

NEWS

Pat Marshall has had the flu this past week and was not in the service Wednesday night—**Betty Rust** had a procedure done this past week and will have the results next Thursday. She was not in the service Wednesday night—**Yvonne White** had a test last week and is waiting to hear the results—**Kendall Johnson** was sick Sunday and not in the services but is feeling some better and was in our service Wednesday night—**Randy Blackmon, Melita Rivers, Naomi Copeland** and **Alma Goff** all had upper respiratory infections and were (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

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

DEACONS:

Ron Burns 577-9978
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 717-3788
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

February 1, 2015

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Ron Traughber

Phil Brown **Paul Chapman**
Ricky Davis **Bobby Burns**

Sunday Evening

Phil Brown **Paul Chapman**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Bob Arnold (Opening)

—**James Johnson (Closing)**

PM--Thomas Hockaday (Opening)

—**Willie Don Davis (Closing)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Ken Ferguson

P.M.—Kendall Johnson

(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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Volume XXII

January 25, 2015

Number 4

Is It Still a Mystery

By J.F. Dancer

Some people read the Bible every day. Others read it once in a while, and there are others who never open it. All have some different views as to what it teaches. Do you think God had it written so we would “understand” it differently so that each of us could believe what we want to believe? I think not.

According to Ephesians 4:5, there is just “one faith.” This means there is just one body of truth. Paul had earlier (Eph. 3:4) told these people that when they read (studied) the things he wrote, they would have the same understanding that he had in regard to God’s will. Later (Eph. 5:17), he commanded them to be not unwise but to understand to what the will of God is. All of this does not sound like God gave a revelation that He knew people could not understand, or that they would have the freedom to “understand” it as they chose.

There are times when one will need to pray for wisdom (Jas. 1:5) so he can rightly divide (2 Tim. 2:15) the word of truth. There may also be times when one needs to ask help from another who has more knowledge (Acts 8:30,31). The personal study, the prayers for wisdom, and the seeking help from others are all part of God’s plan for people to understand His will for us today. At one time it was a mystery, and rightly so, but now it has been uncovered. We just have to study.

How to become a Christian is something that can be learned quickly if one will take the time to read the book of Acts. This is what it is all about. One can learn how Christians are supposed to live if he will study the letters

written to churches and individuals. God has revealed all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3), but we have to study it to understand it.

Acts chapter 2 tells people what they have to believe and to do in order to be saved. But it will remain a mystery until one reads it carefully. Yes, the will of God for man today is still a mystery to many people simply because they don't study and rightly divide the word of truth. But God did not intend it to be so. That is why we have the New Testament. It is the mystery of God revealed!

Study is hard work (Eccl. 12:12), and it is easier to let someone else tell us what God wants us to do. This was also true in the first century. 1 John 4:1 tells those who are interested in learning the will of God to test the teachers because there are those who don't teach the truth. Let us search the Scriptures as did the people of Berea in Acts 17:11. We can know the truth and by obedience to it be made free from our sins. God's will for us today has been revealed and is there waiting for us to study and obey it.

—via *Think on These Things*
(1/11/15)

Slaves To Emotions Dan Shipley

“People don't ask for facts in making up their minds. They would rather have one good, soul-satisfying emotion

than a dozen facts.” (Robert Leavitt)

Without a doubt, emotions do motivate the masses. Whatever their cause and whether they be good or bad these strong personal feelings are intensely powerful movers of men. Emotions have influenced all; dominated many. As strength is measured by its conquests, we see impressive evidence of just how strong emotions can be when such things as truth, right, justice, and good judgment are often made subordinate to their prompting. But perhaps nowhere is the narcotic-like effect of emotionalism more prominent or persuasive than in the spiritual realm. Even those who escape its inordinate influence elsewhere succumb to it here and with the worst possible consequences. Truly, emotionalism is a popular and compelling power in religion; one that needs to be recognized and reckoned with.

But this is not to say that emotion is wrong, or even that it is wrong in religion. What sincere person can read of the crucifixion of Christ and not be moved? Is not the Godly sorrow associated with repentance a strong feeling of remorse for having sinned against God? (2 Cor. 7:10) Are we not to rejoice and weep with one another? (Rom. 12:15) This sort of emotion is altogether right and appropriate, being expressible within the bounds of Divine truth.

But there is a subtle and dangerous kind of emotionalism which leads many in

the broad way that seems right. (Prov. 14:12). These are the feelings that men come to trust and rely on, even above the word of God. This attitude is well-exemplified in the oft heard expression, “I wouldn't trade the feeling in my heart for all the Bibles in the world!” - which is just another way of saying that one has more confidence in his feelings than in the word of God. The man who trusts anything more than what God says insults the veracity of God!

However, others honor their feelings in less obvious ways. While God promises to save only those who do His will (Matt. 7:21), many persist in feeling that sincerity and good intentions are sufficient. With many, the matter of eternal torment becomes another emotional issue in which the word of God is made subordinate to feelings. Questions dealing with the religion of parents, whether one is judging another, whether everyone is going to hell except your bunch, whether one church is as good as another, or whether the Lord's church can scripturally support an orphan's home can easily become more emotional than scriptural issues—and the big problem with this is that not everyone appreciates scriptural answers to emotional arguments.

All important decisions, especially those affecting one's standing with God, ought to be based on something more substantial than emotions. Feelings of the moment, no matter how strong, can never be

more trustworthy than God's word which will judge all. The slave to emotion cannot be a servant of Christ.

Upcoming Events

Our **Weekend Meeting** for 2015 will be **February 13-15**. **Terry Slack**, from the Northwest church in Arlington, TX, and **Tyler Sams** from the Judson Road church in Longview, TX, will be our speakers. This is just three weeks from this weekend. Make plans to be in every service. Remember to encourage our young people to attend and invite other young people and others.

Kris Emerson from Beaumont, TX will be the speaker in our spring meeting **April 19-24, 2015**. Kris is another outstanding young preacher.

NEWS (continued from back page) not in the service Wednesday night—**Linda Davis** was sick last Sunday and not in our services—**Colton Fulmer** was sick this past week with a virus and not in the service Wednesday night—**Luke Arnold** was sick last Sunday and not in the services but he was with us Wednesday night—Remember **Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Pat Brown, Dorothy** and **Charles Kyle, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, and Judy Hinson**—Remember our **Shut-ins:** *Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Lenelle Latimer, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson.*