

Weatherly Weekly

July 7, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 27

“The Untouchable”

Michael W. McLemore

A young woman from a lower-caste family in northern India once eloped with a young man that was considered “untouchable” because of his estate. The village council in that region gave approval to the man’s family to bludgeon the boy’s head with a stone, whip and brand the girl with a burning timber. This was the fate of “the untouchable” and the one who would touch him.

Luke gives an account of Jesus’ encounter with a man “full of leprosy,” *Luke 5:12-16*. No one would go near, let alone touch “a Leper” in that age. He was untouchable. It was not merely viewed as a contagion to be avoided, but the stigma of carrying the malady left one entirely ostracized from society and family. Lepers were wholly unclean and to be avoided by all.

Note Luke’s inspired accounting of Jesus’ response to “the untouchable” – “While he was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy. And when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged him, ‘Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.’ And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him...” *5:12-13*.

Lepers, Gentiles, Publicans, and women

in that day were to be avoided. Rabbis in the time prided themselves as being aloof from the common. They thought of themselves as being so close to God that common sinners, the unclean, should not be allowed to come near. This understanding provides needed context to Jesus’ response to this “untouchable” man.

Jesus received and spoke to him with no rebuke, no reproof, no disdain. It may have been the first time he had been touched in years. Jesus’s touch taught Luke’s readers brotherly love, humility, compassion and generosity.

Luke says Jesus responded to the man, “I will: be clean,” *13*. Do you ever feel “untouchable,” unacceptable or unworthy? Jesus sees us differently. Jesus is approachable. He will not chide you from coming near. He will respond to your need for cleansing, and touch you even if no one else will.

The words of Myra Brooks Welch’s poem from the early 20th Century seem fitting: “But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd, never can quite understand, the worth of a soul and the change that’s wrought by the touch of the Master’s hand.” □

The Lord’s Great Commission

Michael W. McLemore

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

How did you become a believer in Christ? When you look back, do certain people come to mind — people who had a part in helping you come to know the Good News? God could have accomplished His work without any help, but He chooses to reach the lost through believers. What a privilege for us!

In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus charged His disciples to “go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you . . .” Though addressed to the Lord’s closest followers, this “Great Commission” clearly applies by extension to the entire body of Christ.

First of all, the instruction is for individual believers. Someone once said, “The greatest ability is availability.” We will never lead others to enjoy the life-changing experience of knowing Christ if we do not first make ourselves available for the work. Said the prophet of old, “Here am I Lord. Send me!” Ladies and Gentlemen, we are responsible to extend the message of Christ’s unconditional love to the lost, the needy, and the hurting in our midst.

Secondly, the Lord’s “Great Commission” has a corporate application: making disciples and training them in God’s ways. It is the mission of every local church. When we gather for worship and instruction, men, women and accountable young people are lifted up in the Lord. Those outside of Christ who

may gather in our midst see Christ in us. They hear the gospel reproclaimed. The word is given free course and is allowed to do its saving work. Also part of the corporate responsibility is the church’s support of preachers in other places. By this work, local churches have fellowship in the soul saving work commissioned by Christ so very long ago.

Too many Christians are content to settle for a minimal belief in Jesus — they have trusted Him for salvation from their sins and claim heaven as their eternal home. Many times, they go no further. As a result, these believers miss out on the amazing joy of being an evangelistic disciple of Christ. The truth is we all have a specific responsibility. God has appointed His purpose for each of us: “And the things that thou has heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2). We have a responsibility to answer that call by obediently following Him, no matter what the consequences.

When a local church takes the “Great Commission” seriously, God opens amazing doors of opportunity. As we follow His lead rather than our own preferences, we will witness the incredible results of faith in action. People from every corner of the world are longing for relief from the pain and hopelessness of sin. We have the answer. Do you see a door God has opened? Get ready to walk through! □

Watch
LIVE

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Melanie Powers was with us Sunday after an extended period of recovery. She still has much to overcome, but it was amazing to have her back. Your prayers have meant everything to her. We are so thankful that she is better.

Dot Summers was hospitalized on Wednesday morning. It appears her difficulty has been the result of medications. She was released on Friday. Pray for **Dot & Forest**.

Debbie Harbin is still waiting on a date for her back surgery. We will relay the information when it is available. In the meantime pray for **Debbie & Jimmy**.

Edith Turner was with us on Sunday. We were all so glad to see her. She is still not 100%. Your prayers are requested.

Brenda Dorris, Gordon's sister remains on our daily prayer list. She is doing well considering. Every expression on her behalf is greatly appreciated.

