

Weatherly Weekly

May 26, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 21

Catching Fire

Michael W. McLemore

Conversations with students and young Christians frequently reveal discouragement with what they find in many churches. It is said, "These people care little. They aren't on fire."

My first thought is "How long have you cared? When did you catch fire?" The newly enthused likely fall into three groups: First, new converts, perhaps starry-eyed, but we need their freshness as much as they need our experience; second, new preachers, elders, deacons, teachers, etc., where new responsibility has awakened eyes to see brethren in a different light; and, finally, brethren shaken out of complacency by the influence of those "faithful few" who plug on regardless of what others do or do not do.

The new converts may "burn out" or join the "complacent majority," as too many of them are prone to do; the new teacher may quit in frustration, and the young preacher "moves on" looking for Utopia. But none will have served their Lord with honor. The cause of Christ depends on those who stay on fire, lighting others; whose flame is not the flaring rocket of a

celebration, but the glow and warmth of the home hearth — feeding the family, welcoming strangers. These make the converts, shake the complacent, and with their help continue the work others quit in disgust.

One can be realistic without being a pessimist; can work with the status quo without accepting it as final. We must recognize our problems in order to work on them. Saying the church consists of imperfect people is another way of saying we have a job to do - on ourselves, and others.

The teacher must not quit because the pupils lack interest. It is his or her job to create interest in the subject matter. The zealous young preacher, with maturity enough to control himself and put his talents to work, is just what that dead church needs. By example, we can teach those new converts that all of us are but striving for perfection. There are yet "seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal" Rom. 11:4, why not join hands with them to be salt and light in the world in which we live? ☐

Unacceptable Believers

Kyle Pope

In the early days of Jesus' ministry many people appear to have been drawn quickly to a belief in Him by the miracles which they witnessed Him perform. In the second chapter of the gospel of John we are told: "Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did" (John 2:23 NKJV). While the Bible makes it clear that much of the purpose of New Testament miracles was to confirm personal belief (John 4:48; Mk. 16:20), the occasion to which these verses refer makes it evident that at times the faith which was produced from these miracles was not the sort which pleased the Lord. The next two verses state: "But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew all that was in man" (2:24,25). An interesting point is in these verses about the issue of faith. In the original Greek (from which our English versions have been translated) the word translated "believed" in verse 23 is the same as the word translated "commit" in verse 24. It is the word *pistis* meaning "Faith, trust -- 1. That which causes trust and faith, faithfulness, reliability... 2. Trust, confidence, 3. That which is believed, body of faith or belief, doctrine." (Gingrich AB., 173). We could say then, that this text teaches us that although some "believed" in Jesus, He did not believe in them. Or to put it the other way; even though they had committed themselves to Jesus, He did not "commit" Himself to them. This brings up a number of points from which we can learn related to personal faith:

Enthusiasm and Saving Faith are Different Things:

It must have been a marvelous thing to witness a miracle performed by the Lord. One can imagine the spirit of excitement that swept over the crowds leading scores of people to believe in this man of such great power. Yet we could say that it is one thing to "cheer in the stands" (so to speak) and another thing to "play the game." We don't know exactly what the Lord saw in the hearts of these people that led Him to reject them. But what ever it was it was enough to make their undoubted

enthusiasm insufficient. It is very easy to misjudge someone's spirituality based on how excited or enthusiastic we perceive them to be. Following the Lord in true faithfulness will not always demonstrate itself in external displays of enthusiasm.

It is Possible for Our Personal Faith Alone to Be Displeasing to the Lord:

The concept taught in much of the religious world that salvation is by faith alone is clearly refuted in this account. These people "believed in His name" but they still were unacceptable in the Lord's sight. Another clear example of this is found in Jas. 2:19 which points out: "Even the demons believe – and tremble!" Obviously the faith of a demon is not acceptable saving faith. Why? Because it has not been perfected by obedience. Jas. 2:22 asks regarding the faith of Abraham, "Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?" Faith is only acceptable when it is "made perfect" (or complete) by works of obedience.

Just Because One Believes Doesn't Mean That He Belongs to the Lord:

The world is filled with churches that claim to belong to the Lord. Undoubtedly most of those who make up their membership are sincere people who to some degree believe in the Lord. Yet the account in John 2:23-25 shows us that what determines who (in truth) belongs to the Lord is not a name on a building or a personal experience of faith but the Lord's examination of the human heart. In Acts 2:47 we learn that it is the Lord Who adds people to the church upon true faith and obedience. Heb. 5:8 identifies Jesus as "the Author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him" 2 John 9 shows that the one who has "both the Father and the Son" is "He who abides in the doctrine of Christ."

Let's make certain in our own lives that we not only believe in the name of Jesus, but that we are following Him in such away that He will "commit Himself to" (or believe in) us as well. ☐

Watch LIVE

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Forest & Dot Summers have had a long week. Shortly after their arrival in Park City, Utah, for what was to be an enjoyable few days with family, their trip turned into an odyssey. **Dot** was released from the hospital late last week and cleared to return to Huntsville yesterday. Your prayers for **Dot & Forest** are greatly appreciated.

