

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

# Complaining

## OUR FAMILY NEWS

**Pray:** Michael Richardson. Nell Kelly had hip replacement surgery, not knee surgery as reported last week in the bulletin. Danesa's mother (Jean) pray for both of them, Josiah, Wayne and Cathy, Helen Spicer, Peggy . All health care providers

**Traveling/Working:** Slope workers. Ben, Carla and family are in TN for a couple of months. Terri Douthitt will be traveling for the next week.

**Breakfast and Young Men's Training:** There will be a breakfast at the Mat-Su Family Restaurant on Saturday October 17, 2020 beginning at 8:00 AM. The young men's training will be held at the church's building following the breakfast. Everyone is invited to the Breakfast.

**Friday Evening Class:** The class will begin at 6:00 PM and will be held at Daniel and Emery's home. It will be a potluck and a Bible study so don't miss the chance to share a meal with your Christian family and to look into Gods word.

**Radio Programs:** Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program and our "One Minute for God" series which airs three times a day six days a week on KMBQ 99.7.

**Today's Scripture:** " Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer." **1 Corinthians 10:10 (KJV)**

**Wisdom for Today:** "Even to day is my complaint bitter: my stroke is heavier than my groaning. Oh that I knew where I might find him! *that* I might come *even* to his seat!" **Job 23:2-3 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday 74/57: Our Record: 107

*For more detail, please go to the web site.*

### ELDERS:

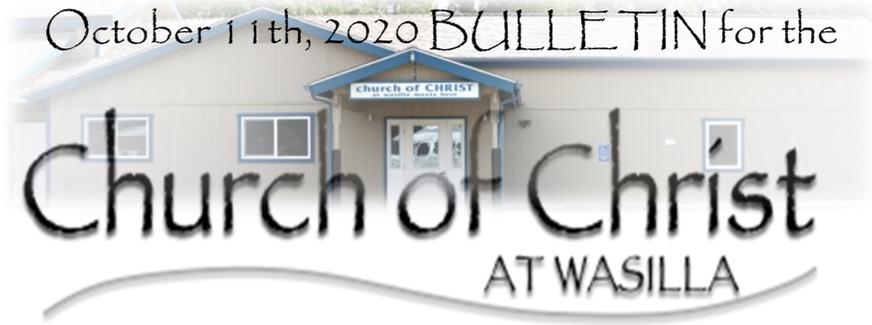
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### EVANGELIST

|            |                |  |
|------------|----------------|--|
| Bill Beebe | (907) 841-9261 | <a href="mailto:bill@churchofchristwasilla.com">bill@churchofchristwasilla.com</a> |
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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 salvation to everyone that believeth..."

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**MEETING TIMES**

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

Wednesday:  
 Bible Study: 7PM

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

**COME JOIN US!**  
 The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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 Wasilla, AK 99654  
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Visit our website at:  
[www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

*Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected*

## Complaining

All of us have been guilty of complaining about something. We complain about school and the teachers who made us do homework. Or as parents, we complain that the schools are not adequately preparing our kids for the “real world” and the fact that they don’t have much home work to do now like we had to do. We complain about our jobs, our bosses, our co-workers, our spouse and our kids. And if there is nothing else that we can find to complain about, we complain about the weather; it is either too hot or too cold, too dry or raining too much. We even complain if there is not enough snow or if there is too much. And sometimes we even complain about church. Why do the Elders schedule services at the times that they do. Or the sermon was too long, or too short, the teacher is teaching too fast or taking too long to teach that set of lessons. The fact is that we seem to be destined to complain about something, and too often if there is nothing real to complain about we make something up and complain about something that is actually good for us.

The Israelites were a whole like us in this regard. After God sent Moses and Aaron to secure the release of the Israelites and guide them to the promised land, God had allowed them to plunder the Egyptians; “And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders. And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians.” Exodus 12:34-36 (KJV). But it wasn’t long until they began to murmur. “And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD. And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.” Exodus 14:10-12 (KJV). They had seen the miracles that God performed through Moses. They had seen the firstborn of all Egypt die on that night that the Angel of God passed over their homes because they had trusted God’s word. And yet, they still complained and murmured, thinking they were going to be killed by the Egyptians. But God parted the waters, dried a pathway and allowed them to walk through with walls of water on either side, then collapsed the waters on the Egyptian army. Where was their faith in this incident, didn’t they know that it was God who had secured their release and that He would take care of them?

Then after witnessing that miracle and the destruction of the Egyptian army, it wasn’t long until they started complaining again. In **Exodus 15:23-24 (KJV)**

Sermon by: Tom Betti; Article by: Bill Beebe

Moses writes “And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah. And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?” God, once again, provided them the things that they needed. **Exodus 15:25 (KJV)** “And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,” Time after time, when things seemed not to go the way that the Israelites expected, or if things got difficult they murmured. Instead of depending on God through faith, they complained.

There was murmuring and complaining in the first century as well. In **Luke 5:30 (KJV)** we are told that the local officials complained to Jesus; “But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?” They even murmured against Jesus Himself; “And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.” Luke 15:2 (KJV).

From all these passages we see that people will murmur when things begin to get difficult for them or when someone violates their core belief system. But this is not the behavior that Christians should display. We have a God who has promised to care for us. After telling us that God knows that we need certain physical things; we need to eat, we need to drink and we need to clothe ourselves, Jesus tells us this in **Matthew 6:33** “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Our faith in God should be strong enough to know that He will provide for us. This doesn’t mean that He wants us to sit idle and wait for His gifts of food and clothing. Remember Paul’s comment in 2 Timothy 3:10, if a person will not work then neither should he eat. What Jesus is teaching is that God will provide a way for us to have the things we need in this world.

But Paul warns us against murmuring, after telling the Corinthians not to be idolaters, not to fornicate, and don’t tempt Jesus he tells them not to murmur; “Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.” 1 Corinthians 10:10 (KJV). So when we are tempted to complain about the state of our lives, the decisions of our bosses or the Elders of the church, or anything else we need to stop and read **Romans 8:27-28 (KJV)** “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.” And after doing so, we need to consider this; is our faith so weak that we don’t believe that God will take care of us? Murmuring is not the answer, faith in the Word of God is. So when you begin to feel like complaining stop and read the Bible. And you will see that life will be more satisfying then.