

# Weatherly Weekly

February 16, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 7

## God Hates Idols

Michael W. McLemore

**God** HATES IDOLS of any variety. Idols draw the attention of His people away from Him. The consequences of turning away from God are eternal. I personally know of no person who would bow to a carved image overlaid with gold or silver. That is an unfortunate view of idolatry, because idolatry most often manifests itself in far more insidious ways. In fact, focusing only partially on the Lord is a sure way to succumb to the forces of idolatry.

Both for man's protection and God's own glory, He called men and women of every generation to be true to Him by living in a loving, obedient and reverent manner. Promoting any interest to a position of rivalry for one's affection is an encroachment upon God's dominion.

The Lord described the essential command of God in every generation as, "love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind,"

*Luke 10:27.* Anything less than complete devotion to Him, is to pursue one's own interest, while neglecting every principle of godliness. No idol, whether a person, dream, pursuit, or possession, is worthy of worship. But a holy and just God, whose deep love for mankind moved Him to send His Son Jesus Christ to die in our place, deserves and demands our total love and loyalty.

How does God view man's promotion of rival interests to His dominion? "I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God" *Deuteronomy 5:9.* Jealousy would seem incongruent with God's divine nature. It would appear to be a contradiction. On the surface it might appear so, but a second more positive application is lost to the notice of many – Hebrew *qanna'*, "not bearing any rival."

God created man in love, redeemed him in spite of himself and "guards His creation against any rival." Anything that competes for man's devotion is a just cause for God's jealousy. □

# 5

## WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR PRAYER LIFE!

Edwin Crozier

If there is one thing consistent among almost every Christian I have ever talked to, preached to, studied with, no matter what level of maturity, no matter how long we've been a Christian, most of us think we need to do better at prayer. Either by praying more, praying longer, praying deeper. I say "almost every Christian" because I did poll one congregation during a sermon and one brother raised his hand to say his prayer life was good enough. But I think my polling now ranks in the thousands. One in thousands is not too inspiring. So, what can we do to improve our prayers lives? I'd like to share 5 things that have improved my prayer life. I hope they may help you as well.

#1: SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH GOD.

Don't just intend to pray. Schedule it. Mark it in your day-planner. Put it on the calendar. If you wanted to meet with your boss, you'd schedule it. If you wanted to go on a date, you'd schedule it. When you want to meet with God, schedule it. When someone asks you to have coffee during that time, politely explain you already have an appointment with someone far more important.

#2: HAVE A PLACE OF PRAYER.

Obviously you can pray anywhere at any time. I encourage you to pray everywhere. But I have also found that having a place dedicated to my specific and purposeful prayer time has been very powerful. Why? When I have a place dedicated to praying, every time I even pass by it, I start thinking about prayer. Sometimes it prompts prayer even when I wasn't planning it

(As an aside, don't make your place of prayer your bed or easy chair. One complaint I've often heard among those who pray is, "I want to pray more, better, longer, but every time I start praying, I fall asleep." I ask, "Where are you praying?" The response, "Oh, in bed." I agree with many who say, "What better way to fall asleep." However, I also agree with those who say, "If you fell asleep every time you talked to me, I'd start to get offended." I have a place dedicated for sleep. I try not to confuse the issue by also making that my place dedicated to prayer.)

#3: PRAY OUT LOUD.

This may sound odd, but it has helped me tremendously. Obviously, there are times praying out loud isn't appropriate. When you are in that staff meeting and your boss is getting on your last nerve, you probably shouldn't pray out loud, "Dear God, help me deal with this man." But, pray out loud sometimes and see if it doesn't help. It helps me because when I'm praying my mind can tend to wander. When I'm praying in my head, it is often hard to tell when I'm praying and when I'm just thinking. When I pray out loud, I can always tell. I'm praying when I'm making noise, I'm just thinking when I'm not. By the way, it is great to spend some time thinking while we pray. So even when you pray out loud, don't be worried about times of silence. Take some time to think about what you are praying, but then pray it out loud.

#4: MAKE LISTS.

One of the most helpful tools I've developed is my "prayer Moleskin." In it, I have lists of prayers from the Bible and other sources that I love to repeat. I have lists of praise prayers from the psalms that help me praise God. I have lists for thanksgiving, special requests, evangelists I know, churches I've been to, family, friends, granted requests. With these lists all in one place, I don't have any trouble praying more and longer. In fact, the big trouble is now I have so much to pray for that I struggle finding the time.

#5: PLAN YOUR PRAYING.

Now that I have so much to pray for, I've learned to plan my praying. This is different from scheduling. Scheduling was setting a time to pray. Planning means figuring out what to pray when. You don't have to pray for everything on your lists every day. Rather, plan to pray for certain things on each day. For instance, Sunday is my praise and thanksgiving day. While I do some of that every day, Sunday is specifically for that purpose. Monday is my day to pray for evangelism and evangelists. Tuesday is my day to pray for my family and friends. And so on. Obviously, this is not hard and fast. □

Watch LIVE



# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## FAMILY UPDATES

### Prayers:

**David Jacks** spent Friday evening in the ER after falling going down the front steps at home. He appears to have a torn meniscus. He will see an orthopedic physician this week.

**Ron Harmon** remains in Huntsville Hospital. The doctor hopes that he will be able to close the incision from the latest procedure this week. **Phyllis** completed the regime of antibiotics and is awaiting results from tests to be cleared from quarantine. She hopes she will be "free" by Tuesday. **Gina** and the girls arrived in Huntsville yesterday. Thank you for your prayers for **the Harmons**.

**Keria Godette** had her tonsils removed on Monday. She is doing well. Thank you all for your prayers. **Melvin** will have surgery on the 26th. Pray for this good family.

