

NEWS

- **Relda Marshall** continues to undergo weekly chemotherapy.
- **Phil Brown** continues to recover from heart surgery and has been suffering from breathing problems.
- **Kenneth Amerson** has been out with upper respiratory issues, but is feeling better.
- **Peggy Bellamy's** brother in law, Marion Moon, continues to suffer from heart problems.
- **Emily Latson** is celebrating her first great-grandchild, **Murphy Jade**. She lives in Forth Worth, TX.

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:

February 19 2017

Serving The Lord's Supper Sunday Morning

Scripture: Randy Blackmon

Alec Capel **Zach Willeford**
Colton Fulmer **Enoch Waldrep**

Sunday Evening

Alec Capel **Zach Willeford**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Kenneth Amerson (Opening)
—William White (Closing)
PM—Duane McGough (Opening)
—Charles Davis (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Ken Ferguson
P.M.—Andrew Arnold

(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
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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“Relationship to the World”

By: Charles Willis

“I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world” (1 Cor. 5:9–10). The truth of Scripture is that we live in the world. We are surrounded by the world and regularly have contact with worldly people. This is what Jesus meant when He said, “let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven” (Matt. 5:15). Consider a few points about our relationship to the world.

Chosen out of the World, Not of the World

“If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you” (John 15:19). Jesus chose the apostles out of the world. All men sin, including the apostles, but they were chosen to be not of the world. They would not be loved as one of its own, they would not be considered part of the world.

All Christians continue to live in the world, but we do not belong or think of ourselves as being of the world. “I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. They are

not of the world, even as I am not of the world” (John 17:14–16). Our prayer should mimic Jesus’, seeking protection from Satan and those that may be against us because of our faith. Our desire should be to remain in the world that our light might shine.

Not conformed to the World

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:2). We struggle to remain different from the world. Conformity is an easy path to follow, which can happen before we are even aware of it. Just consider how we “pick up” speech patterns and phrases from the world. It takes effort to not be conformed, and it takes effort to be transformed. If we are transformed by the word of God, we will not be like the world at all. Many fail to transform because they do not put the word of God in their heart.

Crucified to the World

“But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world” (Galatians 6:14). Part of the transforming we are to undergo involves changing our attitudes toward the world. The world and all the things and

pleasures of the world are crucified. I put them on a cross and put them to death. I have been crucified to the world, I no longer belong in the world. We continue to be tempted, but our attitude of desiring worldliness and enjoying worldliness must undergo a mental change. “Consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.” (Col. 3:5–7).

Unspotted from the World

“Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world” (James 1:27). Spiritual purity is keeping ourselves unstained from the world in which we live. We are “undefiled,” meaning we are have not been corrupted by the world. We are not participating in worldliness, nor thinking like the world.

If your relationship to the world does not agree with passages such as these, you are urged to repent and make changes in your life.

New Caney, TX (2/5/17)

Immaturity

By Robert Turner

Irresponsible, shortsighted, rash and selfish conduct is often proof of immaturity. But we do not refer to years. People sixty and above may be immature – acting like children when they do not get their way, or are forced to face the realities of this life. They are incapable of objectivity, their pride is easily hurt, and they throw a tantrum. That is bad enough in secular life, but it can be tragic in the church.

Bible knowledge maturity is found in those who dwell on something more than first principles (Heb. 5:12f). They have learned that justice, mercy, and faith are the grounds upon which their concern for tithes of mint, anise and cumin can have validity. Ignore the first, and one becomes a hypocritical nit-picker with all else (Matt. 23:23-24). He may strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

People-dealing maturity comes only after we learn that we are all sinners (Rom. 3:23), and are completely humbled before God. The “babe” seeks an “issue” and perhaps make a “name” for himself. But maturity seeks for souls, hoping to “give’em Heaven”, and save them from hell. The babe sees himself as a General in the Lord’s army; the mature saint is an expendable servant of the Lord.

Doctrinal maturity is not compromise with error. It is simply wisdom enough to know we do not know it all. The babe peddles wildly about on the surface of the water, loudly proclaiming his domination of the seas; but maturity is aware of the unexplored depths below. The fool has an answer; the wise, a reason.

Paul told Timothy to “flee youthful lusts” and “foolish and unlearned questions avoid” (2 Tim. 2:22f). There is no “instant maturity” for any of us. We must start with instructions to youth, and “by reason of use” we may “grow up” in Christ. All of us are in the process in many facets of the Christian life, not having attained (Phil. 3:12f). We can be patient and tolerant of blustering spiritual babes without appointing them as elders and preachers. In time, with enough milk and nurture, we may all learn to act like men.

NEWS (continued from back page)

- Continue to remember **Willie Don Davis, Judy Hinson, William White, David Chapman, Kris Ferguson Jr., Relda Marshall, Pat Brown, Charles Kyle, Judy Hinson, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, Carr and Natalie McElroy.**
- Remember our **Shut-ins:** *James Johnson, Maurine Lee, Lelda Thompson, Vivian Stroman and Wanda Sikes.*