

## Love Yourself, God Made You

Michael W. McLemore

God wants every believer to walk the fine line between the proper concern for one's self and the need to not "think more highly of himself than he ought to think," *Romans 12:3*. Most can perfectly recite Jesus' admonition, "Love your neighbor as yourself," *Matthew 19:19*. But, we often overlook the "as yourself" portion of Jesus' cautionary charge.

First, love of self is a necessary part of God's plan for His people. We are the product of His creative hand and a direct expression of His love. The proper care of self helps us relate to Him. To despise one's self is to despise the hand of Him who created us in His love. Furthermore, God's love teaches us to see ourselves the way He sees us. We are beloved children, each endowed with unique gifts and abilities. Above all we are the children of God, uniquely created for devotion to and fellowship with Him.

A second essential consideration also

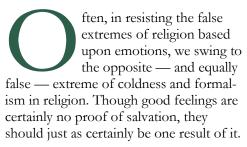
comes into view. Every other person is correspondingly valuable to the Lord, cf. Acts 17:26-28. A failure to value the soul of every other person is to warp and twist who God created us to be. While our self-worth is rooted in the fact that we have a relationship with God, we must see ourselves as the conduit by which the world can see God as He lives and abides in us. This was the failure of the Pharisees in Jesus' generation.

No matter who you are, no matter your circumstance in life, God made you and you are "His offspring." You have value. You are created in His image. You bear His precise likeness, and you are made for His fellowship. Sin is the only barrier to that fellowship, but the Lord secured the means to overcome it. Recognizing your worth and learning to love the person He created you to be is essential to accepting His loving forgiveness and turning to Him in faith. Only then will you become His useful servant.

www.weatherlychurch.com

# HEART FELT RELIGION

Jim Ward



Peter extended God's promise that when we will repent and turn again our sins will be blotted out and "times of refreshing" will come from God, *Acts 3:19*. Surely, the peace and joy of our redemption belong to those "times." It does not surprise us at all, therefore, that

Our joy does not come from perfect, external circumstances; they don't exist.

This world is a place of trouble; life here will never be heavenly. But there is a perfect world.

the Ethiopian treasurer arose from baptism to go "on his way rejoicing," *Acts* 8:39.

But such joy ought not to belong exclusively to the first moments of our freedom in Christ; it should continue and deepen as we mature in Him. Joy is the second fruit of the Spirit named in *Galatians* 5:22.

Peter wrote of Jesus Christ as one "whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith — the salvation of your souls," *1 Peter 1:8-9.* Our "joy inexpressible" is based upon Christ. He loves us; He



watches over us; He intercedes for us. He cares when our hearts are "pained too deeply for mirth of song."

Our joy does not come from perfect, external circumstances; they don't exist. This world is a place of trouble; life here will never be heavenly. But there is a perfect world. Peter wrote of it as "an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials..." 1 Peter 1:4-6. Hope undergirds much rejoicing, Romans 12:12.

Paul wrote Philippians, a letter brimming with joy, from a Roman prison. In that house chained to a Roman guard day and night, he overflowed with joy. "Rejoice in the Lord always," he urged. "Again, I will say rejoice!" *Philippians 4:4*.

When Christ was in Paul's heart, what did it matter that he was in jail?

Just a Note: Jim Ward grew up in East Texas — Lufkin to be exact. He is universally loved among our brethren and an amazing preacher. This piece came from the bulletin published at 12th Street in Bowling Green, Kentucky, where he preached for many years. I re-printed it years ago in the West End Way while I preached in Richmond, Virginia. Jim is no stranger to us at Weatherly. He spoke in our lectures four years ago. I hope you enjoy his insightful article.



# FAMILY MATTERS

## **FAMILY UPDATES**

#### Prayers:

Glenda Cavender has moved to Redstone Village Rehab, room **5244b**. We are thankful for her progress and are praying for increased strength. Pray for both Glenda & Ken.

Melvin Godette is still dealing with pain from his most recent surgical procedures. He is home, surrounded by the love and support of his caring family. He is becoming accustomed to the hardware that was placed to stabilize the part of his back that was repaired. Your most fervent prayers are in order. That is his greatest need. Thank you for your words of encouragement, prayers and cards. Everything you have done is appreciated by the Godettes.

Mike Coward will not have a pacemaker for the time being. He is scheduled for an Echocardiogram on the 24th. Pray for both Mike &

Ron Harmon remains in Huntsville Hospital room 655. Feel free to visit him. You will need to wear a protective gown and gloves. This is for his protection, not yours. Ron is looking forward to a change scenery. We are all praying for his full recovery. Pray for Ron & Phyllis.

