

Those to Serve

Wednesday Evening, December 6, 2023

AnnouncementsJim Maxwell
 Lead SingingGary Gill
 First PrayerJack Gill
 Read Scripture.....Will Durham
 Dismissal PrayerWilliam Harris

Sunday Morning, December 10, 2023

AnnouncementsJim Maxwell
 Lead SingingGary Gill
 First Prayer.....Chuck Risener
 Read ScriptureHunter Sheehan
 Preside at TableBen Hall
 Serve Congregation
 Serve Congregation
 Serve Congregation
 Dismissal PrayerTyler Allen
 Nursery Attendant.....Cathy Cox

Sunday Evening, December 10, 2023

AnnouncementsJim Maxwell
 Lead SingingGary Gill
 First Prayer.....Eddie Carter
 Read ScriptureGary Byers
 Preside at TableBen Hall
 Dismissal PrayerDanny Lucas

“Key Men” for December

Sunday AM (Open).....Rickey Tigner
 Sunday AM (Close).....Jeff Scott
 Sunday PM (Open).....Chuck Risener
 Sunday PM (Close).....George Doss
 Wednesday PM (Open).....Don McAlpin
 Wednesday PM (Close).....Jim Maxwell

Coming Events

If you haven't got an angel from the **Angel Tree** be sure to get one and sign your name on the list. Remember to visit our website: middletoncoc.org where you can also view our weekly bulletin.

Family Matters

Be sure to keep our sick and shut-ins in your prayers especially during this holiday season.

Community Matters

Jay & Flora Price need our prayers. Their three year old daughter is still on a ventilator after falling in a swimming pool. Debbie Vaughn, mother of Angela Scott, is going to have her heart surgery on Wednesday, December 13. Keep Bob Sigler, Lindsey Sowell, Ann Pierce, Lisa Dukes, Joann James, Sylvia Childers, Brian Vaughn, Ronda Carver, Monroe Willis, Jim Thomason in your prayers.

Prayer List

Sandy Rodgers, Benny/Nancy Thornton, Royce Jones, April McKelvey, Paige Gillon, Ann Riggs, Laura Adkins, David Craft, Dottie Hogan, Carolyn Risener, BT Hobbs, Mary Bizzell, Bill Craft, Doris Mott.

*Remember our service men & women in your prayers.
 Remember all our missionaries in your prayers.*

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 10.....Numbers 27-30
 Monday, Dec. 112 Chron. 29-30
 Tuesday, Dec. 12.....Esther 1-3
 Wednesday Dec. 13Isaiah 51-56
 Thursday, Dec. 14Zechariah 7-10
 Friday, Dec.15John 17-18
 Saturday, Dec. 16.....Revelation 14-16

Shut-ins

David Craft, Room 111, Christian Care Center, 10160 US-64, Bolivar, TN 38008.
 Lillian Eason, Providence Assisted Living, 700 Moore's Crossing, Apt. 204, Senatobia, MS. 38668.
 Paige Gillon, 45 Southwest Lane, Middleton, TN 38052.
 Benny Thornton, 310 CR 125, Walnut, MS 38683.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Hear the Word of God- Romans 10:17.
2. Believe the Word of God- Mark 16:16.
3. Repent of sins- Acts 17:30-31.
4. Confess Christ- Romans 10:9-10.
5. Be Baptized to wash away sins - Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:20-21; Mark 16:16.
6. Be Faithful unto death- Rev. 2:10.

JEFF'S JOTTINGS

Our Ladies Class meets each Tuesday in the annex at 10 am. All ladies are invited!

Our Question & Answer Box is on the wall in the foyer. Please put your questions in any time and we will answer them on the fourth Sunday evening of each month.

Mondays for the Master will meet December 18 at 6:45 pm for coffee and donuts and then make our visits at 7pm. We would love to have you be a part of this good work! If you know of anyone needing a visit or a call please let Jeff or Gilbert know.

Pantry Item of the Week: beef stew or whatever you would like to bring.

“People judge you by your actions not your intentions. You may have a heart of gold but so does a hard boiled egg.”

