

Weatherly Weekly

August 14, 2022

2022 Edition, Number 33

Distractions

Adapted

T.S. Eliot was correct when he stated that we are a people “distracted by distraction.” Distractions can cause us to miss out on beautiful scenes and important matters. Distraction can also lead to tragedy. Ask those who have been involved in car accidents because they were momentarily distracted.

Many things in the world distract us from those things that are beautiful and important. Just watch the news. Big things, little things. Global impacts, local events. Myriad are the things which can capture our attention.

In a world full of distractions, God calls us to look to and follow His Son: “Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let’s rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let’s run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking only at Jesus, the originator

and perfecter of the faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God,” *Hebrews 12:1-2 NASB*.

Many things, important things, are worthy of the focus of our attention. But there should be one main focus: Jesus. Why? Because only Jesus provides the abundant life now and eternal life to come, *John 3:16; 10:10*.

God will save and give eternal life to those who focus on Jesus by placing their faith and trust in Him, *Acts 16:30-31*, turning from their sins in repentance, *Acts 17:30-31*, confessing Him before men, *Romans 10:9-10*, and by being baptized (immersed) into Him for the forgiveness of sins, *Acts 2:38*. Then, those that continue to focus on Jesus by following His Word are cleansed from sin by His blood, *1 John 1:7-9*. Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Focus on Him! ☐

Trial & Temptation

Michael W. McLemore

“No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it,” *1 Corinthians 10:13*.

The Greek word for temptation [*peirasmos*] is often translated as trial or test. Trial is implicit in every temptation. This often-quoted passage assures the believer that when one faces a trial or temptation, it will not be beyond his or her ability to endure or to escape.

How can God make that promise? Consider this. The believer will never face a trial or temptation in life that God has not “tempered.” The Devil cannot willy-nilly twist your arm till you say, “Give!” God tempers his powers to the individual. He operates within limits. God will not allow temptations and trials to be more difficult or powerful for you to face. Whatever trial or temptation that you face in life, you can have the victory over or within through the power of the Spirit of the Lord. That promise can give us hope, no matter what difficulty we are facing in life.

James, the Lord’s earthly brother, said it this way, “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness,” *James 1:2-3*. The word translated “trials” here is the same Greek word that was translated temptation in Paul’s assurance to the Corinthians. James wanted believers to know what the response should be when expected trials come. The natural response is to complain, worry, become depressed – all negative reactions. God’s commands believers to count every trial as all joy.

How? How is rejoicing in trial possible? Believers can rejoice because God permitted the trial for a reason.

BETTER – Trial and is intended to increase growth and strength of every believer. He desires faith to become stronger, better. Trial is the refining fire that purifies and prepares the child of God for greater service.

BELONGING – Believers can count it joy that we are sharing in Christ’s own trials. Suffering abuse for faith has been the plight of God’s people from the beginning. In temptation we become part of an exclusive family. We belong -- “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you,” *Matthew 5:11-12*.

BLESSED -- When we are insulted, persecuted or lied about, Jesus said that we are blessed. We are blessed when we suffer on account of our faith in Jesus. If we are blessed, then we should rejoice and be glad. Why? Because we have a great reward in heaven for following Jesus and remaining true to Him.

BELIEVE — Facing trials is in the believer’s DNA. Seeing Jesus’ death, the greatest trial in human history, opens our hearts and minds to our own light affliction and of the glory to come – “For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,” *2 Corinthians 4:17*. Meditating on Jesus’ trial increases our faith, love and commitment to Him. It prepares believers for the trials in our future. Remember, God allows trials in our lives not to hurt but to strengthen faith. ☐



Watch LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Riley Monroe sent the following note to us last week: "I wanted to let everyone know that **Peggy** will be moving to Thrive Memory Care on Monday (tomorrow). This was not an easy decision but think it will be best for Peggy and the family. Peggy will be happy to have visitors. Pray for us and our family during this transition. Riley."

The Caudles, Wes, Megan & Cooper, are all now well on the road to recovery. We're glad!

We were glad to see **Becky & Tommy Hill** on Sunday. Becky was able to see an ENT last week and we are praying that he will be able to help her. Her severe upper respiratory issues (non-COVID) have been going on since February. COVID only made it worse. Prayers please!

Peggy Childress continues to battle a lung infection. Medication prescribed for the particular infection has proven intolerable for her. They are making changes. We pray this will help her overcome it. Please remember her and **Terry** to the Lord in your every prayer!