Melody Young is home. Matt is working from home mostly. On those days that he has to go into the office, Melody is going over to her mom's. Remember Matt, Melody & Ray in prayer daily.

Edith Turner was not able to be with us last Sunday. She wasn't feeling well. Please pray for her. It's not the same without her.

Stacey Besherse was planning to be with us last Sunday, but **Brody** came down with an

illness — fever etc. She felt it best they not take a risk on contaminating others. We are looking forward to having her back. She's missed.

**Steven Guice** is in the recovery phase of his second chemo treatment. Your prayers are appreciated.

#### Daily Prayer List:

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

## Prayers for Tennessee

Many families have been devastated by the catastrophic tornadoes in Tennessee last week. We are thankful that Megan Caudle's aunt, Zella Pippin was spared serious injury. She did suffer a total loss of her home. Others of our brethren have tragically lost family members. This morning we plan to sing Holy, Holy, Holy — The favorite song of little Sawyer Kimberlin, 2, who perished with his mom and dad, Josh & Erin. Pray for these families.

## **Study Series Begins Sunday**

One week from tonight Spring Study Series begins. Our theme is The Mighty Messiah: God Works Through People. It will be awesome! □

## **Group Two Meeting**

Group Two, led by Phil Furlough, will meet following worship this evening. Plan to attend your group meeting.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



**Evelyn Hall** 3-11 3-12 Stevie Hagewood 3-13 **Collis Terry** 

3-18 Susan Ivey 3-28 Adrienne West

Chase Leshko 3-11 Andrea Leshko 3-13

3-14 3-22

**Becky Hill** 

**Thomas Hill** 

Heirs to a Fortune Michael W. McLemore

I read a story years ago that illustrates the beauty of love that mirrors the love of God for those who love and honor His Son.

"When a certain wealthy man died, no will could be found. The man's wife and only son had preceded him in death. In due time the effects of the deceased were sold at auction.

Everything was disposed of except a portrait of the son that no one seemed to want until an elderly woman approached. Seeing the unsold portrait, she pleaded with the auctioneer to let her purchased it for the few pennies she possessed. When he agreed, she drew the perfect image of the young boy to her heart. She had been the boy's nurse in infancy and his boyhood days.

Later she noticed that attached to the back of the painting was an envelope addressed to an attorney. The woman took it to the lawyer.

He read it and exclaimed, "Woman, you have found a fortune! This is the man's will. He bequeathed a large sum of money to anyone who loves his son enough to by the portrait!"

Another Father has promised "all spiritual blessings" to all who love and honor His Son. He assured material aid to those who seek His cause above all. How rich we are, who have become heirs of God. "Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift," 2 Corinthians 9:15. 🔲





3



#### 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:



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: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

## Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough Steve Hagewood Kirk Hatcher Ron Harmon Hill Roberts **David Jacks Bobby Wright** Collis Terry



Welcome:

Sermon:

Song Leader:

**Opening Prayer:** 

Scripture Reading:

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, March 15

**Evening Worship** 

Wednesday, March 18

## Sunday, March 8

**Forest Summers** 

**Bill Thompson** 

**WD Patrick** 

**Forest Summers** Jared Jimison **Marty Hunt** 

Searcy Hall Philip Dill Isaiah 50:1-11 Psalm 123, 124, 125

Mike McLemore Mike McLemore

Marching in Reverence **Onward Rejoicing Closing Prayer:** Charley Skinner Ken Cavender

## **Evening Worship**

**Bible Skills** Hill Roberts **Sunday Night Study Series** 

**Songs Leader: Bill Thompson Jared Jimison Opening Prayer: Marty Hunt** Forest Summers **Closing Prayer:** Bill McCord Phil Shaver

## Wednesday, March 11

Mike Coward **Charley Skinner** Songs Leader: Phil Furlough Mike McLemore Invitation: **Closing Prayer:** Jim Risner **Terry Barnett** 

#### Group 2

## 2020 Weatherly Lectures

April 30th—May 3rd

Tadd Corder, Wilson Adams. Benjamin Lee & Matt Bassford

## **Ouarterly Adult Classes** January - March 2020

**Group 3** 

## **AUDITORIUM SUNDAY** Galatians

**Tommy Hill** 

**AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY** 

The Gospel According to John Mike McLemore

## Serving in March

Serving on the Lord's Table AM \*\* Overseer

Riley Monroe Dwight Ivey John Besherse Tommv Hill \*\*

Gene Preston Bill McCord Clark Boles John Patrick

**Lord's Supper PM** 

Kirk Hatcher \*\* John Stokes

**Communion Prep** Sue Terry **Building Lockup Collis Terry** 