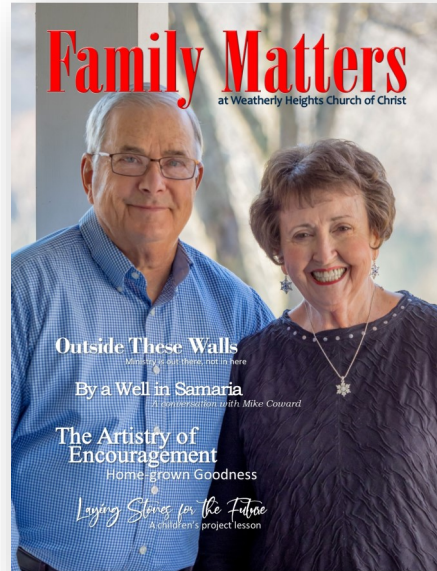
**Will Starks** is doing well. He has begun rehab. We are thankful for his progress. **Jim Ehl** remains at home on "no weight" restrictions. Your prayers are appreciated. **Cathy Preston** & **Stacey Beshere** both continue to recover from surgery. Your prayers are solicited for both.

**Melody Young** is to undergo back surgery on Tuesday the 18th. Please pray for a successful procedure.

**Steven Guice** is home and doing well after completing his first round of chemo. Pray for **Steven**. ☐

### Daily Prayer List:

**Marty Haselden**      **Betty Reavis**  
**Glenda Cavender**    **Laura Phillips**  
**Barbara Jean Woodard**



## Family Matters Magazine

Today marks the beginning of a new effort at Weatherly Heights. **Family Matters Magazine** is being launched today as an extension of our work to introduce members of our community to Weatherly. In addition to the main articles about some in our family, we have placed advertisements for every 2020 event.

We are encouraging you to take a copy for yourself, but take additional copies to give to those you encounter in your day to day activity — a server at the restaurant; leave a copy in the doctor's office waiting room; the grocery clerk; work colleague, etc. ☐

## Group Three Meeting

Group Three, led by Murray Castleman, will meet following worship this evening in the back classroom. Plan to attend.

## FEBRUARY & MARCH BIRTHDAYS



FEBRUARY 16, 2020

2-11	Aaron Gore	2-13	Julie Guice
2-14	Brennan Ivey	2-15	Glenda Cavender
2-15	Hilda Wright	2-17	Olivia Holland
2-23	Layla Belle Beshere	2-27	Penny Hill
2-28	Virginia Skinner	3-5	Liam Jimison
3-6	Harold Smith		

## Growth

Michael W. McLemore

Growth is a law of life in the plant, animal and spiritual kingdoms. Where growth ends decline and decay set in ending ultimately in death. Too many professed Christians do not grow spiritually. They are stunted and dwarfed. Many in our generation substitute activities that soothe the conscience but lack the essential elements of spiritual growth. They have created for themselves a hybrid of little real value.

The growth of the human spirit results from union with Christ and fellowship with God. Reading, prayer, meditation, public and private worship, diligent practice of principles of holiness in life, and self-sacrificial service to others are the mediums of the soul's cultivation and growth. The student of the Bible will note the many references to growth: "As new born babes desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby," *1 Peter 2:2*; "Grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord," *2 Peter 3:18*.

Spiritual growth is essential. We must move up year by year. We must move forward, uphill, embracing greater challenges. It is the law of inspiration and life.

The outward trappings of success are not enough in the realm of the spiritual. The inward state of the soul is God's chief concern. "Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life," *Proverbs 4:23*. ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



**Weatherly Heights CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 930 Weatherly Road SE  
 Huntsville, Alabama 35803

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 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>Hill Roberts</b>
<b>Collis Terry</b>	<b>Bobby Wright</b>

# Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

## Sunday, February 16

**Welcome:** **Tommy Hill**  
**Song Leader:** **David Jacks**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Marty Hunt**  
**Scripture Reading:** **Phillip Dill**  
*Acts 2:36-47*  
**Sermon:** **Mike McLemore**  
*Added by the Lord*  
**Closing Prayer:** **Ken Cavender**

## Sunday, February 23

**Tommy Hill**  
**Jared Jimison**  
**Forest Summers**  
**Wes Caudle**  
*1 Corinthians 16:1-4*  
**Mike McLemore**  
*The Church & Money*  
**Ed Dill**

## Evening Worship

**Bible Skills**                    **Mike McLemore**  
**Songs Leader:** **David Jacks**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Hill Roberts**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Phil Shaver**

## Evening Worship

**Jared Jimison**  
**Jared Jimison: SINGING**  
**Bill Thompson**  
**Bobby Wright**

## Wednesday, February 19

**Songs Leader:** **Charlie Skinner**  
**Invitation:** **Marty Hunt**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Gene Preston**

## Wednesday, February 26

**Phil Furlough**  
**Mike McLemore**  
**Riley Monroe**

## Group 3

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

**Tadd Corder, Wilson Adams & Matt Bassford**

## Group 4

**Quarterly Adult Classes**  
*January – March 2020*

**AUDITORIUM SUNDAY**  
 Galatians  
**Tommy Hill**

**AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY**  
 The Gospel According to John  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in February

<b>Serving on the Lord's Table AM</b>	<b>Adams Hagewood</b>	<b>Bill Thompson</b>
<b>** Overseer</b>	<b>Nick Holland</b>	<b>W.D. Patrick</b>
	<b>Jimmy Harbin</b>	<b>Wes Caudle</b>
	<b>Steve Hagewood **</b>	<b>Will Patrick</b>

<b>Lord's Supper PM</b>	<b>Ed Dill **</b>	<b>Jim Risner</b>
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<b>Communion Prep</b>	<b>Phyllis Harmon</b>
<b>Building Lockup</b>	<b>Ron Harmon</b>

