship in the large back classroom. We hope all members will be able to attend your group meeting.

Also, Group One, led by **W.D. Patrick**, will meet TODAY immediately after morning worship for a covered dish lunch and group meeting at the home of **Will & Sarah Starks**. Plan to attend your meeting. No group meeting will be held next week. □

### Weatherly Birthdays



8-26	Kirk Hatcher	8-28	Adelaide Hatcher
9-5	Kim Barnett	9-14	Brooke Hatcher
9-14	Henry Little	9-17	Aurora Leshko
9-19	Hannah Matlock	9-20	Sophia Hunt
9-21	Louis Garrett	9-25	LaNelle Patrick

## Silly Sheep

Adapted

One winter, Joe was sliding on a frozen pond when the ice broke. Luckily he was able to get out of the water and crawl to safety. He went home in his wet clothes almost frozen. His mother asked him why he was sliding on the ice. “Because all the other boys did,” he answered. She gave him some dry clothes and something warm to drink. Then she told him a story.

“When I was a little girl, Joe, my father had a great flock of sheep. One day a big ram jumped through a hole in the fence. He was followed by all the other sheep. When the ram tumbled into the bottom of an old well where father used to throw rubbish, the next sheep never stopped to see what had become of him. He jumped in right after the ram, and so did the next one and the next and so on. The sheep kept jumping into the well until it was full. Then father began to pull them out. The sheep at the bottom of the well were almost smothered to death.”

“What silly sheep!” exclaimed Joe. Then suddenly a look of discernment came over his face, and he smiled at his mother. He had gotten the point.

If we simply follow others without watching where we are going, we may very well land in some trouble. “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night...” (Psalm 1:1-3). □

## Weekly Walk!