

SERVING IN WORSHIP

September 21, 2014

Sunday Morning Worship

Call to Worship: Prov. 3:1-6

Larry Miller

Song Leader

Curtis Hickey

First Prayer

Walter Culbreth

Presentation

Brandon Graves

Lord's Table

Alec Crowell Bo Wohlrahe

Michael Pittman Steve Tomlinson

Speaker

Johnny Felker

Prayer & Announcements

Mark Claypool

Usher: Ralph Brown

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Sunday Evening Worship

Call to Worship: Psa: 100:1-5

Brandon Graves

Song Leader

Larry Miller

First Prayer

Jim Smiley

Speaker

Johnny Felker

Lord's Table

Mark Claypool

Prayer & Announcements

Dennis Blanton

Usher: Ralph Brown

Remember in Prayer

The Sick

Juanita Wallace Gatewood, Betty Copley's sister-in-law, has finished her radiation. No other treatments have been determined at this time.

Bo Wohlrahe has been suffering with shortness of breath and coughing. He has his second treatment Monday. Please keep praying.

Frank McNabb, husband to Shirley Ford's sister-in-law, is suffering from COPD. He is in the hospital and is not doing well. Prayers are requested.

Sarah Edwards, mother of the Driver's son-in-law, continues in Vanderbilt. She has been having seizures and has not known the family. This week the seizures have stopped, she knows people, and seems to be improving. She has been in the hospital 4 weeks. However, the cancer is still an issue.

Mildred Scott, Sandy Scott's ex mother-in-law, had surgery to relieve pressure on the brain due to two large hematomas. She is taking therapy at home, and is able to walk some. She is making slow improvement.

Wayne Whitt, Sandy Scott's uncle, is back in rehab. He is able to walk with a walker and is making slow progress.

John Moore, Sandy Scott's cousin, had several retinal tears repaired. He is doing well at this time. They are waiting to see if any more tears occur.

Josh Neville, has been moved to Stallworth for rehab after being hit by a car and spending several weeks in Vanderbilt. Prayers are requested.

Geraldine Gregory, Linda Driver's aunt in Indiana, passed away last Sunday. She was 93. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Ronald Miller, Larry's dad, has had to stop his cancer medication due to the side effects. He has been off the medication for two weeks while the doctor's try to find another treatment. Please keep him in your prayers.

Jonathan Grant, husband of Carol Badacour's niece, is still struggling with cancer. He had further tests this week.

Teachers Meeting, there will be a meeting today at 5:00 for all teachers.

Continue To Remember

Loraine Calvert, (Dorothy Shaver's sister), Betty Dennis & Family, 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 Wohlrahe's parents, Janett King, Tim Nolan, Dan Edward's (brother-in-law). Anna Booher, Pam Jenkins (a friend of Sandy Scott), Ryan David Smith (nephew of Felker friend), Jeff Haselden (Carol Badacour's father), Venita Drenning (Betty Copley's sister), Suzy Martell (friend of Shirley Ford), Sarah Edwards, mother of the Driver's son-in-law, Sandy Kingston, Vicki Collins (a friend of Betty C. and Carolyn L.).

News & Notes

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

—BIRTHDAYS—

9/22 Delbra Crowell & Frankie Patterson, 9/24 Teresa Graves, 9/26 Mary Ann Batts & Jennifer Hargis.

ELDERS: Doug Driver, Johnny Felker

DEACONS: Ralph Brown, Mark Claypool

Perry Heights Weekly Bulletin

Perry Heights church of Christ
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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

September 21, 2014

If We Believed What They Believed

by Gary Kerr

One of the reference works I usually keep close at hand when studying any part of the New Testament is the paraphrase translation of J.B. Phillips, The New Testament In Modern English. I don't agree with all of Phillips' suggested wording, but I often find his efforts helpful in clarifying some particular passage or point. The translation was originally produced in sections, with the first, Letters To Young Churches (Romans through Colossians), being published in London during World War II (it included a preface and recommendation written by C.S. Lewis).

