

SERVING IN WORSHIP

April 06, 2014

Sunday Morning Worship

Call to Worship: Prov. 3: 1-6

Doug Driver

Song Leader

Ralph Brown

First Prayer

Curtis Hickey

Presentation

Doug Driver

Lord's Table

Jim Smiley Walter Culbreth

Bo Wohlrabe Fred Duggin

Speaker

Johnny Felker

Prayer & Announcements

Alex Crowell

Usher: Dennis Blanton

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Sunday Evening Worship

Call to Worship: Psa 100:1-5

Mark Claypool

Song Leader

Various

First Prayer

Walter Culbreth

Invitation

Stanton See

Lord's Table

Jim Smiley

Prayer & Announcements

Alex Crowell

Usher: Dennis Blanton

Remember in Prayer

The Sick

Evelyn Felker, Johnny's mother, is now at The Gardens at Providence Place, 1016 Charlie Daniels Parkway, Mt Juliet TN. 37122. Her room number is 5.

Joyce Dodson is at Signature Healthcare for rehab. It is located at 832 Wedgewood Ave. Nash. Tn. She is in room 209. Cards should be sent to the home address as she can not receive them at rehab.

Doug Dennis is very weak and unable to eat anything that is not soft. His son takes him for a short ride every day, however, that is all he is able to do. He has good days and bad.

Pat Wallace, sister-in-law of Betty Copley, passed away Friday in Alabama. Please remember her husband Bobby and all the family. The funeral is Sunday. Cards may be sent to 1110 Valley Drive, Muscle Shoals AL 35661.

Sandy Kingston has recently been diagnosed with breast cancer. They feel that it has been caught early.

Alice Beard is having carpal tunnel surgery on her left hand Monday 4/7. Please keep her in your prayers.

Pam Jenkins, a friend of Sandy Scott, has had a recurrence of cancer after two clear years. It was found in her hip. She fell Friday and broke that hip. She had surgery Friday and prayers are requested.

Continue To Remember

Loraine Calvert , (Dorothy Shaver's sister) Doug and Betty Dennis, Evelyn Felker (Johnny Felker's mother), Debra Luther, Ronald Miller (Larry's Dad), Ruth Neely, Betty and Susan Peterson, Ernestine Reed, Katherine See and Margaret Sehorn, Bobby Wallace & Family, Susie Kaiser, Joyce Dodson., Jonathan Grant (husband of Carol Badacour's niece), Jane Storey (Ethel's sister), Bo Wohlrabe's parents, Randy Wallace (Betty Copley's niece), Mike Page (friend of Alex Crowell), , Janett King, Kathy Haselden (Carol Badacour's sister-in-law), Gaye Hickey, Tim Nolan, Dan Edward's (brother-in-law). Anna Booher.

News & Notes

-- Group

1 will meet today in the Library after the morning service.

---BIRTHDAYS---

4/7 Inez Loftin

ELDERS: Doug Driver, Johnny Felker

DEACONS: Ralph Brown, Mark Claypool

Perry Heights Weekly Bulletin

Perry Heights Church of Christ
423 Donelson Pike
Nashville, TN 37214 (615) 883-3118
www.perryheights.faithweb.com

Service Times:

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 am; Worship 9:55 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

"...let us consider how we may encourage one another"

Heb. 10:24

April 06, 2014

Measuring your own commitment level to Christ

Self Test: Will you pass?

Gauging the health of our national economy is a difficult task. There are, however, a number of external indicators that will collectively give us a general idea. Some of these include the unemployment rate, interest rates and the number of new homes being constructed. When you average all the results, you will get a feel for how good or bad the economy is doing.

It can be difficult to get an accurate picture of how good or bad we are doing as Christians. This is because our true spiritual condition is not something that can be seen with human eyes. God has said, "man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart". (1 Samuel 16:7) We can, however, get a general idea of our spiritual condition and our commitment level with 6 external indicators. They are the visible aspects of your faith that others can see. Jesus said, "you will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:20) Although other men cannot read your heart, they can get a glimpse of it by looking at the outward evidence of your inward faith in God.

Weekly attendance

We are commanded by God to attend with the church every Sunday. "Let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together as is the habit of some" (Hebrews 10:24). Our weekly attendance habits are the most obvious spiritual indicators that others see. When a newborn wakes up for the 5th time that night, the mother doesn't jump out of bed and say, "Oh Junior. I'm so glad you woke me up again. I haven't seen you in over 1/2 an hour! More likely she will grumble to herself, "My mother always said she would get even with me when I had kids of my own." Yet, although she would rather sleep in bed, the mother always attends to the baby. She gets up, not because she wants to, but because she is committed to the child in love. Her feelings tell her to stay in bed, but her commitment to the child makes her get up. This is the kind of commitment you must have to the Lord. When Jesus calls you out of bed Sunday morning to go the assembly, you might feel like sleeping in, but your commitment to Jesus makes you get up. In this way weekly attendance is truly an outward indicator of your commitment level.

