

# Weatherly Weekly

September 29, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 39

## Faith That Pleases

Michael W. McLemore

What pleases God? The Hebrew writer answers, "Faith" — "without faith it is impossible to please God," *11:6*. What are the elements of the faith for which God is looking?

Faith believes "that He (God) is." The intricate design of nature demands a Designer. David wrote 1000 years earlier, "The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork," *Psalm 19:1*. Paul identified the designer as God — "For since the creation of the world His (God's) invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse" *Romans 1:20*. "By faith we understand that" (even though we were not present), "the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible" *Hebrews 11:3*. Nature says, "God is." Faith believes.

Faith trusts "He (God) "is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." Such demands an element of trust — taking God at His word, relying upon His promises. As the

Scriptures teach: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths," *Proverbs 3:5-6*.

Faith seeks or "diligently seek(s) Him." "Pleasing" faith diligently seeks Him. God "has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth," *Acts 17:26*. For what purpose did God do these things? Observe, "...so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;" *Acts 17:27-28*. Faith diligently seeks the Lord.

Faith obeys as the writer summons Noah's example — "By faith Noah... in reverent fear prepared an ark for the saving of his household," *11:7*. The entire chapter demonstrates from the lives of people that faith obeys, "all of whom" were commended.

Faith believes God, trusts God, seeks God, and obeys God! Do YOU have the faith that pleases God?

NOTHING SIGNIFICANT in life is accomplished without passion. Passion mobilizes armies, causes explorers to boldly go where no man has gone before, motivates scientists to pursue the cure and every other worthy pursuit. Without passion nothing great is sustained. Is there any wonder that God calls His people to live with passion?

The mercies of God call us to diligent, fervent service for the Lord — "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God... Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.," *Romans 12:1,11*. To paraphrase Paul, "Don't be lazy, but be diligent; get to work!" *11a*.

What gets in our way of building diligence and passion into our lives? Identifying those things which compete for passion will be the first step to its rekindling.

### UNREASONABLE SCHEDULE

Have you ever stopped to consider that we are just too busy? A cursory review of the typical 2019 refrigerator calendar reveals our true passions. Sports, scouts, school activities, family outings, recreation and the like fill our days with busy-ness. From dawn till dusk we are on the run; and there is still homework to do! The Psalmist called it "anxious toil," *Psalm 127:2*. Schedules are competing for attention, leaving no time for God's work, thus rendering faith mere lips service, *James 2:17*. We're just too busy!

### UNCLEAR PURPOSE

Isaiah lamented, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity," *Isaiah 49:4*. Do you feel like that? At times labor seems like nothing but wasted effort. Working without direction robs the heart of passion and leaves workers dejected. Soon work ceases altogether.

Consider the child of God's standing with God. Note Paul's entreaty, "Be fervent in spirit," *11b*. Passion can never truly be ignited in the those estranged from God. Another question is in order. What hinders the possibility of passion in the Christian's life?

### UNCONFESSSED SIN

King David described his iniquity as heavy weight pulling him down and drowning him below the surface of the water, *Psalm 38:4*. It is said that a drowning victim becomes euphoric, almost cooperative before falling unconscious. Sin affects mankind similarly. It corrupts everything it touches, but before it does sin, renders its victims powerless. Unchecked sin robs those burdened by it of all passion for God and for right.

### UNSUPPORTED LIFE

As a young Boy Scout the "buddy system" was drilled into my head. When you do things in pairs, strength in-

creases. The same is true of the life of the child of God. Jesus sent His disciples forward, "two by two," *Mark 6:7*. Where support fails, passion wanes. Forsaking mutual fellowship will never end well for the child of God, *Hebrews 10:24-25*. The island life will not benefit personal spiritual growth. Isolation defeats fervency in the long run.

### UNDERNOURISHED SPIRIT

"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught," *Colossians 2:6-7*. The one who comes to Christ but does not put down roots will not survive, let alone "be fervent in spirit." Passion's predecessors are strength, vitality and encouragement. Those traits come from being immersed in the Word of God,

not in culture and human interest. Unless and until the Christian internalizes the word of God, passion will lack.