It was good to see **Ken Cavender** back on Sunday. He had it pretty rough for a few days during his COVID infection. Thankfully, **Glenda's** case was not severe.

Sister Edith Turner remains in the care of the staff at **Thrive**. We are praying that she will be better soon.

We are also continuing to remember **Evelyn & Searcy Hall**. We are praying she will be back to 100% soon.

David Jacks is steadily improving. He is not

yet back to competition speed but progress is progress. This is a rough recovery.

Shirley Laney remains on our prayer list. We are looking forward to seeing her soon.

Hilda & Bobby Wright are great grandparents again. Ask Hilda. She will happily tell you all about their new little great-grandson.

Zoila Herring's recovery and Chemo continues. Say her name to the Lord as you pray.

Ciera Elledge, Will & Sarah Starks' granddaughter, continues in our prayers.

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

TODAY AT WEATHERLY

Sunday morning Bible class begins at 9:30. Mike is leading us in a study of "Lessons for Today from Exodus." It is amazing how many "take-aways" there are from these old stories. Plan to be a part!

Sunday morning worship begins at 10. Mike is beginning a series in August entitled "FAITH Yesterday and Today." Each lesson will be taken from the Bible book of Romans. Mike's lesson today is "Living Forward: Living Like the Just" from Romans 1:8-17.

TONIGHT at 6 we will gather for **Bible Skillz** and our weekly open forum Bible study. We are involved in a class on Galatians.

Wednesday evening Bible study begins at 7 with our study of the **Book of Exodus**. We hope everyone will be present for class and the devo to follow. ☐

Sadness in Loss

Michael W. McLemore

"Anne Heche has died at the age of 53 after suffering serious injuries in a fiery car accident in Los Angeles." Heche was an accomplished movie actress and celebrity, seemingly with every advantage in this life. I knew nothing really about her or about her accident. Appearances are that she was driving when she should not have been. It's a sad tragedy. Sorrowfully a young life is lost.

My first emotion when I read of her death was of sadness. I wondered what hurts she had in her life that might cause her to be "out of sorts" while driving. It made me think of humankind and the pain in the lives of so many, even those with "life at their fingertips."

I read once of someone who said, "I felt like a lost ball in high weeds! I couldn't find my way out and no one could find me." Many live lives with such feelings. They've lost their bearings, and feel as though no one can come to their aid. It's sad and it causes me wonder why?

It's evident that money and celebrity are no solution. Paul said those things only add to sorrow, *1 Timothy 6:10*. Isn't the problem "misplaced affection"? So many things compete for attention, and so much emphasis is placed on the material with little on God. I would to God that men and women could know "the peace of God that surpasses understanding."

I didn't know Ms Heche. She was young, talented, and beautiful. But, her life is lost. Her oldest son, Homer lamented, "After six days of almost unbelievable emotional swings, I am left with a deep, wordless sadness." I will pray for his comfort. ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



131

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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:

LIVE Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



Weatherly's Shepherds

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Evangelist

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Weatherly's Deacons

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

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, August 14

Welcome: Will Starks
Song Leader: Hill Roberts
Opening Prayer: Ed Dill
Lord's Table Lead: Collis Terry
Romans 1:8-17
Sermon: Mike McLemore
Living Like the Just
Closing Prayer: Adam Hagewood

Sunday, August 21

Tommy Hill
Mel Ambrose
Steve Hagewood
Bill Thompson
Romans 4:1-25
Mike McLemore
The Righteousness of Faith
Phil Furlough

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz Mike McLemore
Songs Leader: Hill Roberts
Opening Prayer: Bill Thompson
Closing Prayer: Bobby Wright

Evening Worship

Mike McLemore
Mel Ambrose
Alex Thompson
Wes Caudle

Wednesday, August 17

Songs Leader: Phil Furlough
Invitation: Mike McLemore
Closing Prayer: Collis Terry

Wednesday, August 24

Mel Ambrose
Mike McLemore
Dwight Ivey

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 August

Serving on the Lord's Table AM & PM
**** Overseer** **** Marty Hunt (8-7), Collis Terry (8-14), Bill Thompson (8-21), Phil Shaver (8-28)**

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

Needed. Please see the list in the foyer.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



8-19	Peggy Childress	8-23	Janice Schrimsher
8-24	Mike Coward	8-24	Lucas Hatcher
8-24	Marty Hunt	8-25	Ron Harmon
8-26	Kirk Hatcher	8-27	Bill McCord
8-28	Adelaide Hatcher		

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