

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY 27, 2014

SICK LIST:

HEALTHCARE CENTERS:

Ruby Harrison, Jimmie Nell Brown

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Bessie & Michael Files, Cynthia McMeans, Henry McDonald, Lizzie Banks

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, 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, Kathy Windham, Lane Clark, James Mason, Arthur Mason, Kelly Tittle, John Pruitt, Joyce Blankenship, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Donald Rhodes, Debbie Jackson, Diane Townley

AM - NEIL MYERS

PM - JORDAN GRAY

OUR GOSPEL MEETING IS AUG 3-6 WITH FRANK CHESSER

GOSPEL MEETING AT BARN CREEK, JULY 27-31

VBS AT CORDOVA, JULY 27-31

BIRTHDAYS:

July 27: Adyson Preston

Aug 1: Jill Roden

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HWY 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

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

David Preston 300-1927

Kevin Richardson 295-8864

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

Do You Wear a Bridle? Clay Bond

It is said that a doctor can tell a great deal about our physical condition simply by looking at our tongue. The same is true of our spiritual condition. How we use our tongues is a great indicator of our spiritual status. Did you know that all of our religion amounts to nothing if we do not learn to bridle our tongues? "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain" (James 1:26). Jesus warned that it is the things that come out of our mouths that defile us (Matt. 15:18). If we want our religious devotion to be meaningful, we need to be careful what we say to others.

According to James, one who can bridle (or control) their tongue has the ability to control their whole body and is perfect. This type of self control is a mark of spiritual maturity (James 3:1-18). When we allow our tongues to get out of control, it doesn't take long for our body, our whole being to follow suit. A tongue that is out of control affects the entirety of one's life. Even our eternal fate is determined by how we use our tongues. Solomon said, "He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction" (Prov. 13:3). According to Jesus, the words that come out of our mouth can either "justify" or "condemn" us (Matt. 12:36-37). As is true with any sinful behavior, we must master it or it will master us.

Our words have a tremendous impact on those around us. "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness" (Prov. 15:1-2). Changing the way we talk to others is a sure way to improve our relationships. Think about the way you talk to your parents, your spouse, your children, your co-workers and everyone else you encounter. Do your words build them up or tear them down?

These mouths of ours are described as "an unruly evil, full of deadly poison" (James 3:8). We use them so inconsistently, one minute cursing each other, the next praising God (James 3:9-10). We have done some amazing things in terms of taming dangerous wild animals, but we are incapable of taming our own tongues! In God's Word we find "instruction in righteousness" so that the people "of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Achieving spiritual maturity in our speech can only be done with the help of God's Word. It is by the power of God's Word that our tongues can be used for good rather than evil.

Given the power of words we need to be determined not to let any corrupt communication come out of our mouths (Ephesians 4:29). We must take great care with

what we say and learn to lay our hand upon our mouth (Job 40:4). As David said, "I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle..." (Psalm 39:1). God's Word says the way you use your tongue is a mark of spiritual maturity and reveals your spiritual status. What does your speech say about your spiritual condition? Is your tongue bridled?

HAS THIS EVER HAPPENED TO YOU?

Author Unknown

You went through an entire song service without even thinking about what you were singing?

You bowed your head and closed your eyes during the prayer but you really didn't become involved in it?

You were more interested in when he would finish the sermon than in what he was saying during the sermon?

You allowed some minor noise near you to completely upset you so that you could not really worship?

These and many other things often happen, don't they? Why? Here are some reasons:

1. Don't come to the services expecting to be entertained; this is not its purpose.
2. Be a participant rather than just a spectator.
3. Prepare yourself mentally when coming to worship. Think about the what and why concerning worship.
4. Resolve that you are going to worship no matter what others do. There are many events and functions we attend where there are many distractions, but we accept them. We do not condone noise in worship, but let us be determined that it will not keep us from worshiping.
5. Don't think that services have to be conducted differently to be meaningful.
6. Examine your motive often for worshiping. Habit may become the motive.
7. Bring your Bible and run references during the sermon.
8. Take notes during the sermon. The time will pass by faster and you will retain more of the lesson.
9. Make a list of words in the songs which are unfamiliar to you and find their definitions later.

10. Come to services with the positive attitude that it is a privilege and that you will truly worship in spirit and in truth.

"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer," Psalms 14:19.