

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements
Randy Ellis

Song Leader
Alan Blaylock

Lord's Supper
Bryan Garlock, Mark Davis,
Cole Meador

Prayers
Mike Davis, Rodney Ellis

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements
Cole Meador

Song Leader
Clay Morris

Prayers
Randy Ellis, Joseph Barry

Invitation
Alan Blaylock

This list could go on and on, but the initial question would remain the same, namely, "Which ones have you encouraged?" As the members of a congregation consider one another, the opportunities to serve are abundant. Christians may avoid the question for the present, but one day all will stand and give an answer.

ABOUT US

Elders
Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons
Jon Barry Mike Davis
Clay Morris

Evangelist
Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday
Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.

Monday (Zoom)
Bible Study7:00 P.M

Wednesday
Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16;
1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10



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The Assault on God
Rick Boswell

Over the last decade or so there seems to have been an explosion of talk about the liberal agenda in this country. In particular, the discussion ultimately revolves around where God fits in to the grand scheme of things. Does God belong in the classroom? Is it constitutional to have prayer in schools? Do women have more rights than their unborn child? God and His word appear to be under constant attack!

As frustrating as the current moral climate is we would be well served to realize that God has been under assault since the beginning of Creation! When we open our Bibles to Genesis 3 we see the account of man's first encounter with Satan. In verse 1, Satan asks a question of Eve. "Has God indeed said 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?" The first thing out of the Devil's mouth is an accusation against God. It's as though he

was saying, "Is it true that God won't let you have any of this good stuff in the garden"? Of course the answer was the exact opposite as Eve explained to Satan. "The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but the fruit of the tree in the midst of the garden, God has said you shall not eat it nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'" The Devil then responds by lying to Eve, "You will not surely die."

When we take a closer look at this conversation, we need to see what it is that our enemy is doing. In his first words to Eve, he is accusing God of creating all these wonderful things and then forbidding mankind to partake of them. He is assaulting the goodness of God! Satan then proceeds to lie to Eve about the consequences of partaking of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He is assaulting the holiness of God. In both of

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember the health concerns of *Gerald Eaton, Joey Avance, Jerry Schnelle, Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan, Beth Ellen, and Pete Rowland.*

We will be taking pictures for the directory today.

these instances the character of God is being called into question! Let's break these two points down individually for a few moments.

The Goodness Of God. The Devil knows that God is perfectly good. He also knows that man is learning about God each and every day. By calling into question God's goodness, Satan tempts us to believe something different from what the Lord has revealed about Himself (Psalm 34:8). When things are going well and we "feel" blessed, we probably don't need to be convinced of God's goodness. When things aren't going so well, however, we are likely to be more vulnerable to the proposition that God isn't always good.

This author struggles at times to remember that God's goodness is not predicated

on what happens or by mood. The Lord has demonstrated to all humanity through the gift of His Son that He is perfectly good! Yet, instead of focusing on the incalculable number of blessings God has showered on us, we sometimes let Satan convince us that what God has withheld is actually good for us.

Nothing could be further from the truth!

The Holiness Of God. The Devil knows that God is perfectly holy! Any and all sin is a violation of the holiness of God and must be punished. Therefore, Satan works very hard to deceive us into believing that our sins won't require justice. "God might be upset with you for doing what He told you not to, but He won't actually kill you for it."

This is the lie that he told Eve. This is the lie that cost man his perfect fellowship with God. If we aren't careful, this is the lie that will cost us eternity with God. As Christians, we know better than this. We know the Bible tells us that, "The wages of sin is death ..." (Romans 6:23). We have seen God carry out His threats against people, nations, and even the entire earth in Noah's flood! It isn't a question of whether or not God is holy; it is a question of whether or not we will remember this when tempted by our enemy to believe otherwise!

Satan still comes at us the same way he did in the Garden of Eden. May the Lord help us to resist the temptation to forget His perfect goodness and unfathomable holiness!

Which Ones Have You Encouraged?

David Thomley

The Lord's church is composed of both strong and weak members. Each one needs encouragement at times, but certainly the weaker brethren need a greater amount of special attention. Also, there are some members who are not necessarily weak, but who have special physical problems, causing them to need special attention. The apostle Paul taught that the responsibility of healing the weaker members rested upon the shoulders of those who were mature, full-grown Christians (Romans 15:1 & Galatians 6:1-2).

In the minds of some, this type of responsibility is the work of the elders, deacons and preachers. Indeed it is; but the instruction is given to all Christians. Sometimes elders and preachers are negligent. Sometimes there is simply more work to be done than a limited number of men can accomplish. Which ones have you encouraged?

Some Members Are Forsaking the Assembling of the Saints

This sign of weakness is obvious to any mature Christian. It takes no special training or skills to make a phone call, write a note, or drop by for a short visit to say, "I've missed you." Would it be presumptuous to say almost all Christians could render service in this area?

Some Members Are Attending Without the Support (Perhaps With the Hindrance) Of Their Spouse

A mother rises early on Sunday morning to prepare breakfast and dress the children to get them to Bible class; and they leave home with the father still in bed. Sometimes the fathers have the same problem, leaving the mother at home. All recognize the special problems faced by such parents, admire their effort, are encouraged by their faithful attendance under less than ideal circumstances. Are we not obliged to reciprocate some type of encouragement to the faithful parents?

Some Members Are Experiencing Family Problems

There are parents struggling with rebellious children. There are married couples who are experiencing serious problems, perhaps resulting from an immature spiritual life. There are adults who have aging parents who are sick or confined and demand much of their time and attention. In many cases, an encouraging word may be all that can be offered. Who offers it?

Some Members Are Facing Problems Associated with Aging

The elderly and widows find it more and more difficult to do the basics, such as driving to services, shopping at the market, visiting others, etc. Many live alone, without encouragement or support of a faithful companion. Encouragement may be extended both verbally and actively.