

News

Ava Waldrep was born to Enoch and Shawna this past Wednesday evening. She weighed 8 lbs. 10 ozs. Mother, daughter and dad are doing well. Congratulations to Shawna, Enoch and big brothers——Shirley Ferguson, Ken’s mother, did not have the planned procedure on her heart. The medication corrected her heart rhythm——Randy Blackmon remains with his son and family in El Paso, TX. He is to begin his rehab tomorrow. He seems to be making gradual progress——Willie Don Davis is not doing as well as he was. He (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:
Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 572-9306

DEACONS:
Ricky Davis 572-9428
Ken Ferguson 572-4135
Pat Marshall 572-9347

SERVICES:
Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday
Ladies Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

PREACHERS:
Jared Rogers 682-300-3602
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:
May 29, 2016

Serving The Lord’s Supper
Sunday Morning
Scripture: Alec Capel
Jerry Wildman Duane McGough
Jeron McGough Chris Hill
Sunday Evening
Jerry Wildman Duane McGough

PRAYERS
Sun. AM--Thomas Hockaday (Opening)
—Richard Tapparo (Closing)
PM—Andrew Arnold (Opening)
—Colton Fulmer (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS
A.M.—Paul Chapman
P.M.—Pat Marshall
(call Pat Marshall if unable to serve)

Think It Over—If you were to die today...Where would you spend eternity? To all who love God, and to those who do not, but should, to all who are weary and heavy laden; to all who are lonely and sad; to all who sin and need a Savior, and to whosoever will come a hearty welcome is extended.

Southside
Church of Christ
P.O. Box 242
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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Family Problems

By Harold Hancock

Many homes are in trouble, even those among members of the church. In some homes, husbands and wives are ready to call it quits and divide the spoils—children included! Others have resigned themselves to live together in misery; they know that they have no scriptural grounds for divorce or separation (Matthew 19:3-9; 1 Corinthians 7:5), but they do not enjoy one another’s company, and they bicker constantly, their home is a “battle royal”. Some say they want to solve their problems and “live happily ever after,” but all attempts to fix their problems have failed, and it appears that no solution or peace is on the horizon.

There is good news and bad news! The bad news is that family problems are serious problems. It is shockingly woeful that so many families are in trouble—especially among Christians; it ought not be! God designed the home for good, not wretchedness. It is mournfully deplorable, yet inexcusable, that many are ignorant of and insensitive to the spiritual consequences of marital problems. Bad marriages can hinder prayers (1 Peter 3:7), lessen our spiritual influence in the home and in the community, and send souls to hell. The good news is that problems have answers—even family problems. Furthermore, family problems can be solved quickly, and families can “live happily ever after” if both spouses determine they want a good home and seek and follow godly counsel. I have seen families on the brink of destruction change instantly, survive, and do well. Make your home all that God intended for the home to be! It is not as hard as some seem to think.

Problems and dissonance in the home result when one or more fam-

ily members fail to live by God’s commandments. Failure to obey God is sin! (1 John 3:4). Sometimes family members sin overtly—they commit fornication, become drunk, or abuse other family members either physically, mentally, or emotionally. More often in “Christian homes” the sins are SELFISHNESS, rudeness, pride, or abandonment of God assigned duties and places. Sometimes we are blind to our sins, or we commit them because we are ignorant of God’s law. Most of the time in “Christian homes,” we know when our hearts are evil, our attitudes wrong, and our deeds errant. In “Christian homes,” MOST FAMILY PROBLEMS ARE NOT CAUSED BY LACK OF KNOWLEDGE, BUT BY THE FAILURE TO LIVE THE WAY WE HAVE BEEN TAUGHT TO LIVE IN CHRIST. All sin is destructive, any sin can condemn our soul to hell, no sin enhances the home! For the sake of souls, as well as the sake of homes, family problems need to be solved.

If sin is the cause of family problems, then repentance and forgiveness are the answers to family problems. It’s that simple! Furthermore, repentance and forgiveness can be instantaneous; a family can turn things around and immediately start on the road to recovery, however, family participants must be genuinely interested in the welfare of their souls and in fixing the problems.

Repentance and forgiveness demand we cease our sins—all of them,

even selfishness, rudeness, etc. If we repent and seek forgiveness, we should say it (Luke 17:3). Furthermore, when a family member repents and seeks forgiveness, other family members have no choice, if they wish to please God and build a good home, but to forgive—then and there! If forgiven, past offenses are not reintroduced and rehashed with each new offense or disagreement. Get over them and go forward! True repentance also demands “fruits worthy of repentance” (Matthew 3:8). New offenses should diminish, but patience will be a virtue. There may be new issues to deal with because there are no perfect couples and because old habits die hard—no excuses, just facts. When we realize we are erring or following a familiar path that has led to problems, we must stop, admit it, and make amends. We have to do these things if we want to get to heaven and if we want to restore peace and order to the home. We will do these things if we genuinely want to please God and “live happily ever after.”

The answer to the pandemic of family problems is a return to Biblical principles—knowing them and living them. It’s that simple! Homes built on the sure foundation of God’s Word do not break apart and are not doomed to misery. Family problems can be avoided if we start right and finish right. Family problems can be solved if we make the necessary corrections. Your choice, your home, your soul! —*Biblical Insights*, 8/2006 via *Good News* 5/1/16, Lufkin TX.

Following Jesus

Jesus once said, “*If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor:*” (John 12:26). Are you following Jesus?

Jesus did not assume this position of leadership on His own; it was given to Him by God. Isaiah prophesied of Jesus through the Spirit saying, “*Behold I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader, and commander to the people*” (Isaiah 55:4). Furthermore, Jesus is a capable leader. He was in heaven before coming to this earth, and He has returned to heaven. He once said of Himself, “*No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven*” (John 3:13). He knew whereof He spoke when He said, “*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*” (John 14:6).

While on earth, he lived an exemplary life. The writer of Hebrews said that Jesus “*was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin*” (Hebrews 4:15). Peter said Jesus “*committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth*” (1 Peter 2:22). Christ left us an example that we should follow in His steps (1 Peter 2:21).

If you are not following Jesus, you are not walking in paths of righteousness, and you are not walking toward heaven.
—Harold Hancock, *Good News*, 5/8/16

Bubba Garner is the speaker in the meeting at **Saratoga, AR, May 22-25, 7:00** weeknights.

Brother Rody Gumpad

Was with us on short notice this past Wednesday night. He presented a good lesson on the church before and after establishment along with information about his work among the church in the Philippines. It was good and encouraging to have him visit with us for the second time.

NEWS (continued from back page)
has become weaker and is not able to do some things he was doing—— **Thomas Hockaday** had a tooth extracted Wednesday and was not able to be in our service Wednesday night——**Paul Chapman** was visiting his mother in the Houston area Wednesday night and was not in our services——**Linda Martin** has requested our prayer. She has recently been diagnosed as having Parkinsons——Remember **Willie Don Davis, Vivian Stroman, William White, Catherine Moss, Wade Miller, David Chapman, Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Dorothy and Charles Kyle, Pat Brown, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, and Judy Hinson**——Remember our **Shut-ins:** *Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson.*