Dwight Ivey's mother, **Neida Ivey**, fell Friday evening and broke her hip. The Ivey's anticipate that surgery will be necessary. Your prayers are requested and appreciated.

Mike McLemore's mother, **Jimmie**, fell and cracked her pelvis. Her orthopedist feels the injury will heal on its own with no surgery. That is welcomed news. She is under strict orders to refrain from any activity for the next four weeks. Thank you for your prayers.

It was great to have the entire **Hunt family** home and present for worship Wednesday night. We have missed them, and are grateful that the Lord has watched over them for us.

Daily Prayer List:

Barbara Woodard	Melonie Power
Melvin Godette	Glenda Cavender
Ken Cavender	Betty Reavis
Aladean Jacks	Marty Haselden
Pam Davis	Laura Phillips

Summer Study Series

Tonight is week #3 of our Summer edition of Sunday Night Study Series. We are thrilled with the participation in the effort. Make your plans to be here tonight.

Tonight we will be studying "The Law: A Family Becomes a Nation."



2019 Weatherly Singing, August 9th, with Jack Bradford, John Kilgore & Tim Stevens. Mark your calendar.

Group One Meeting

Group One, led by **W.D. Patrick**, will meet after worship tonight. You will be dismissed from the assembly immediately after the Lord's Supper. Plan to attend.

Group Two Meeting

Group Two, led by **Phil Furlough**, will meet at the home of **Phil & June Furlough** for a covered dish and group meeting Sunday, July 14th, immediately following morning worship. Please RSVP the Furloughs.

JULY BIRTHDAYS



7-10	Will Patrick	7-19	Jim Ehl
7-19	Peggy Shelton	7-27	Donna Godette
7-29	Mike McLemore	7-31	Phillip Dill

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I Really Can Change

Michael W. McLemore

Struggling as we do with sin, it is easy to find ourselves asking, "Can I really change?" Jesus assured that not only is change possible, but also that He has the power to bring His brethren into the very presence of God. In Him, we have been cleansed from the inside-out.

This suggests another more germane question, "How should I live now that I have been cleansed in Christ?"

In Jesus we have been freed from the former consequences of sin, *Hebrews 10:17*. The fear of death no longer grips the heart of the forgiven, *Hebrews 2:15*. Guilt is assuaged, *10:2*. Jesus' sacrifice for sin transformed sinners into saints and servants, *10:14*.

Now, in Christ, God says, "draw near," *10:22*. Those who were separated by sin are now given new access to fellowship with Him. Draw close to Him.

God says, "hope tight," *10:23*. Don't vacillate when it comes to His promises. He is faithful.

In Jesus, He says, "spur others," *10:24*. We need others and others need us. Encourage each other as we serve Him.

In Christ, God says, "serve hard," *10:24*. We ALL have work to do, and love to spread. Let's get to it.

Finally, God says, in Christ, "be family," *10:25*. Be present. Be together. The day will come when we will need one another.

Draw near to God, and allow His Son to transform your life. ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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Weatherly Heights
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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:



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	



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, July 7

Welcome: Will Starks
Song Leader: Charles Hill
Opening Prayer: Collis Terry
Scripture Reading: Jeremy Leshko
Acts 24:22-27
Sermon: Michael McLemore, "Don't Blow Off What's God Breathed"
Closing Prayer: Kirk Hatcher

Sunday, July 14

Will Starks
Hill Roberts
Will Starks
Phillip Dill
Ephesians 6:10-20
Michael McLemore,
"Spiritual Warriors"
Ken Cavender

Evening Worship

Summer Series	Mike McLemore	Mike McLemore
Songs Leader:	Charles Hill	Hill Roberts
Opening Prayer:	David Jacks	Tommy Hill
Closing Prayer:	W.D. Patrick	Jimmy Harbin

Wednesday, July 10

Songs Leader: Collis Terry
Invitation: Mike McLemore
Closing Prayer: Jim Risner

Wednesday, July 17

Mike Coward
Mike McLemore
Jim Risner

Group 1

2019 Weatherly Singing
August 9th

Tim Stevens, John Kilgore
& Jack Bradford

Group 2

Quarterly Adult Classes
July – September 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY
More Lessons from Isaiah

Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY
Philippians: "God Gave You to Me"
Mike McLemore

Serving in July

Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Adam Hagewood	Steve Hagewood
** Overseer	Nick Holland	W.D. Patrick
	Jim Ehl	Clark Boles
	Tommy Hill **	John Patrick

Lord's Supper PM	Ed Dill **	Kirk Hatcher
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Communion Prep	Jenny Jacks & Wanda Castleman
Building Lockup	David Jacks

