

Weatherly Weekly

April 7, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 14

Of Mice and Men

Michael W. McLemore

Wise Solomon sagely spoke, "The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps," Proverbs 16:9. Man plans. He charts. He methodically plots. But, in the end he is often left sigh and reprise the lines of Burn's poem "To a Mouse" - "The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry."

The man who lives out "his religion" under the delusion that he is the Master of his own vessel is destined to find himself reenacting the mistake of the mouse. It is God who "establishes our steps." Christ has all authority and God "gave him as head over all things to the church," Ephesians 1:22.

In the first century, God's plan for saving the lost and caring for the saved was made known through the apostles and put into practice by the disciples. God's plan was simplicity itself. Its success was the marvel of all the world. The gospel was sent to the lost. The poor and needy received needed care. And, in all the church was edified.

How was the gospel sent to the lost? By

congregations, 1 Thessalonians 1:2-8. By individual Christians supporting evangelists to carry the gospel message all over the world, Galatians 6:6. And by every faithful Christian "who (would) teach others also," 2 Timothy 2:2.

How were the poor and needy cared for? By each congregation caring for its own needy (Acts 4:34-35, 1 Timothy 5:16) and receiving help from other congregations when needed (Romans 15:25-26), and by each individual Christian "doing good unto all men" as there was opportunity, Galatians 6:10.

How was the church edified? By the elders of each congregation "feeding the flock which is among them" (1 Peter 5:2), and by Christians "exhorting another" and "provoking one another unto love and good works," Hebrews 10:24-2.

God's plan is tried and proven. It worked in the first century, and it will work today. We do not need a new plan. We do not need an improved plan. But we do need and renewed zeal for executing God's plan. The best-laid plans are God's! □

OF MOODS & MOTIVATION

There are days I don't feel like working. There are days when I'm around people that I don't want to be. I'd rather not smile. I'd rather be alone and not be bothered.

Moods are peculiar things. Like the weather they're hard to predict. They are affected by so many variables -- health, work, appetite, family, friendships, traffic, temperature or evening news. Depending upon the mixture of these different conditions and which one is allowed to dominate our thinking we are found to be in a mood that is good or bad, gloomy or bubbly, somber or cheerful, happy or sad, angry or lethargic, or some where in-between.

Unlike the weather, moods can be controlled. We are not at the mercy of the present climate in which we find ourselves in a new mood or succumb to our present one. Ultimately it's our choice.

Your feelings spring from your decisions. The Lord has so constructed the heart of man that the will is given the governance. The emotions certainly prod the will. They fuel your decisions but the will is in the driver's seat. The course of your feelings can be changed by turning your attention to other matters, by steering clear of known hazards, or by doggedly driving ahead through the inclemency even when you don't feel like it.

The fact that your feelings are guided by the will can be demonstrated.

First, experience. Who has not engaged in some endeavor when he didn't feel like it, and found that his mood was changed? Perhaps it was a job, or ball game, or vacation or unpleasant dinner guest. Such a change of emotion certainly doesn't happen in cases where you boast of your bad mood throughout the enterprise. But when you dive into the project with forced enthusiasm, soon manufactured zeal turns into genuine ardor.

Some will argue that the experience of "falling in love" violates the premise that feelings follow choices. Does it? The fact is that from childhood we store up a mental list of personality traits by which we define "attractive." Some of those choices are conscious. Having a parent that's a drinker causes one person to adopt an intolerance toward a prospective mate with the same inclination. Other traits -- maybe eye color -- are less deliberate, even optional. One day we meet the personification of this mental list that we've

been compiling, and we "fall in love." It may even be dubbed "love at first sight." That one whom we have only imagined is now a reality.

Secondly, the Bible affirms that feelings are the product of choices. When Jesus spoke of the superiority of heavenly stores to earthly treasures, He said, "for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). A man's heart or affection lies with his treasure. He feels strongly about those concerns in which he has invested his time, energy, or resources. A woman's feelings about the condition of the home are justified on the basis of the energy she has expended in making it clean and comfortable for the family. A man's pride in ensuring the family's security by his employment is based on his personal investment of labor. It is no accident that the woman carries a baby for nine months. It would seem that the Lord planned such an investment on the part of womankind so that natural affection or "bonding" results. Feelings follow choices. Where the treasure is, there the heart is.

Now make this information practical. Folks excuse behavior on the basis of their moods. They do or don't because they're "in the mood" or "not in the mood." That kind of justification is even used to defend immorality or to dismiss duty.

Consider a few applications. Hungering for righteousness is an acquired appetite. You will feel about Bible study how you choose to feel. If you invest no time and energy in the exploration of the word of God you will not be excited by the enterprise. You set the mood for your worship. Paul said, "Let a man examine himself" (1 Corinthians 11:28). If you make no preparation for the assembling of the saints, such will be a bore to you. Your feelings for your spouse will follow your choices. When you stop doing the little things that accompanied your courtship, is it a wonder that feelings wane? If we make no investment in a relationship, the relationship stops growing and becomes vulnerable to failure or intrusions from an outside party.

"Set your affections on things above, and not own things of this earth" (Colossians 3:2). That commandment implies the possibility of mood control, of regulating our spiritual climate. We must be managers of our affections and not let our affections manage us. □

Watch LIVE

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Wanda Castleman needs our prayers. She is undergoing daily treatments for the infection in her leg. Your prayers for her are needed. This potentially is a very serious condition.

