

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY 26, 2015

SICK LIST:

HEALTHCARE CENTERS:

Ruby Harrison

HOME: Fred & Romaine Elliott, Carolyn Myers, Gail Windham, Willie Nelson, Robert Brown, Linda McDonald

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Robert Turner, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, J.D. Dailey, James Horsley, Brenda Holloway, Jake & Diane Chambers, Donna Laratta, Kathy Windham, Arthur Mason, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Debbie Jackson, Diane Townley, Elesia Wright, Margie Thomasson, Larry Alexander, Micah Earnest, Vonciel Phillips, Roger Deihl, Wanda Self, Katie Griffies, Bruce Windham, Eddie Rutledge, Raymond Johnson

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "IS SUFFERING REALLY A PROBLEM?"

PM - BEN WRIGHT - "DON'T GET OFF COURSE"

**BE PRAYING AND PLANNING FOR OUR GOSPEL MEETING WITH WADE WEBSTER
AUG 2-5**

VBS AT CURRY JULY 26-29 AT 7 PM EACH EVENING

BIRTHDAYS:

July 27: Adyson Preston

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
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

IS SUFFERING REALLY A PROBLEM?

I. _____ of suffering.

- A. In reality there are _____ avenues through which suffering afflicts us.
- B. The first avenue is _____ itself and its effects on the physical world.
 - 1. Because of the sin of the first two inhabitants of earth, we suffer from _____ and the _____ process.
 - 2. The world _____ after the flood and now we have earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and all the natural calamities that strike this world.
- C. The second avenue is the sin of _____.
 - 1. We suffer at the hands of _____.
 - 2. _____, those that seek _____ by any means, and ruthless people with no regard for _____ cause suffering everyday.
- D. The third avenue is our _____ sins.
 - 1. All have sinned and come _____ of God's glory (Romans 3:23).
 - 2. Most of the emotional _____ we carry today are from our own sins.
- E. None of these come from _____.

II. The _____ of suffering.

- A. We need to remember that just because we may not see the value in it, does not mean there is _____.
- B. It is a reminder of our _____.
- C. It is a reason to _____ to God.
- D. It allows us to _____ sin for what it really is.
- E. It allows us to see the _____ of things.
- F. Suffering prepares us to be _____ toward others.
- G. It allows us to see this world is not our _____.
- H. It allows us to _____ better.
- I. It allows us preparation for _____.
- J. Last, it allows our true _____ to show.

A Journey of Faith **David R. Ferguson**

The great Hall of Faith chapter, Hebrews 11, reminds us that "...without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whosoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6, [ESV]).

How better to prove that He exists was there than for God Himself to come in the flesh and take upon the form of man in Jesus Christ. As the Apostle Paul explains it in Galatians 4:45-5 [ESV], "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons." But to be called His sons we must come to Him on His terms in obedient, saving faith, just as all of those great men and women of renown did who are listed in Hebrews 11.

A life spent learning to obey God is like a journey with a starting point, a route and a destination. For Abraham, that journey began when he left his home in Ur of the Chaldees to travel wherever God would lead him. He did not always know what route that journey would take. But he learned through faith to trust in God to direct his steps. We can all be encouraged by these examples from the life of the father of the faithful, Abraham.

Your journey may not be as eventful as Abraham's, but you can be sure there will be tests and trials, ups and downs, successes and failures along the way. One of the wisest men who ever walked the face of the Earth succinctly pointed this out long, long ago when a young man named Elihu stated to Job and his friends, "Do you think this to be just? Do you say, 'it is my right before God,' that you ask, "What advantage have I? How am I better off than if I had sinned?' I will answer you and your friends with you. Look at the heavens, and see: and behold the clouds, which are higher than you. If you have sinned, what do you accomplish against Him? And if your transgressions are multiplied, what do you do to Him? If you are righteous, what do you give to Him? Or what does He receive from your hand? Your wickedness concerns a man like yourself, and your righteousness a son of man" (Job 35:2-8 [ESV]). We love God because He is, not because we deserve any reward from Him. This is the message Jesus taught in His parable of the Master and the Servant (Parable of the Unprofitable Servant) in Luke 17:7-10.

One does not learn to live by faith all at once. It does not come naturally. You must learn, and, as you learn, you will make mistakes. But those mistakes need not cut you off from God. He is a patient, compassionate and merciful teacher. He is a gracious, loving Father! And for those who do follow God in faith, there is the absolute promise given by Jesus Christ: "Never will I leave you: never will I forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5).