

Michael W. McLemore

etails matter. Everything we do, or fail to do, can snowball into completely unexpected consequences. I read of a decision to remove the wolves from a park. That action resulted in all of the trees dying. How is that possible?

A park ranger said, "We removed the wolves that controlled the deer. The deer population exploded and they soon ate all there was to eat. They began to eat the bark off of the trees which not only killed the trees directly, but allowed the proliferation of a disease which killed even the trees the deer didn't eat!" Shocking!

Studies have determined if a neighborhood allows the yard of an abandoned house to grow over, or it's windows to remain broken, that crime will soon increase. People with a criminal mindset see the poor maintenance as a sign of apathy and criminal activity is allowed. They move in and soon the area has a crime problem.

Everything we do, or fail to do, has a conse-

quence. That is why those who follow Christ must give close attention to detail in the matter of our conduct and influence. Wasn't it so with Jesus? He was as concerned with the large and important as he was with the struggling individual. Surrounded by thousands of people He often stopped to address the concerns of individuals: one leper, one blind man or one ailing woman.

Jesus gave us insight into the Father's attention to detail. He said, "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered," Matthew 10:29-30, ESV. We serve a God who tends to the small things, the small details which preserve order in the Universe. It is imperative that we imitate our Master. We must do our best to tend to the details of life, Ecclesiastes 9:10. Isn't it amazing how rapidly details can catch up with you? Pay attention to the details. Details matter!

# Wantreal. happiness?

Ken Weliever

elen Keller once observed, "Many persons have a wrong idea of what constitutes real happiness. It is not obtained through selfgratification, but through fidelity to a worthy purpose." If Helen Keller were alive today, what would she think?

Modern-day advertising offers us happiness simply by buying the right car, soft drink or deodorant. Our society is saturated with promises for immediate happiness and instant gratification. In fact, we are infatuated with it. People believe that they have the "right" to be happy. One mental health expert, Dr. Darold Treffert, cited many teen problems on what he calls "The American Fairy Tale."

Two of the five tenets of this theme are (1) More possessions mean more happiness and (2) A person is abnormal unless constantly happy.

The unrealistic image of life often portrayed in movies, on TV and, ironically, in "reality shows," only reinforce this popular myth. Too many of our young people have bought into the message and think something is wrong with them if they are not happy all the

What people often fail to realize is that the real happiness that Helen Keller referred to is based on responsibility. Dee Bowman once wrote, "I see a lot of people

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who are unhappy and don't know why. I am convinced that oftentimes it's because they aren't doing what they know they ought. You can't be fulfilled and derelict at the same time."

Actually "real happiness" is what the Bible calls joy. The happiness of the world is based on externals and depends on circumstances. Joy is based on internals and found in Christ. Paul calls it the "joy of faith" (Philippians 1:25) and exhorts Christians to "rejoice in the Lord" (Philippians 3:1). Jesus promised the apostles "true happiness" when He said, "these things I have spoken to you that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full" (John 15:11).

King David, a man after God's own heart, spoke often of this "true happiness" in the Psalms. He wrote about the "joy of salvation" (Psalm 51:12), joy in the presence of God (Psalm 16:11) and joy in worship (Psalm 27:6). He rejoiced in righteousness, God's goodness and in going into the house of the Lord. He was happy because he greeted each day with this spirit. "This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). We would be happier by developing this attitude.

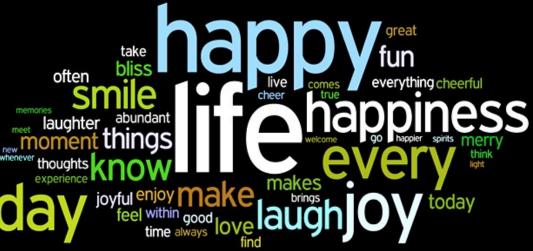
It is no accident that Luke would write David's epithet this way. "For when David had served God's pur-

> he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers..." (Acts 13:36). David's life was about fidelity to God and a worthy purpose.

"Real happiness" is found in Christ and fulfilled in following His purpose for you, which was decreed before the foundation of the world

pose in his own generation,

Want real happiness? Find your purpose and fulfill your duty.



# FAMILY MATTERS



News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

# **FAMILY UPDATES**

#### **Prayers:**

Mike McLemore's father, Henry McLemore, at this printing is in critical condition in an east Texas (Lufkin) hospital. He was taken by ambulance on Saturday morning. He has a series of complications that seem to be the result of an

infection. We are trusting his care to the Lord and would appreciate your prayers for him, mother and our family. He plays a critical role in the small church where they are members. Please keep them in your prayers also.

Ellie Pellegrini underwent ankle surgery on Friday, she is home and resting. She will have a period of recovery this summer. We are praying that it will go quickly and that her discomfort will be removed completely.

Hill Roberts was diagnosed with COVID on Monday and Carol on Thursday. Both are being treated with antiviral medication and are showing improvement. Keep them and their family in your prayers.