“Be bold in what you stand for and careful what you fall for.”

Spit It Out, Quickly!

Did you catch the silly news report a few weeks ago? It seems that a bug flew into a lady's mouth. She did good, well, kind of. She spit it out ... but then she did bad. She sprayed bug spray into her mouth.

Now she's in the hospital. We're told she'll recover, and probably will not have any serious brain damage.

My first thought upon hearing this report was how ridiculous. While a bug might have hurt her, the bug spray could have killed her. Also, she sprayed the bug after it was gone.

I wonder if sometimes we have reacted in a similar manner. Some false idea comes along, and we examine it and spit it out. We speak out against it and do what is in our power to correct it. But then we practice overkill. We harp on it. We won't let it die. We spray toxic words and methods to make sure that it is gone. If we're not careful, we will be in danger of killing the church ([Galatians 5:15](#)).

God's people are not to enjoy a "ruckus" ([2 Timothy 2:14, 24](#); c.f. [Matthew 12:19-20](#); [Phil. 2:3-4](#)). When we major in poison, we seem to be enjoying a ruckus.

When we spend all of our time with our finger on the bug spray button and little or none of it on teaching the lost and encouraging the saved to faithfulness, we aren't much different than the lady we're laughing about.

Brethren, spit out the false doctrine quickly!

([Revelation 2:2](#); [1 John 1:10-11](#)). You wouldn't let a bug fly around inside your mouth for a minute. But then get on to God's business of "seeking and saving the lost" ([Luke 19:10](#)).

-Dale Jenkins

AMAZING GRACE

What does the word "Grace" mean anyway? Simply defined, it means "[unmerited favor](#)."

Many in the religious world misunderstand the concept of Biblical grace. Some even accuse the Lord's Church of not teaching about this Biblical topic.

Biblical Grace!

Many people get confused when they read [Romans 6:14](#); which says that we are not under law but under grace. From this they say that [salvation](#) is strictly the work of God, and that there is nothing that we can or should try to do to obtain that [salvation](#).

However when one looks at the context of that verse he sees that the law being talked about is the Mosaic Law. We are no longer under the Old Covenant but we are under the New.

Three verses later in [Romans 6:17](#), Paul wrote that they had "OBEYED that form of doctrine."

Yes, there is something which we must do to obtain the grace of God. [Genesis 6:8](#) tells us that Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. We know that Noah had to do something in order to be saved ([Genesis 6:22](#)).

Saved by Grace Through Faith!

In [Ephesians 2:8](#) we learn that we are saved by grace through faith. We are saved by grace by the simple fact that we are not capable of saving ourselves by our own works.

Therefore, God sent His Son to be the sacrifice for us ([Hebrews 2:9](#)) and in the process showed us his wonderful grace ([Titus 2:11](#)). We are saved through faith in that we must obey the Lord's commandments in order to obtain salvation ([Matthew 7:21](#); [John 14:15](#)).

By obeying the gospel one does not earn for himself [salvation](#) but he does put himself in the position to receive it.

Let us always remember that Salvation is a gift of God. In sending His Son to die for our sins, God showed us his wonderful love and compassion ([1 John. 3:16](#)).

However, this does not mean that there is nothing for us to do. We must put ourselves in position to receive that gift lest we fall from that grace ([Galatians 6:4](#)).

A Farmer & A Christian

When a farmer stops plowing his land, stops planting seed, stops cultivating the crop, stops harvesting his fields, and stops caring for his stock, he has stopped being a farmer.

When a Christian stops attending the services, stops giving, stops partaking of the Lord's Supper, stops singing, praying and working for the Lord, he has stopped being a Christian because he has stopped doing the things that made him a Christian.

Was It You?

Somebody did a golden deed.
Somebody proved a friend in need.
Somebody sang a beautiful song.
Somebody smiled all the day long.
Somebody said "Tis sweet to live."
Somebody said, "I'm glad to give."
Somebody fought a valiant fight.
Somebody lived to shield the right.

Was that somebody you?