W.D. Patrick received great news following his procedure Wednesday: no further treatments required. He is in recovery mode now. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Betty Reavis' Oncologist has decided to have her undergo Chemo periodically. He described it as "a Chemo blast." This will help to maintain her aggressive approach to the cancer. Pray for **Betty & Bill**.

Mike Coward is once again in AFIB. He will be going back to see his ablation doctor to discuss his options. He said that he feels good, but is just weak. Pray for **Mike & Peggy**.

Tommy Hill was diagnosed with pneumonia last Wednesday. The antibiotics are helping and he was able to get away to rest for a few days at their place in Destin. Remember **Tommy & Becky** to the Lord.

Kim Barnett has had bronchitis. She was pretty sick but is making progress. We are glad that she is improving.

Daily Prayer List:

Please remember these in your daily petitions to the Father:

Barbara Woodard	Melonie Power
Melvin Godette	Glenda Cavander
Ken Cavender	Jeff Harbin
Aladean Jacks	Marty Haselden
Teresa Grizzard	Cornelia Collette

Thanks Guys!

Louis Garrett preached last Lord's Day. It was splendid. We are blessed to have had a man of his ability to stand ready when called upon to preach. Thank you Louis!

Also, **Bill Thompson** taught the adult class on Sunday evening. It was awesome! Thanks, Bill. We are thankful that **Bill & Karen** have chosen to work with us here at Weatherly.

Study Series Tonight

This is Week FOUR of Sunday Night Study series. So far we are off to a great start. Let's make tonight our best yet!

The adult class will be studying **The Churches of Macedonia: Next Level Fellowship**. **Mike McLemore** will be leading the class. See you tonight! ☐

2019 Weatherly Lectures

Remember our upcoming lecture series—May 2-5. Begin praying for the effort. Invite your friends. Invitations will be available next Sunday.

Group One Meets Today

Group One, led by W.D. Patrick, will be meeting this morning after worship at the home of Will & Sarah Starks for covered dish and group meeting.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



4-8	William Hill	4-9	Kate Little
4-12	Auburn Henderson	4-13	Sherrie Stovall
4-18	Peggy Monroe	4-20	John Stokes
4-21	Charley Carter	4-21	Diane Dill
4-21	Maria Hunt	4-23	David Jacks
4-25	Sue Terry		

Writers Can Fix It

Wilson Adams

Occasionally I get lost in a book of fiction. It's a mind escape to a land of unbelievable believable. Good writers (Grisham is a favorite) can weave stories that place you inside the story and cause you to live alongside a mental movie of words.

Writers can craft a story, "fix" it any way they want, and close the drama with a "happily ever after" ending.

We want God to do that. He will, but...

The problem: the story is ours and it's not fiction. It's quite real and we don't like how it's going. We live in a broken world where broken things happen; where lives are shattered -and not just shattered, but shattered beyond repair.

We want God to "fix" it, repair the unrepairable, and re-edit the story so that it has a better ending.

He will, but... His timing and work is beyond what we understand. Ask Esther. Ask Naomi. Or Job and Joseph. It's hard, however when YOU are the story. So, what to do? Keep reading.

This Author isn't forsaking you; He is remaking you. In between the lines of your life, something amazing is happening. Keep turning the pages...



Weatherly Heights
CHURCH OF CHRIST

930 Weatherly Road SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Mailing:

P.O. Box 4619
Huntsville, Alabama 35815

Phone: 256 881-9535

Email: contactus@weatherlychurch.com

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:00 am
Sunday AM Assembly	10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly	5:00 pm
Wednesday Classes	7:00 pm

Stay informed and engaged online at
www.weatherlychurch.com

WATCH:

LIVE Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



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	Ben Little
Hill Roberts	Collis Terry
Bobby Wright	

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, April 7

Welcome: **Will Starks**
Song Leader: **Charles Hill**
Opening Prayer: **Phil Furlough**
Scripture Reading: **Wes Caudle**
Romans 6:1-14
Sermon: **Michael McLemore**
"Sin, Which Leads to Death"
Closing Prayer: **David Jacks**

Sunday, April 14

Will Starks
Hill Roberts
Ron Holland
Philip Dill
Romans 4:13-25
Michael McLemore
"Obedience & Righteousness"
Collis Terry

Evening Worship

Study Series **Week 4**
Songs Leader: **Charles Hill**
Opening Prayer: **Tommy Hill**
Closing Prayer: **Ed Dill**

Evening Worship

Week 5
Hill Roberts
Bill Thompson
Gene Preston

Wednesday, April 10

Songs Leader: **Bill Thompson**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Ron Harmon**

Wednesday, April 17

Mike Coward
Mike McLemore
Louis Garrett

Group 1

2019 Weatherly Lectures
May 2-5

"Living in Christ"

Michael McLemore, Jason Moore, Gary Patton & Eric Reynolds

Group 2

Quarterly Adult Classes
January – March 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Living Responsibly
Tommy Hill

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Lessons from Isaiah
Mike McLemore

Serving in April

Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Riley Monroe	Jim Risner
** Overseer	Jeremy Leshko	Clark Boles
	Charley Skinner	Jim Ehl
	Ron Harmon **	Ed Dill
Lord's Supper PM	Gene Preston **	Kirk Hatcher
Communion Prep		Sue Terry
Building Lockup		Collis Terry

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly

