

## NEWS

**William and Yvonne White and the Moss family** have all been struggling with upper respiratory infections—**Judy Hinson** is still recovering at home from her recent surgery and we look forward to her being back with us in our services. She goes for her post-op visit Thursday—**Mark Caldwell's** bypass surgery has been set for November 11 in Dallas—**Clayton Bellamy** is now in Room 50 of the Mt. Pleasant Health-care Center on Hwy 67. He would enjoy visits from any of you that he knows—**Jennifer Stone** has (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** 717-3788  
**Leon Goff** 572-6809

### ASSIGNMENTS FOR: November 1, 2015

#### Serving The Lord's Supper Sunday Morning

Scripture: Kenneth Amerson

**Jerry Wildman** Duane McGough  
**Dylan Davis** Chris Hill

#### Sunday Evening

**Jerry Wildman** Duane McGough

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### PRAYERS

**Sun. AM—Andrew Arnold (Opening)**  
—Willie Don Davis (Closing)  
**PM—Richard Tapparo (Opening)**  
—Charles Davis (Closing)

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A.M.—Ken Ferguson**  
**P.M.—Bob 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  
P.O. Box 242  
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

# Southside Church of Christ

## Bulletin

1220 E. Ferguson Rd. Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455  
(903) 572-2148

Website: [www.thesouthsidechurch.com](http://www.thesouthsidechurch.com)

Volume XXII

October 25, 2015

Number 43

You are cordially invited to the

## Gospel Meeting

**Wilson Adams, Speaker**

(from Murfreesboro, TN)

**October 25 — 30, 2015**

*“Trusting God In Times Like These”*

**Sunday Bible Study 9:45 am: The Verse That Will Change Your Life**

**10:30 am: “Lord, Do You Not Care?”**

**6:00 pm: Jesus — “Follow Me!”**

**Monday 7:30 pm: Saved and Certain**

**Tuesday 7:30 pm: Do You Believe in...Angels?**

**Wednesday 7:30 pm: God, Heaven, and the Wonder of It All**

**Thursday 7:30 pm: The Promise: Exceeding Abundantly Beyond**

**Friday 7:30 pm: Pray BIG**

**Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 10:00 am — God's Amazing Women — Eve, Sarah & Rahab**

**Southside Church of Christ**

**1220 E. Ferguson Rd.**

**Mt. Pleasant, TX**

# The 4:8 Principle

Wilson Adams

*Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.* Philippians 4:8

How important is your thinking? *Well, I never gave that much thought.* Exactly! If you are what you eat (and there's truth in that); more importantly, you are what you *think* (Prov. 23:7). All of which says, what you choose to think about (and is it a choice!) is very important.

Most are oblivious as to the habitual way they think. Here it is: either we are motivated to think God-honoring thoughts (the 4:8 principle), or we are motivated to think thoughts that originate from someone else (and we know who that "someone else" is). While much of what happens in life is beyond our control, the fact remains that each of us has 100% control over what kind of thoughts we have. You either control your thoughts or they will control you.

If we are going to make any kind of positive change in life, it must begin in the space between our ears (Rom. 12:2). There is, after all, a direct correlation between your thoughts and the degree to which you experience enjoyment in life. There is a direct correlation between your thoughts and the atmosphere (positive or negative) that descends upon your marriage. There is a direct correlation between your thoughts and how well you interact with others. "Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flows the springs of life" (Prov.

4:23). Your thoughts are that important.

None of us are limited by our past. None of us are limited by our circumstances. What limits us is our own "self talk" or the thoughts we allow to take up residence. Paul instructs us to "dwell on these things"—God things, good things, true, just, and noble things. We can give our minds to mediocrity or we can "ponder" matters of "excellence" and those "worthy of praise."

Think how we would impact those around us if we would engage the 4:8 principle. Jesus 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. 5:16). Good works begin with good thoughts.

## Poor, Poor, Pitiful Paul

If anyone was justified in being negative, it was Paul. Unfairly accused, confined in prison, and facing death; the apostle writes with a whine to the Philippians—*Woe is me! You don't know how hard this is... The food here is terrible...I'm chained to these guards... I'm cold, hungry, and not free to come and go as you are...*" (You can almost hear Eeore from Winnie the Pooh). Are you kidding me? Paul made a deliberate and proactive decision to discipline his mind so that his thoughts were God-honoring. Why? Because he knew that his thoughts were a reflection upon God. And so are yours.

## Is It Time for an Upgrade?

I have a flip phone—the very latest in mobile technology (at least it was a decade ago). My wife and kids are always telling me I need to

"upgrade." Perhaps. Here's a question: Is it time for you to *upgrade* your *thinking*? Upgrading to become a 4:8 thinker doesn't mean that our life is 100% great (Paul's wasn't). It does mean, however, that you will honor God with your thoughts in spite of the hardships you face (1 Thess. 5:16-18).

Your joy is an outside sign of an inside faith (Prov. 15:13). It's a way of responding that says, *I may not understand the "why" of what is happening, but I trust God even without knowing the answers to my questions.* What do you think would happen if we lived with a great big joyful smile on our face? Can you envision the conversation when we are asked by non-Christian co-workers— "Hey, what's your deal?" And don't you know our smile would get even bigger when we answered, "My deal is...*Jesus!*"

Why would we settle for less than that? Yet people do. In fact, the majority are content with life's mediocre average. Folks, mediocrity and average are the opposite of 4:8!

## Where's the Peanut Butter?

Joyful living is right in front of us and we miss it. It's much like my standing in front of the pantry and becoming frustrated over my inability to find the peanut butter. Responding to my exasperated plea, my good wife tells me the peanut butter is on the third shelf and staring me in the face. She eventually comes to my helpless rescue and pulls the peanut butter from the very place she said it was (please, no laughter here). It's true. Sometimes things are right in front of our eyes and we can't (or won't) see it.

Joy is like that. God puts joy on the third shelf right at eye level and we keep looking past it. Listen, if we can't get excited about the prom-

ises of God and the abundant life He offers, then what would it take?

Upgrade your joy, my friend. If you focus your thoughts on 4:8, your marriage will be better (because you will focus on the good traits of your spouse rather than the minor irritants), your relationship with your children will be better, your relationship with your co-workers will be better, and your relationship with other Christians will be better. Fact is, upgrade your joy and you will be a lot more fun to be around.

And, who knows, you may even find the peanut butter!

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## Our Gospel Meeting Starts Today and Continues Through Friday Night

As members of Southside, let's do all we can toward the success of this meeting. Brother Wilson Adams' preaching will do us good. Let's attend, pray and encourage and invite others (Heb. 10:25-26).

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## NEWS (continued from back page)

been struggling with sickness resulting from her pregnancy and this is why they have not been in some of our services. She seems to be a little better recently— Remember **Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Dorothy** and **Charles Kyle, Pat Brown, 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.*