In his introduction to that book, Phillips writes the following about the New Testament epistles and their authors and recipients:

"Without going into wearisome historical details, we need to remember that these letters were written, and the lives they indicate were led, against a background of paganism ... Slavery, sexual immorality, cruelty, callousness to human suffering, and a low standard of public opinion, were universal; travelling and communications were chancy and perilous; most people were illiterate. Many Christians today talk about the 'difficulties of our times' as though we should have to wait for better ones before the Christian religion can take root. It is heartening to remember that this faith took root and flourished amazingly in conditions that would have killed anything less vital in a matter of weeks. These early Christians were on fire with the conviction that they had become, through Christ, literally sons of God - they were pioneers of a new humanity, founders of a new Kingdom. They still speak to us across the centuries. Perhaps if we believed what they believed, we might achieve what they achieved."

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Preacher's Pen points

The Amazing Jesus His Amazing Meekness

Defining Meekness

Strength under c_____; strong enough to be _____.
It is the ability to s_____ wrong rather than d____ wrong.

The Meekness of Jesus

*Blessed are the m_____, for they shall inherit the earth.” (Matthew 5:5)
Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am m_____ and lowly in heart;
and you shall find rest for your souls. (Mt. 11:29; cf. also 2 Cor. 10:1)*

In his o_____ to God's commandments

*And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things
that are p_____ to Him. (Jn. 8:29; cf. Jas. 1:21)*

In the q_____ of his work

...and warned them not to make Him k_____ (Mt. 12:16–21)

In his unpretentious d_____

*Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold your King is coming to you, Gentle, and
mounted on a d_____, Even on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden. (Mt. 21:5)*

In his s_____ in the face of unfair provocation and accusation

*He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not o_____ His mouth; Like a
lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is s_____ before its shearers, So
He did not open His mouth. (Is. 53:7; cf. Mt. 26:63; 27:12-14; 1 Pet. 2:23)*

***What an example Jesus has left us! Let us show that meekness by submitting hum-
bly to God's instructions, by patiently enduring those who wrong us, by leaving
room for the wrath of God instead of taking our own vengeance, by going about our
lives doing good without self-glorification, by giving people a real taste of spiritual
life lived before them without resorting to marketing hype.***

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That final sentence is profound and powerful -- "Perhaps if we believed what they believed, we might achieve what they achieved!"

Within a generation of the establishment of the church, the apostle Paul could write of those who carried the gospel message that "their voice has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world" (**Romans 10:18**). Paul wrote about the gospel that it had been preached "in all the world" and that it had been "proclaimed in all creation under heaven" (**Colossians 1:6, 23**). This is an incredible achievement -- to begin with a few comparatively unknown and uneducated people (**cf. Acts 4:13**), and to have a message did not appeal to the "wise", the "mighty," or the "noble" according to the flesh (**1 Corinthians 1:26**). But they had strong faith and a zeal born of that faith, that caused them to launch out boldly and sacrificially, to the point of being willing to give up their lives for the cause they had taken up. And God gave them amazing success. They were "on fire" for the kingdom, for the gospel, and for the souls of their fellow human beings, believing with all their hearts in the sacrifice and promises of Jesus, the Son of God and Savior of men. Being a Christian and going to heaven meant everything to them, and they wanted "all creation under heaven" to share with them in these blessings.

Do not be deceived into thinking that their achievements were easily accomplished. Right from the start they were opposed and persecuted. When the first of their number was martyred, such a widespread persecution developed that all except the apostles were driven from their homes and scattered abroad (**cf. Acts 8:1**). But this did not slow them down or dampen their enthusiasm. Wherever they went, they were found "preaching the word" (**Acts 8:4**). They preached it as they had opportunity, not depending on others (i.e., preachers, elders, etc.) to do the work for them. Each Christian considered him/herself both privileged and responsible to win souls for Christ. Their cause was new -- they were pioneers.

I fear that today we do not appreciate our "spiritual blessings" as they did. It is not our life as it was theirs. We are not spending and being spent for it as they were. To some degree, at least, perhaps we do not "believe what they believed."

"Perhaps if we believed what they believed, we might achieve what they achieved." If we did, I am convinced that God would give us success, too.

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