

Newsletter of the Weatherly Heights Church of Christ

# Weatherly Weekly

November 1, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 44

## Brands Plucked from the Burning

Michael W. McLemore

John Wesley preserved a picture that an artist had drawn for him of the fire in the old rectory where he had once lived. As a boy, age 6, Wesley had been rescued at the last moment from that fire. Underneath the picture, in his own writing, were the words, "Is not this a brand plucked from the burning?" Isn't our life just like that image? We are all brands plucked from the burning. All that we are and all that we have is ours because of the death of One who gave His life for us. Were it not for Him, we are destined to the fire.

"You are not your own, you are bought with a price," *1 Corinthians 6:19-20*. That is the place where God begins when He moves to convince us that the flesh is not our friend. It is an enemy that must be overcome and conquered. The One we can trust is the One to whom we owe our lives. It is no little thing to be a Christian. It meant a price of blood and pain and tears and death. It meant the cross. We are called to remember that price. Christ assured it when

He called the saved to gather at His table to remember on the first day of each week from the moment of our birth in Christ until the last Sunday before we leave this world.

The Lord's Supper is not some abstract acknowledgment that Christ died for us. It's not a creed we recite that He is the Savior of the world and He died for us. COVID has separated us from each other, but not from Him. Whether in your own home alone, or with family, or in an intimate assembly at the meeting house it is the death of Christ and your memorial of its moving power, in staggering shattering force, with which you must reckon. You are but a brand plucked from the burning. He is your Savior and Friend.

That is the beginning of our deliverance. At His table we remember...

What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear,  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer. ☐

## BREAKING THE DEVIL'S CHOKEHOLD!

Michael W. McLemore

**THE** unattended heart is the working ground of the devil to strangle the spiritual life from God's people. In His explanation of His parable of the sower Jesus warned of thorny

ground hearts: "They are those who hear the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful," *Mark 4:18-19*. The Devil's chokehold must be broken or fruit can never result.

The Devil will exploit those areas of life that remain uncultivated. Jesus' parable exposes the truth about the hearts of His hearers, both first Century and beyond. Then as now, Jesus' initial story seems cryptic and off topic. Jesus asked the twelve during their alone time, "Do YOU not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables" *4:13*. Parable is from the Greek *parabole*, "a placing of one thing by the side of another, juxtaposition." Jesus laid a story next to life; this case is of a farmer doing his own seasonal sowing of seed — "The sower sows the word," He explains, *4:14*. And the word sown into the weeds has no fighting chance to produce essential fruit. The carnal heart goes uncultivated and riddled with the Devil's weeds. Jesus identifies three choking forms, *4:19*.

"**Cares of the world**" describe the unfocused ideals and untempered attachments that occupy time and rob the Christian of mental acuity. The attitude most commonly manifests itself in the excuse, "I don't have time."

"**Deceitfulness of riches**" reveals the great treachery of abundance and the happiness in things. Luke-

warmness is its inevitable outcome and its creed is the same as at Laodicea — "I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked," *Revelation 3:17*.

"**The desires for other things**" will ultimately allow inferior pursuits to master the mind. Soon the mind's

**Mark 4:18-19**

center finds itself far from God; the Christian's important work is left undone.

The Devil chokes the seed by causing the inferior pursuits of life to master our minds, causing the world of God among men to take secondary place. Gain, glory and pleasure are all the briars of the dark world sown to choke the carnal heart.

None is immune. And, unless and until the hearer addresses the Devil's weeds and the carnal heart he will languish and be choked out completely. But, how can the Devil's chokehold be broken? Three things:

**Take radical steps to keep your heart pure,** "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded," *James 4:8*.

**Make God and His work the center of your joy.** It's not enough to remove the junk that clutters. The heart must be filled and occupied with excellence — "What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you," *Philippians 4:8-9*.

**Surround yourself with God's people.** The faithful of God are cultivated soil. They aren't fringe people. If you are to succeed in your service, throw in with them and get busy, *Hebrews 10:25*. ☐

Watch  
LIVE!

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# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## FAMILY UPDATES

### Prayers:

**Bobby Wright** got wonderful news on Monday's visit to the oncologist. The anemia seems to be borderline at worst and is treatable with a regimen of vitamin B12 shots over the next few weeks. Needless to say we are all relieved by this good news. **Bobby & Hilda** are grateful for your prayers.

**Dot Summers** has moved to Harbor Chase Memory Care & Assisted Living, 4801 Whitesport Circle, Room 132 Huntsville, AL 35801

Please pray for **Dot & Forest** during this challenging time. Forest has a scan Tuesday and a treatment Wednesday. Dot cannot have visitors, but cards are appreciated.