Edith Turner will be confined to home for a few weeks. She will be wearing a boot to stabilize her ankle. We are thankful her injuries will not pose a long term problem for her. Please continue to pray for her well being.

Sharon Dubose continues the process of recovery from shoulder surgery. Your prayers mean everything.

Wanda Castleman remains in the forefront of our hearts during this extended healing process. Say her name to the Lord each time you pray.

Betty Reavis received an excellent report from her most recent scan. She will be undergoing periodic follow-up Chemo and fluids as needed. Your prayers are solicited.

Debbie Harbin had her CAT Scan. We will update you on the results as soon as we have that information.

We are praying for **Mechi Hunt's** father. He underwent surgery to remove a large mass from his Colon. We do not have word on the pathology but it is feared that it is malignant. Your prayers for him and for his family are requested. We will update his situation as soon as we have it.

Please continue to pray for the mother of **Jenny Jacks**. She fell at home leaving her with broken ribs. Your prayers are solicited.

Daily Prayer List:

Please remember these in your daily petitions to the Father:

Barbara Woodard	Melonie Power
Melvin Godette	Glenda Cavender
Ken Cavender	Jeff Harbin
Aladean Jacks	Marty Haselden

Welcome McCords

Dr. Bill McCord and wife, **Nancy**, have made their desire to worship with us here at Weatherly known to the elders. We are happy to welcome them to Weatherly Heights. The McCords have been worshipping with us for several months. They are a delight. Be sure to meet them and get to know them. We have included their address below. Please make note of it in your Weatherly directory.

4842 Cove Creek Drive, SE
Brownsboro, Alabama 35741

Group Four Meeting

Group Ron, led by **Ron Harmon**, is scheduled to meet after worship tonight. You will be dismissed from the assembly immediately after the Lord's Supper. Plan to attend.

MAY & JUNE BIRTHDAYS



MAY 26, 2019

5-26	Addison Ivey	5-28	Terry Barnett
5-31	Petra Carter	6-1	Elaine Dorris
6-1	June Furlough	6-4	Ellie Pellegrini
6-7	Shelia Hagewood	6-12	Erin Riggs
6-13	Adam Hagewood		

The Place of Work

Adapted

"The fool folds his hands and consumes his own flesh. One hand full of rest is better than two fists full of labor and striving after wind."

— Ecclesiastes 4:5-6

The verses quoted above appear on the surface to work at cross purposes. Verse 5 condemns sloth; verse 6 lauds rest. But perhaps the point Solomon is getting across is moderation. Common sense dictates that some degree of activity toward our own purposes is necessary. On the other hand, being consumed by worldly pursuits to the point of not being able to enjoy the fruits of our labors is truly energy wasted. He writes in verse 8 of one who found fulfillment in work — work that offered no joy in the short term and no satisfaction over his non-existent heirs' future in the long term. "A grievous task" indeed.

As 2 Thessalonians seems to indicate, some brethren were celebrating what they anticipated to be the imminent return of the Lord by foregoing profitable labor altogether. On the other side of the spectrum we have those who justify spending 80-100 or more hours every week in purely secular pursuits, leaving little time for the Lord or family, let alone pleasure. This is not what the Lord has in mind for us. We owe Him, and ourselves, much better. □

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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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, May 26

Welcome: **Forest Summers**
Song Leader: **Jared Jimison**
Opening Prayer: **Steve Hagewood**
Scripture Reading: **Kirk Hatcher**
Colossians 1:15-23
Sermon: **Michael McLemore**
"One in Christ"
Closing Prayer: **Marty Hunt**

Sunday, June 2

Tommy Hill
Charles Hill
Phil Furlough
Jim Ehl
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Michael McLemore
"Fellow Citizens"
Nick Holland

Evening Worship

Bible Skills **Jared Jimison**
Songs Leader: **Singing**
Opening Prayer: **Ed Dill**
Closing Prayer: **Gene Preston**

Evening Worship

Mike McLemore
Charles Hill
Jared Jimison
Hill Roberts

Wednesday, May 29

Songs Leader: **Collis Terry**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Riley Monroe**

Wednesday, June 5

Phil Furlough
Louis Garrett
Jimmy Harbin

Group 4

2019 Weatherly Singing
August 9th

Tim Stevens, John Kilgore & Jack Bradford

Group 1

Quarterly Adult Classes
April – June 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Living Responsibly
Tommy Hill

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Lessons from Isaiah
Mike McLemore

Serving in June

Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Dwight Ivey	Gene Preston
** Overseer	Bobby Wright	Ron Holland
	Charley Skinner	John Beshorse
	Ben Little **	Jerry Mitchell

Lord's Supper PM	Collis Terry **	Terry Childress
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Communion Prep	Julie Singleton
Building Lockup	Jared Jimison