Finally, Paul said, "Serve the Lord," *11c*. At some point every Christian must pick up the torch and serve as a radiant light in a dark world. The Lord's field is ripe for harvest and the Lord is calling laborers into His harvest. A third question seems natural. Why are so few willing to answer the Lord's call to the work?

### UNEMPLOYED TALENT

Jesus told His disciples the parable of the talents in the context of judgement in Matthew 25:14-30. His portrait was of three trusted servants with varying abilities, each entrusted with a measure of responsibility. One in three chose to do nothing, offering the feeble excuse that he was afraid. God gave to every man some ability, or talent. A failure to make the effort is no excuse at all. Paul said similarly, "Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him," *1 Corinthians 7:17*. A failure to act always impedes passion.

### UNRESOLVED CONFLICT

Passion and fervency for the cause of Christ will always be dissuaded by conflict. Distractions of any kind frustrate growth, but conflict destroys it possibility. It steals life. Job asked, "You who tear yourself in your anger, shall the earth be forsaken for you, or the rock be removed out of its place?" *18:4*. Conflict works no benefit. Brethren who are unwilling to agree quickly will not long live with zeal.

Remember these five things as you seek to reignite passion in the service of God. We are all called to serve the Lord. We serve as slaves, not volunteers. We are not serving ourselves. We are not primarily serving others. We serve the one who first made us, then loved us to the death. Don't lose heart. Be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord!

# IGNITE YOUR PASSION

By Michael W. McLemore

Watch LIVE



# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## FAMILY UPDATES

### Prayers:

**Guy McDaniel** was hospitalized last Wednesday evening with stroke like symptoms. A stroke was ruled out and extreme high blood pressure judged the cause. At this printing brother McDaniel remains in the Madison hospital, room 324. Your prayers are requested.

**Betty Reavis** has begun a 12 round radiation regime. She will have treatments 5 days each week until the series is complete. She also is undergoing chemo. Pray for **Betty & Bill**. This is a very difficult ordeal.

**Debbie Harbin** continues rehab in an effort to regain her strength following surgery. Continue to pray for her daily.

**Forest & Dot Summers**, after much consultation with her doctors, have determined to forgo radiation treatments. The benefit offered little additional protection against recurrence. Pray for their peace of mind in this decision.

**Laura Phillips, Jenny Jacks'** mom, remains on our prayer list. We are praying for her strength and for her progress. Sister Phillips is being assessed to determine if she is strong enough to return to her assisted living home. If so, she can continue her rehab through home health. Pray she will be up to the move. ☐

### Daily Prayer List:

**Barbara Woodard**     **Melvin Godette**  
**Glenda Cavender**   **Pam (West) Davis**  
**Marty Haselden**     **Travis Barnett**  
**Edit Turner**

## Fall Study Series, October 13th

**Sunday, October 13th** through **November 24th** at **5:00 p.m.** is slated for the next Fall edition of Sunday Night Study Series. Our theme this year is **God Works Through His People: "I Want to Be a Worker."**

We hope each and every family here at Weatherly will plan to participate in these important **lessons on purpose, passion, persistence, purity, prayer, and praise!** ☐

## Guest Speaker Tonight

Tonight we are looking forward to hearing from **Tadd Corder** who preaches for the Eastside church in Russellville, Alabama. Tadd will be giving a first hand report on his recent trip to Africa. Help us welcome **Tadd, Kendra, Trinity, Eve** and **London**.

Our Weatherly family was happy to participate with him by way of support. We hope everyone will be present. ☐

## Ladies Meeting Thursday

The Weatherly ladies will be meeting Thursday, October 3rd, at Sarah Stark's home at 10:00 a.m. We hope our women will be able to attend.

## No Group Meeting

This is the fifth Sunday of the month, thus there will be no group meeting. Any guest cards may be passed to Phil Furlough or Mike McLemore.

## SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



9-30	Rebecca Pellegrini	10-6	Henry Frazier
10-10	Karen Thompson	10-11	Caryl Ehl
10-14	Janeth Hagewood	10-20	Don Roberts
10-24	Amanda Jimison	10-26	Dwight Ivey

## Don't Wipe It Off

Michael W. McLemore

When our youngest daughter Emily was 2 her oldest sister gave a command, "don't touch," which was promptly resisted. Amanda, 16, swatted her hand firmly. Emily looked with disdain directly into her sister's eyes and with her opposing hand wiped it off.

★ Human nature resists being controlled by another. Outwardly one may submit to authority, but inwardly resist. Often discipline, intended to instruct and protect, becomes a point of contention and is privately rejected. It's comical when it involves adolescent petulance and rivalry, but implications for the future are weighty.

God's word convicts the heart of sin, and compels the sinner to make an eternal choice. Accept it, repent and turn in humble obedience to a merciful God of grace, or in hurt and frustration "wipe it off" in rebellion continuing unphased. The Lord is not misled by mankind's maneuvering. He is not fooled, and in the end, no saving change is effected.

Jesus said, "All authority has been given to me," *Matthew 28:18*. He has the right to command; He has invited man to obey Him and live eternally with God, through the Gospel. It may seem to hurt, but it helps, it surely frustrates the human course of this world, but it offers the true course and hope. Don't "wipe it off!" ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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](mailto: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](http://www.weatherlychurch.com)

### WATCH:

**LIVE** Sermon archive or  
live stream during  
all Weatherly services



## Weatherly's Shepherds

**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](mailto:mmclmore@weatherlychurch.com)

## Weatherly's Deacons

<b>Phil Furlough</b>	<b>Steve Hagewood</b>
<b>Ron Harmon</b>	<b>Kirk Hatcher</b>
<b>David Jacks</b>	<b>Ben Little</b>
<b>Hill Roberts</b>	<b>Collis Terry</b>
<b>Bobby Wright</b>	

## Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

### Sunday, September 29

**Welcome:** **Tommy Hill**  
**Song Leader:** **Jared Jimison**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Phil Furlough**  
**Scripture Reading:** **Bobby Wright**  
*Ephesians 5:15-33*  
**Sermon:** **Mike McLemore**  
*In My Home, Lord Be Glorified*  
**Closing Prayer:** **Ron Holland**

### Sunday, October 6

**Will Starks**  
**Charles Hill**  
**Forest Summers**  
**Searcy Hall**  
*2 Corinthians 4:1-10*  
**Mike McLemore**  
*The Spirit of the Age*  
**Nick Holland**

### Evening Worship

**Bible Skillz**                    **Jared Jimison**  
**Songs Leader:** **Jared Jimison**  
**Opening Prayer:** **David Jacks**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Jim Ehl**

### Evening Worship

**Mike McLemore**  
**Charles Hill**  
**Ed Dill**  
**Jim Risner**

### Wednesday, October 2

**Songs Leader:** **Bill Thompson**  
**Invitation:** **Mike McLemore**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Terry Barnett**

### Wednesday, October 9

**Collis Terry**  
**Mike McLemore**  
**Riley Monroe**

### Group 1

**2020 Weatherly Lectures**  
*April 30th—May 3rd*

**Quarterly Adult Classes**  
*October – December 2019*

**AUDITORIUM SUNDAY  
& WEDNESDAY**

The Gospel According to John  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in October

<b>Serving on the Lord's Table AM</b>	<b>Charley Skinner</b>	<b>Bill Thompson</b>
<b>** Overseer</b>	<b>Bobby Wright</b>	<b>Ron Holland</b>
	<b>Jim Ehl</b>	<b>Clark Boles</b>
	<b>Ron Harmon **</b>	<b>Will Patrick</b>
<b>Lord's Supper PM</b>	<b>Ed Dill **</b>	<b>Phil Shaver</b>
<b>Communion Prep Building Lockup</b>		<b>Peggy &amp; Mike Coward</b>
		<b>TBA</b>