EVALUATE YOURSELF	Committed	Average	Poor
Your weekly attendance	?	?	?

PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY

Romans 10:17 says, "Faith comes by hearing the word of Christ". Faith is not the product of some mysterious process. Rather it comes from the Bible as we read and study it. God speaks to us today through the scriptures. We can know God's will. There is no guess work, because He has revealed it in print. How much time do you spend with the Bible on a private basis? Do you study the Bible for in depth information? Do you read it daily just to keep familiar with the basic content of the scriptures? The time you

Preacher's Pen points

Are You Ready to Meet the Lord?



What does Luke 12 teach us about spiritual readiness?

* * * *

The n_____ for spiritual readiness

*Be dressed in r_____, and keep your l_____ alight. (Luke 12:35)
And be like men who are w_____ for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open the door to him when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master shall find on the a_____ when he comes; (Lk. 12:36-37)
Truly I say to you, that he will gird himself to serve, and have them recline at the table, and will come up and wait on t_____. Whether he comes in the second watch, or even in the third, and finds them so, b_____ are those slaves. (Luke 12:36-38)*

The r_____ for spiritual readiness

And be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what hour the t_____ was coming, he would not have allowed his house to be broken into. You too, be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not e_____.” (Luke 12:39-40; 1 Thes. 5:2-3)

The o_____ of spiritual readiness

*And from everyone who has been g_____ much shall much be required; and to whom they e_____ much, of him they will ask all the more. (Luke 12:42-48)
The level of one's accountability/responsibility is contingent upon his k_____ and a_____.
There is a greater a_____ for those who have been entrusted with the blessings of God's grace.
However when it comes to those outside the kingdom, there is no premium placed on i_____.*

Are we ready for the coming of the Lord? Would He find us on the alert if He came back today?

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spend with the Bible is an external indication of how much faith you have.

PRIVATE PRAYER

The New Testament describes the prayers of Christians as sweet smelling incense that rises up to the throne of God. (Rev 5:8) We communicate our innermost thoughts and feeling to God through prayer. How much time do you spend in prayer apart from giving of thanks at meals? Are you a sweet smelling fragrance to God?

EVALUATE YOURSELF	Committed	Average	Poor
Your prayer life	?	?	?

MORAL CONDUCT

Fellow church-members may have nothing but praise for you. The true test, however, is how you conduct yourself in your home. You may be able to put on a false front for your neighbours, but your husband/wife & children see you as you really are. It is easy to put on a show of righteousness when you are in a crowd, but who are you when no one is looking? You may fool others, but you can't fool God, for nothing is hidden from His sight!

EVALUATE YOURSELF	Committed	Average	Poor
Your moral conduct	?	?	?

EVANGELISM

Evangelism is telling others about the Gospel of Christ. Most people think of evangelism as something that the preacher it paid to do. The Bible teaches, however, that every Christian has the responsibility to evangelize. "Always be ready to make a defence to everyone who asks you to give an account of the hope that is in you." 1 Peter 3:15 Do you openly talk to non-Christians about Christ? Have you been involved in at least one Bible study with a lost friend in the last year? Would you consider yourself involved in evangelism at all?

EVALUATE YOURSELF	Committed	Average	Poor
Your outreach efforts	?	?	?

GIVING

"Now concerning the collection for the saints...On the first day of every week let each one of you lay by in store as he may be prospered." (1 Corinthians 16:1-2) Christians are under the obligation to give money into the church's treasury every Sunday. Money is a touchy subject because it is closely connected with the material things we desire most. It represents the most tangible form of self sacrifice. The Bible teaches that Christians should know in advance, the amount they will give. In practice, however, many merely give the loose change in their pockets when the collection plate is passed. They simply "tip" the Lord. The reason people do not give to the church as God expects is found in 2 Cor 8:5. "They gave themselves first to the Lord then to us in keeping with God's will." If you have "given yourself" to God, you will have no problem giving generously of your finances. The amount of money you give each week relative to your ability, is an external indicator of how committed to God you are. Would you describe yourself as a sacrificial giver?

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the question we have been asking is, "Have you given yourself first to the Lord"? Really, that is the issue we are talking about. Your level of commitment to the Lord is a matter determined within your own heart. But the six things we have talked about here, are external indicators of your spiritual level of commitment. 2 Cor 13:5 "Examine yourself to see if you are in the faith, if indeed to pass the test." How did you do as you examined your faith as other men see it?

Steve Rudd

<http://www.bible.ca/g-commit-test.htm>