

SICK LIST:**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison, Bessie Files (Ridgewood)

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Ed & Bettie Barrett, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Henry McDonald, Nellie Windham, Kenneth Windham, Bobby Myers

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Kimberly Wilcox, Sonya Parnell, Michelle Howell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Larry Drummond, Jim Murrell, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Joe Windham, Vera Fike, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, Esther Sutton, Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom

AM - BEN WRIGHT - WHY AM I HERE?

PM - BEN WRIGHT - THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS NOT A DENOMINATION

LADIES TEACHERS WORKSHOP AT CURRY, JANUARY 21 9 AM-3 PM

ELDERS MEETING AFTER SERVICES TONIGHT

BIRTHDAYS:

Jan 8: Henry McDonald

10: Jimmie Nell Brown

11: Bessie Files

13: Bruce Windham

14: Bettie Barrett & Cynthia McMeans

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

BIBLE CLASS 9:30

WORSHIP 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827
Carlton Myers 221-0637
Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

WHY AM I HERE?

(Matthew 22:36-40)

I. Our great _____.

- A. Jesus, present when the Holy Spirit inspired Moses to write those two passages, cut through the red tape of the ten commandments and exposed to man the purpose for life: to _____ God.
- B. We are here for _____ purpose.
- C. We show our _____ for God by our obedience (John 14:15).
- D. Long ago, _____ gave this same answer to the Jews of His day (Deuteronomy 10:12-13).
- E. Listen to what Samuel told Saul, when Saul had _____ to obey God's commands (1 Samuel 15:22).

II. _____ God.

- A. The word "fear" means "to _____, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential _____."
 - 1. When one thinks of who God is, what He has done and is capable of doing, fearing Him is not a _____.
 - 2. Great reverence should be given to Him for His creative and sustaining _____ (Genesis 1:1; Acts 17:28).
 - 3. Great reverence is due Him due to His creation and fulfillment of a plan to _____ mankind (John 3:16).
- B. The way we show our fear, or reverence for God, is by being _____ to Him.

III. _____ God.

- A. To glorify God means "to _____ magnify; do honor to, to cause the dignity and worth of some person or thing to become manifest and acknowledged."
- B. As a matter of fact, _____ that we do is to bring glory to God (1 Corinthians 10:31).
- C. What we do should not be meant to glorify _____ in any way (Matthew 5:16).
- D. Just as with fearing God, our _____ to the commands of God is what brings glory to Him.
 - 1. Good _____ bring glory to God.
 - 2. Good works are those things that God has asked us to do and that we have been _____ to do (Ephesians 2:10).

IV. Why we should _____ to achieve our purpose in life.

- A. As mentioned, loving God is _____ by our obedience.
 - 1. We should be obedient _____ we love God.
 - 2. We love God because He _____ us (1 John 4:19).
- B. The fact of the matter is God calls us to obedience for our own _____.
- C. God gives us _____ to be obeyed because they are good for us.
- D. They will make us _____ if we comply with them (John 13:17; James 1:25).

ONE THING TO DO IN 2012

Dan Jenkins

Paul saw Christians as being athletes for Jesus. They were competing in the arena while they were surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses (Heb. 12:1). They were individuals in a race which must be run according to rules (2 Tim. 2:5). They were fighters/boxers who were not just “punching into the air” but had precise blows planned for the enemy (1 Cor. 9:24). Like Paul, they intended to run the race and finish the course, knowing that a crown awaited them (2 Tim. 4:7).

As we look ahead for the new year consider how Paul described the Christian’s race and how it should be run. “Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on . . . one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:12-14). Herein lies the key to a successful life and a successful new year.

The success in the race involves dealing with the past. We all struggle with the past. Some never overcome the guilt of past mistakes, but the godly live knowing the magnitude of the His grace and casting all those concerns on the One who cares for them (1 Pet. 5:7).

Others struggle with the successes of the past and are filled with pride. Paul did not see himself as one who had reached perfection (maturity). He who brought the gospel to Europe and throughout Asia Minor did not glory in what had been accomplished. How foolishly many glory in what they have done for Him today!

How do you deal with the past? With its mistakes and accomplishments? Two words answer the question—forget it!

The success in the race involves dealing with the future. How did Paul deal with the unknown future. Look at his words. “I press on.” He also uses the expression “reaching forward,” which in the original Greek indicates the forward lean a runner gives as he approaches the finish line! Such an effort demanded the supreme exertion of energy. The past means nothing and the entire focus is on the prize promised by the Lord. Jesus has run the race and has finished it! He is waiting at the finish line to crown us.

Your race involves dealing with 2012. All this church has ever accomplished is past. The race has not been finished! Let us work together as never before and reach that finish line together. “Therefore my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:58).