Sharon Terry, Collis & Sue's daughter, has COVID. Remember he to the Lord.

Jenny Jacks is better and David never showed any symptoms. We are thankful. Your prayers are appreciated.

Several are isolating because of exposures and some who have respiratory symptoms of various kinds. We would encourage you to stay home if you have sinus drainage, cough or a sore throat. These can be early indicators.

Bill McCord remains in our prayers as he recovers from his recent health challenge. Say his name to the Lord.

Edith Turner continues to have an interest

in our prayers following her second injection. We are praying for good results. Also, please say her daughter's name, Brenda Bradner, to the Lord as you pray. We are so thankful that she is close so that Edit can visit. That'll be medicine for them both.

Please pray for the Harbin family.

Mechi Hunts' sister, Zoila Herring, is to undergo surgery next week. Your prayers for her are solicited.

Ciera Elledge, Will & Sarah Starks' granddaughter, received really good news last week. At this point there seems to be no active cancer. Your prayers and expressions of concern and interest in her are so meaningful. Keep praying, please!

Pray for these. Each has their own particular health challenge. — Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Glenda Cavender, Edith Turner, Melvin Godette & Charlotte Hagewood.

## **TODAY AT WEATHERLY**

Sunday morning Bible Study begins promptly at 9:30 am. Mike will begin a class this quarter entitled, Lessons for Today from Exodus.

Sunday morning worship begins at 10. Mike is concluding his series, **Cultivating Culture**, today. Today we will address "Cultivating Integrity." Personal integrity is essential to our ministry as Christians.

TONIGHT at 6 we will gather for Bible Skillz and our weekly open forum Bible study. We hope to see you all.

Wednesday evening Bible study begins at 7. Mike McLemore will begin the verse-by-verse study of The Book of Exodus.

# **JULY BIRTHDAYS**



Leslie McCarv 7-3 7-19 Jim Ehl

7-27 **Donna Godette** 7-31 Phillip Dill

7-10

Will Patrick 7-19

**Peggy Shelton** 

7-29 Mike McLemore

Satisfied

Michael W. McLemore

he story is told of a famous artist who painted a great picture. It was his finest work, but one day the man was found weeping before his masterpiece.

His houseman inquired, "What's the trouble? Are you not satisfied with your picture?"

"Yes," the sorrowful artist replied, "That's the trouble. I am satisfied!"

This artist knew what we must all acknowledge. Being satisfied, means we will never do better work; ambition will wane and we will begin to slip. His future will no longer be a period of increasing greatness as an artist, nor ours as a Christian.

The stimulus for improvement must be kindled daily, or the joy of doing better work will evaporate. Striving to improve is empowering.

The climb up the hill, the effort to do, the struggle to accomplish, is what brings the greatest and most enduring satisfaction, without which life is worth little. Is there not more fun for the hunter in chasing the fox than in capturing it?

The child of God must take to heart the sadness of the artist before his masterpiece. Never in this life be content to say, "It is finished." Aspire instead to pray, "As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness," *Psalm 17:15*. □

WEEKLY WALK

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# TIMES OF SERVICES

**Sunday Bible Classes** 9:30 am **Sunday AM Assembly** 10:00 am **Sunday PM Assembly** 6:00 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

256 883-0010 Tommy Hill Will Starks 256 883-5273

# **Evangelist**

*Michael W. McLemore* 256 698-5941 Email: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

# Weatherly's Deacons

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



These are asked to assist in our labor.

# Sunday, July 3

## Sunday, July 10

Welcome: Will Starks Tommy Hill **David Jacks** Mel Ambrose Song Leader: **Opening Prayer: Bill Thompson** Collis Terry Lord's Table Lead: Phil Shaver Phil Furlough Ephesians 5:25-27 Acts 2:42-47

Mike McLemore Mike McLemore

**Cultivating Integrity** Attending or Belonging?

**Closing Prayer:** Will Patrick Steve Hagewood

#### **Evening Worship Evening Worship**

**Bible Skillz** Mike McLemore Mike McLemore **Songs Leader: David Jacks** Mel Ambrose **Opening Prayer:** Will Starks **Marty Hunt Closing Prayer:** Kirk Hatcher **Bobby Wright** 

#### Wednesday, July 13 Wednesday, July 6

Collis Terry **Songs Leader:** Hill Roberts Mike McLemore Invitation: Mike McLemore **Closing Prayer: Dwight Ivey Alex Thompson** 

# 2022 Lectures TBA

# **Quarterly Adult Classes** June - September 2022

# **AUDITORIUM SUNDAY**

Lessons for Today from the Exodus

Mike McLemore

# **AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY**

Exodus

Mike McLemore

# **Serving in July**

Serving on the Lord's Table AM & PM

Sermon:

\*\* Phil Shaver (7-3), Phil Furlough (7-10),

\*\* Overseer Ed Dill (7-17), Steve Hagewood (7-24), Tommy Hill (7:31)

**Communion Prep Building Lockup** 

TBA

