

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Worthy

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Brandon, Vanessa, Josiah; Ben and Carla; Kenny Dearing; Wayne and Cathy; Peggy Beebe.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program.

Today's Scripture: "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me." **Matthew 10:37-38 (KJV)**

Wisdom for Today: "I will call upon the LORD, *who is worthy* to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies." **Psalms 18:3 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday 26: Our Record: 107

For more detail, please go to the web site.

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God's Plan of Salvation

Hear.....	Romans 10:17
Believe.....	Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent.....	Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess.....	Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized	Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise & Walk in Newness of Life	Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto sal-

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes:	10AM
AM Worship:	11AM
PM Worship:	5PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study:	7PM
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OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Worthy

Have you ever felt unworthy? Sometimes I get to feeling that I am not worthy of any of the gifts that God has given to me. Afterall , who am I that God should love? I am nothing more than an old man who hasn't done much in life that is noteworthy. When I compare myself to the early preachers in northern Arkansas and southern Missouri in the mid to late 1800's and very early 1900's listed in the book "Arkansas Angels" (not to mention Paul, Peter, James or John) I see myself as lacking in many ways. Many of those early preachers gave their entire lives to the spreading of Gods word and preparing everyone that they met to face the judgement while working a farm or teaching in the public schools.

Men like J.H. Curry who rode his horse 20 miles each way to preach at a small congregation and made it back in time to teach school on Monday morning. Or William Hooper, known as the walking preacher because he walked to every congregation that he preached at. And he never turned down an invitation to preach. Other men during this time preached meetings that lasted for three weeks. Or men that began preaching in the morning and preached all day. And at least one who had memorized the entire bible. So considering these men I really do not feel worthy. Afterall, I have never had to walk to a service or walk home 35 miles through 3 inches of snow after preaching as one of the early preachers did. I haven't debated denominational preachers. I haven't memorized even an entire chapter of the bible much less a whole book. It is too easy to use my computer software to locate a verse for me. And I haven't been threatened to be shot if I baptized someone. Nor have I been stoned, or pelted with green walnuts. And no one has put dynamite in the podium with the intention of blowing up me and the building.



But God still considered me worthy enough to allow His only son to die on a Roman cross so that I could live eternally. **John 3:16 (KJV)** "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." God planned for our salvation from before time began. In his letter to the Christians in Ephesus Paul tells us this: **Ephesians 1:3-7 (KJV)** "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;" It's im-

Article By: Bill Beebe

portant to understand that Paul is writing to Christians when he says that we are blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ. It is only those who are in Christ that have those blessing. And Paul then continues by saying that God has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world. Paul is still speaking to Christians. We are the ones who have been chosen, not alien sinners, then he talks about Christians being predestined to the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will. It is Christians that Paul is writing to and about, not individuals as some would have us believe. I am not individually chosen, I have not been individually predestined simply because I happen to be me. I am chosen, I have been predestined because I chose to obey the gospel and become a Christian.

So am I worthy of Gods love? Am I worthy His grace? No I am not, but God loved me while I was still a sinner. John tells us this: "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." **1 John 4:10 (KJV)** And Paul tells us this: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." **Romans 5:8 (KJV)** So even though I can never do anything that would cause me to be worthy of Gods love, or of the sacrifice of Jesus, God still loves me and Jesus still thinks that I was worth dying for. And that makes me worthy!

Because God considered me ,and all of us, worthy of His never ending love and Jesus counted our salvation worthy of His horrible death on that rough Roman cross, we have access to eternal life. God has done all the work, He planned for us to have an opportunity to be saved. He considered all of us worthy of that. And our part is to recognize what He has done, hearing about it when we hear the gospel, believing what we have heard, repenting and therefore turning away from of our old life and turning toward a life guided by Jesus, confessing our belief that Jesus is Gods son and that He died for our sins, mine and yours. Then replicating his death burial and resurrection by being baptized by immersion in water for the remission of our sins (Acts 2:38) rising as a new person, having been born again, living that new life as close to God as we possibly can. So...while we may not consider ourselves worthy when we compare our lives to others that we know or have read about, God considers each one of us worthy because of His love for us. Jesus considers each one of us worth dying for.

Am I worthy? Yes! Not because of who I am or what great things I may have done. I am worthy because God considers me worth His everlasting love and Jesus considers me worth dying for. And that makes me, and each of us, worthy. Don't squander this, it is worth more than all the gold or diamonds in the universe.

You are worthy of salvation, don't miss it because you think yourself unworthy of Gods love