

Remember in Prayer:

The Bereaved:

Our sympathy is extended to the family of **James Ford**, Faye Rogers' brother, who passed away and was buried last week.

The Sick:

Xenna Gooch is improving some but is still being closely monitored by her physicians due to continued blood pressure problems.

Karen Shelton is recovering at home after having surgery on her feet last week.

Celia Vozka, sister of Dorothy Shaver, had surgery last week to try to find the cause of her continued problems. Adhesions were found, and her gallbladder had to be removed.

Jean Tanksley has a torn rotator cuff and will have to have surgery after she recovers from surgery she had last week to remove a skin lesion.

Continue to remember those recovering from sickness, surgery and those dealing with cancer or chronic illness, including

Brownie Spicer, Burton Brown (Bettye's brother), Cecelia O'Brien and James Tanksley.

News & Notes:

--**Group 1** will meet today in the Library after the morning service.

Jesus - First

Jesus performed many miracles and proved that He was the Son of God (Jn.20:30-31). Now, if we believe that Jesus is the Son of God, we will put Him first in our lives (Luke 14:26-33; Mt. 6:33). Putting Jesus first in our lives means that He is more important than any material possession, any human relationship, one's own freedom, and even our very life! We must be willing to surrender all, even willing to die in order to be faithful to Him (Acts 21:13; Luke 9:23,24).

The Bible teaches that we must have acceptable faith to be pleasing to God. Matthew 8 refers to great faith. The book of James speaks of living faith. We can't doubt God's love or His power and have a faith that is pleasing to Him. Are you putting the Lord first in your life? --*Bulletin Digest*

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

Perry Heights church of Christ
423 Donelson Pike
Nashville, TN 37214
(615) 883-3118

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

February 1, 2009

Stop & Smell the Roses

Some years ago, I was driving through beautiful mountains. The person with me lived in the mountains in which we were traveling, and I asked, "What is it like to live in a beautiful place?" The answer surprised me, as he explained how he had got used to living in the mountains - he didn't pay attention anymore.

Pay Attention

Since that day, I've been careful. I try to stay out of the trap of ignoring God's blessings. I try to pay attention to the good things around me, and smell the roses. When we are aware of God's blessings in our life, it helps us in many ways.

Be Thankful

When we stop and smell the roses, we're reminded of God's blessings. We think about the good things God is doing in our lives, rather than our troubles. We view life from a glass-half-full perspective, rather than a glass-half-empty perspective. Our thankfulness is then reflected in our prayers, as well as every aspect of our life. We *"rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks"* (1 Thes. 5:16-18).

Be Positive

A positive attitude results from smelling the roses. If anyone had a reason to have a negative attitude, it was the apostle Paul. He had been in prison, beaten, scourged, beaten with rods, stoned, shipwrecked, and poor. But through all this, he remained positive - he focused on good things rather than bad things.

Paul had *"learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need"* (Phil. 4:12). *"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me,"* he proclaimed to the Philippians, and everyone who observed his life (Phil. 4:13). Paul's attitude was, *"God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God"* (Rom. 8:28). Paul knew that God used everything in his life for good, even when suffering greatly for the cause of Christ.

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Preacher's Pen points

Getting Rooted by Assembling with the Saints



If we are to bear fruit for the Lord, we must get our roots down deep into the word. Assembling with God's people provides opportunities to become more fruitful.

Getting Rooted...

And he will be like a tree firmly _____ by streams of water, which yields its _____ in its season, and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers. (Ps. 1:3)

...word of truth, the gospel, ...has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing _____ and increasing... (Col. 1:5-6)

...By Assembling with the Saints

...and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own _____ together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near. (Heb. 10:19-25)

It will increase our personal _____ of the word of God.

And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the _____ of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ... (Eph. 4:11-12)

Learning Times	Sunday Morning	All Services
In one year	_____ hours	_____ hours
In a decade	_____ hours	_____ hours
In a lifetime	_____ hours	_____ hours

If we are totally serious about bearing fruit for the Lord, then we will want to avail ourselves of every possible opportunity to grow in our knowledge. I challenge you to “get rooted” by attending all the assemblies of the saints!

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Our challenge is to believe in God, that He works all things together for good to those who love Him - no matter what happens.

Enjoy Life

God is the One from whom all our blessings come - *"Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights"* (James 1:17). As the giver of all our blessings, God teaches us to enjoy them while doing good - *"Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share"* (1 Tim. 6:17-18).

Smell the Roses

So we should stop and smell the roses, paying attention to God's many blessings in our life. This will help us be thankful and positive people, enjoying life as God's children.

When's the last time you stopped and smelled the roses? --Dee Bowman

"...For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:38-39

The Greenhouse

1. What plant sprang up miraculously to give shade to the prophet Jonah? Jonah 4:6
2. What kind of tree did the weary Elijah sit under? 1 Kings 19:4
3. What plant had such a bitter taste that it became a symbol for sorrow and disaster? Proverbs 5:4; Amos 5:7
4. What, according to the New Testament, produces the smallest seed of any plant? Matthew 13:31
5. Which book mentions the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley?
6. What kind of tree did Zacchaeus climb in order to see Jesus? Luke 19:1-4
7. What kind of wood was Noah's ark made of? Genesis 6:14
8. What miraculous event was the eating of bitter herbs supposed to commemorate? Exodus 12:8
9. What tree's spice was used in making oil for anointing? Exodus 30:24
10. What grain did not suffer from the plague of hail in Egypt because it had not grown enough? Exodus 9:32
11. What massive trees were brought to make the beams and pillars in the Jerusalem temple? 1 Kings 5:6

Answers: 1. A gourd; 2. A brook tree; 3. Worm-wood; 4. Mustard; 5. Song of Solomon (2:3); 6. A sycamore; 7. Gopherwood; 8. The Passover; 9. The cassia tree; 10. Rye; 11. The cedars of Lebanon