**Elaine Dorris'** renal procedure went very well on Tuesday. She is home doing well. At some point the doctor will need to remove the stent that was left in place to allow her to pass the remnants of the stone. "Thank you for your prayers." **Gordon & Elaine**

**Betty & Bill Reavis** continue in our daily prayers. Say their names to the Lord.

**Silvia Henderson's** mother, **Rosa Castaneira**, was hospitalized with pneumonia late last week. Silvia is understandably very concerned. Your prayers are solicited. ☐

### Daily Prayer List:

**Betty Reavis**  
**Melvin Godette**  
**Steven Guice**  
**Charlotte Hagewood**

**Laura Phillips**  
**Glenda Cavender**  
**Dot Summers**

## Nathaniel Auburn Henderson



We are thrilled to introduce **Nathaniel Auburn Henderson**, born to **Rosey & Jason Henderson** October 24th. He weighed 8 lbs, 13 oz, and is 21 inches long. Mom, Dad and baby are doing well. **Silvia** is on top of the world. So many prayers have been offered for this sweet family in the last few years. This is truly a cause of rejoicing for this great couple and son. Grandfather **Auburn** would be thrilled. ☐

## WEATHERLY UPDATES

### This Week at Weatherly:

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** will begin at 9:00 — Join us for Mike's streamed Bible class on **Recognizing Daily Needs** from James 1.

**Sunday morning worship** will begin at 10. Mike continues his "Prophetic Living Today" series. Today his lesson is entitled **Following God's Plan**. His text is **1 Samuel 16**.

**Sunday Evening "Virtual Devo"** will begin on Zoom at 7 pm. We will email a link Sunday.

**Wednesday Bible Study** — Mike continues his textual study of 2 Peter. Class streams at 7 pm. No public assembly Wednesday. ☐

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



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11-1	Sandra Gore	11-1	Lane Roberts
11-8	Crystal Robinson	11-8	Julie Singleton
11-17	Brody Besherse	11-18	Samuel Holland
11-20	Riley Monroe	11-21	Miles Hagewood
11-22	Ina Carter	11-24	Carolyn Holland
11-25	Debbie Harbin	11-25	Amanda Stovall

## Determination

Michael W. McLemore

Florence Nightingale nominated herself to accept the challenge of upgrading hospital standards, improving patient care, enhancing sanitation and promoting nursing education. The efforts of this Englishwoman transformed hospitals from a place where people die to a place of hope and healing.

During the Crimean War, she arose by 4:30 a.m. to leave for the battlefields, where inferior medical care caused soldiers to die unnecessarily. After incredible exploits, saving lives with her trained nurses, Nightingale returned home to England. Restricted to her sick bed, she somehow managed to establish, at age forty, the Nightingale School and Home for Nurses in London. She created a medical revolution from her bed and continued to direct those efforts until her death at age ninety.

Such unmitigated determination resulted is admired and applauded. But, Nightingale is not the first to exhibit great commitment in the face of cruel adversity. Luke recorded Paul's commitment to continue his mission despite the promise of arrest and the threat of death — "I am ready not only to be bound, but to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus," *Acts 21:13*.

Nightingale faced great challenges, yet she overcame them. And in the end Paul faced his day of death with the words, "I have kept the faith." ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

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Weatherly Heights  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## TIMES OF SERVICES

<b>Sunday Bible Classes</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>
<b>Sunday AM Assembly</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>Sunday PM Assembly</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday Classes</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>

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

<b>Tommy Hill</b>	256 883-0010
<b>Will Starks</b>	256 883-5273

## 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>



These are asked to assist in our labor.

### Sunday, November 1

**Welcome:** **Mike McLemore**  
**Song Leader:** **Jared Jimison**  
**Opening Prayer:**  
**Scripture Reading:**

**1 Samuel 16**

**Sermon:** **Mike McLemore**  
**Following God's Plan**

**Closing Prayer:**

### Sunday, November 8

**Mike McLemore**  
**Jared Jimison**

**1 Samuel 28**

**Mike McLemore**  
**His Plans For Your Future**

### Evening Worship

**Bible Skillz** **CANCELLED** **CANCELLED**

**Songs Leader:**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Virtual Devotion on ZOOM** **Virtual Devotion on ZOOM**  
**Closing Prayer:**

### Wednesday, November 4

**Songs Leader:**  
**Invitation:** **Streamed Bible Study** **Streamed Bible Study**  
**Closing Prayer:**

**None**

## 2021 Planning Underway

**None**

## Quarterly Adult Classes

**October – December 2020**

### AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Recognizing Daily Needs  
**Mike McLemore**

### AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Add to Your faith: Study of 2 Peter  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in November

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

**\*\***

**Lord's Supper PM**

**\*\***

**Communion Prep**  
**Building Lockup**

