

Remember in Prayer:

The Sick:

Brownie Spicer is back at Heartland after a hospitalization last week for treatment of pneumonia.

Cecelia O'Brien is at home suffering with bronchitis.

James Tanksley is unable to be out due to heart problems and recovery from knee replacement surgery.

Xenna Gooch is still suffering with blood pressure fluctuations and is being closely monitored by her physicians.

Pat Wallace, Betty Copley's sister-in-law, is at home recovering from a bacterial infection. Her address is 1110 Valley St., Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

Continue to remember those recovering from sickness, surgery and those dealing with cancer or chronic illness, including **Otis Dodd (Xenna's brother), Jean Barte (Teresa's stepfather) and Burton Brown (Betty's brother).**

News & Notes:

--**Group 2** will meet today in the Library after the morning service.

"So that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life." Titus 3:7

Names Made in Heaven

1. What did God change Jacob's name to? Genesis 32:38
2. Who was told by God to name his son Maher-shalal-hash-baz? Matthew 1:20-21
3. Who told Joseph what Jesus' name would be? Matthew 1:20-21
4. What prophet was told by God to name his son Lo-ammi? Genesis 16:11
5. Who told Hagar to name her son Ishmael? Genesis 17:5
6. What did God change Abram's name to? Genesis 17:15
7. What was Sarai's name changed to? Genesis 22:9
8. Who was told to name his son Solomon? 1 Chronicles 22:9
9. Who was told to name his firstborn son Jezreel? Hosea 1:9

Answers: 1. Israel; 2. Isaiah (8:3); 3. an angel; 4. Hosea (1:9); 5. an angel; 6. Abraham; 7. Sarah; 8. David; 9. Hosea

ELDERS: Doug Driver
Johnny Felker
DEACONS: Ralph Brown
Mark Claypool


Service Times
SUNDAY
Bible Study—9:00 am
Worship—9:55 am & 6:00 pm
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 7:00 pm

Perry Heights Weekly Bulletin

"...let us consider how we may encourage one another"
Heb. 10:24

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January 18, 2009

Let Us Make God's Thoughts and Ways Ours

David wrote: *"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork"* (Psalms 19:1). Nothing compares to it! The universe—so vast, so complex, so magnificent, a thing of great beauty, design and order—shouts, "A being of infinite power and intelligence planned and executed me." As the apostle Paul words it, in showing the Gentiles had no rational reason for making gods in their own likeness, *"For the invisible things of him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even his everlasting power and divinity; that they may be (or so that they are) without excuse"* (Romans 1:20). Man, then, the only creature made in the very image or likeness of God (Genesis 1:26-27), can look at the world that God created, the world that surrounds him, and at himself, and conclude: "There is a being of unlimited wisdom and power behind all that I see, and I am His, and He is my Sovereign." That being is God.

But what is God like? What is His nature and character? What is His will and His purpose for me? Why has He made me? And what will my end be? And nature, the earth, the moon, the sun, and the stars are silent. Only by a communication, a revelation from that God can man know the answers to these questions. But God has communicated to men; God has revealed Himself and His will to men. We call it, "The Bible." And the Bible declares these obvious truths. *"For seeing that in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom knew not God (it was God's plan to allow men more than sufficient time to learn that by their own wisdom and efforts they could never come to know God), it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching (the preaching of the cross which men regarded as foolishness) to save them that believe"* (1 Corinthians 1:21). *"For who among men knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of the man which is in him? even of the things of God none knoweth save the Spirit of God"* (1 Corinthians 2:11). Paul is referring to the need for and existence of revelation from God by the Holy Spirit. He had received the Spirit of God and written the things of God in the very words chosen by the Spirit of God for the benefit of the Corinthian saints and all others (1 Corinthians 2:12-13).

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Preacher's Pen points

Keys to a Fruitful Life



Just as God's creative power makes His world fruitful, so we as his new creation must depend upon Him to live a fruitful life.

A fruitful life requires _____ creative power, not merely _____ self-exertion.

Drip down, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds pour down righteousness; Let the earth open up and salvation bear _____, and righteousness spring up with it. I, the Lord, have created it. (Is. 45:8)

...for it is _____ who is at work in you, both to will and to work for _____ good pleasure. (Phil. 2:13)

A fruitful life requires death to _____.

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and _____, it remains by itself alone; but if it _____, it bears much fruit. (Jn. 12:24)

He who loves his life loses it; and he who _____ his life in this world shall _____ it to life eternal. (John 12:25)

A fruitful life requires _____ in Jesus Christ.

I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears _____; for apart from Me you can do nothing. (John 15:1-8)

...having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through _____, to the glory and praise of God. (Phil. 1:9-11)

To be fruitful we must get out of the way and let God work! The Hebrew writer expressed it this way: *Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen. (Heb. 13:20-21)*

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We are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalms 139:14); we have marvelous potentials in power, knowledge and wisdom; but we are not God! We are not equal to God! And we are not to think that God is a man (Numbers 23:19; Malachi 3:6) or that God is like man (Psalms 50:21). *"For as the heavens are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith Jehovah. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts"* (Isaiah 55:8-9). Finite man and infinite God! Just as our thoughts and ways are not Jehovah's thoughts and ways, neither are our feelings, perceptions, views, assessments, experiences, aspirations, desires, and ambitions. Let us strive, with the help of God's revelation, to make the thoughts and ways of God ours, and never try to make ours God's. Let us not mistake ours for God's.

So many people are convinced that they are pleasing to God and have the hope of heaven because of their own thoughts and ways, their own experiences, their own feelings, their own perceptions. This is a subjective religion and not a religion of faith. Do not make this mistake. If you think that you are a Christian and that you are heaven bound, be sure that you have God's word for it. It is thus that the Spirit of God will bear witness with your spirit that you are indeed a child of God (Romans 8:16).

Bill Crews. *Park Forest Proclaimer* Volume XV Number 9

We Need Each Other

"No man is an island," wrote John Donne. And he was right! Whether we care to admit it or not, we need each other.

An old farmer was once plowing a field with his only mule. He bellowed, "Giddup Pete, Barney, Kit, Lou!" A passerby heard him and inquired, "Just how many names does that mule have?" "Oh," said the farmer, "his name is Pete. But he don't know his own strength. So I put blinders on him and yell out all those other names, and he thinks they're all helping him."

Just like us, that old mule needed to feel that he was part of a team. The Bible encourages those in Christ to *"exhort one another daily"* (Heb. 3:13) to *"bear one another's burdens"* (Gal. 6:2) and to *"pray for one another"* (James 5:16). We are not isolated individuals. We are members of the same spiritual body, *"laborers together with God"* (1 Cor. 3:9).

Practice being an encourager to those around you. How good it is to promote harmony within your congregation, within your family, within your circle of friends! Just as Pete the mule needed the help and strength of others...so do each of us! --Bulletin Digest