

**SICK LIST:****HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison, Ed Barrett

**HOME:** Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Bessie & Michael Files, Cynthia McMeans, Henry McDonald, Willie Nelson, Eli Phillips

**PRAYER LIST:** April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, James & Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Michael Pope, Robert Turner, Wonda Ivie, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, James Felton, Tommy Pope, J.D. Dailey, James Horsley, Brenda Holloway, Kathy Pate, Jake & Diane Chambers, Donna Laratta, Robin & Brandon Mullis, Angie Johnson, Kathy Windham, Lane Clark, James Mason, Arthur Mason, Jimmy Barker

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "CAN WE BE SILENT?"

PM - BEN WRIGHT - "HELP IN HEAVEN"

**SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO LUM BARRETT AND FAMILY DUE TO THE DEATH OF BETTY BARRETT. SERVICES WERE THURSDAY.**

**THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO SANG AT THE FUNERAL SERVICE THURSDAY**

**ELDERS AND DEACONS MEETING WILL BE TONIGHT AFTER SERVICES**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Nov 10: Eugene McDonald & Leta Phillips

# THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST  
26036 HWY 78  
CARBON HILL, AL 35549  
(205) 924-9038  
[westwalkerchurchofchrist.org](http://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  
David Preston 300-1927  
Kevin Richardson 295-8864  
Chris Robbins 388-1354  
Vince Roden 924-4062

### **MINISTER:**

Ben Wright 522-8004

## **SILENCE**

**Winfred Clark**

The term silence or its equivalent is found often in your Bible. We often sing a song that has this word within it which is taken from Habakkuk 2:20. It is here that men are told to "keep silence before him." There is much more than just being quiet in the assembly where God is worshiped. Take a look at some cases of silence that may be either good or bad.

There is a silence that is suitable. There are no doubt times when it is best to say nothing. Was this the case with the friends of Job? You know they came and sat with Job for seven days and "none spake a word unto him: for they saw that his grief was very great" (Job 2:13). It seems the only fitting thing is to just say nothing. They could, however, just be there to let him know of their concern and sympathy for him. Isn't this the case when death occurs and we just go to be with those who have suffered the loss? Though we may not say a thing, just being there is enough.

There is a silence which is selfish. Have there not been times when a word of thanks ought to have been uttered? Have there not been times when words of encouragement needed to be stated? Yet, there was not heard a single word. Wasn't this the case with those nine lepers that should have turned back to give thanks for their healing (Luke 17:17-18)? How many times have wives or husbands, father or mothers, or sons and daughters failed to express the words of thanks that should be expressed?

There is a silence that is sinful. Yes, there is a time to be silent; but there is also a time when such would be sinful. Wouldn't that be the case if you saw a person about to be killed but would not warn them? Wasn't there a time when the apostles were told not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus (Acts 4:18-19)? Would it not have been a sin for them to just say nothing? After all, they were compelled by the Lord's commandment to preach the gospel. To be silent in the face of threats would indeed be sinful.

## **THE HOUSE OF STONE**

### **Dan Jenkins**

The church is a building. Whoa, if I said that to my eight-year-old son, he'd quickly rake me over the coals for being so dense. "Daddy," he would counter, "you are wrong. The church is the people. It is Christians!" And, he is right. But, so am I.

Peter discloses to us that "living stones" characterizing Christians "are being built up as a spiritual house" (1 Pet. 2:5). The church is a building, and Christians (living stones) are the building material. From this perspective, my son and I both have it right.

In Acts 2, when the Holy Spirit descended to Jerusalem, the apostles recognized that moment as the kingdom of God coming with power (see Mark 9: 1; Acts 2: 1-4). They had anticipated this day since their first lessons with Jesus. While on earth, he repeatedly forecasted the near arrival of the kingdom. On that day, the day of Pentecost after Christ's death, the kingdom arrived.

How do we know? One, Joel prophesied about the kingdom era found fulfillment (Acts 2:16). Two, Jesus had taken his seat next to the Father to reign over the kingdom (33-36). Three, sinners found redemption through appeal and obedience to the Messiah (37-38). Finally, the saved were placed together by God (47). Acts 2 unveils the first occurrence of God rescuing sinners from the domain of darkness and transferring them to the kingdom of His beloved Son (Col. 1: 13).

That is the day God began building His house of stone. Jesus claimed that on the basis of His deity, he would undergird this house (the kingdom) as the chief cornerstone (Matt.16:16-18; see also I Pet. 2:6-8). As sinners place their faith in Christ as God's saving Son and build upon that foundation through obedience, they transform into living stones. God then adds them to His house. Consequently, the house of God grows as sinners accept and obey the gospel.

I once heard Eddie Cloer describe in a sermon how this house contains no roof. As long as living stones multiply, the walls of this house will continue to extend endlessly. That leaves room for all sinners. Everyone owns the opportunity to become a stone in a wall of the house of God.

To understand the church in this manner would clarify countless misunderstandings. The house of stone typifies the church of God (see also I Timothy 3:15). The only material utilized in the building of this house is living stones, signifying Christians. If a humble and penitent sinner approaches God in faith and meets the conditions of salvation, then that sinner becomes a living stone set in the house of God. Now that person lives as a member of the church Jesus founded!