

NEWS

Mark Caldwell has been doing well the latter part of this past week. But earlier his heart had stopped Monday, but they were able to get it started again. He also had developed fluid on his lungs and that has been resolved—Kenneth Amerson is having a procedure done tomorrow and he is home today going through the preparation for that—Tannie Johnson, Marion Shurtleff’s sister, continues to be in serious condition and has been moved to Pleasant Springs Health Center—Clayton Bellamy has been moved to Room 147 (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 29, 2015

Serving The Lord’s Supper
Sunday Morning

Scripture: Randy Blackmon
Jerry Wildman Duane McGough
Dylan Davis Chris Hill

Sunday Evening
Jerry Wildman Duane McGough

PRAYERS
Sun. AM—Leon Goff (Opening)
—Pat Marshall (Closing)
PM—Kenneth Amerson (Opening)
—Luke Arnold (Closing)

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

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By Faith Moses
By Philip C. Strong

Hebrews 11 not only defines *faith* (see vv. 1,6), example after example is given to illustrate it. In each of these examples, faith produces *obedient action*. That is, faith caused those cited to act in accordance with God’s commands and expectations. Action that is taken from any other motivation cannot be *of faith*, because Romans 10:17 says, “*So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*” However, the decision to live by faith usually requires some additional choices along the way...

Consider Moses in this connection. His overall decision to *live by faith* in obedience to God’s instructions involved additional choices that can be easily seen by concentrating on the verbs in Hebrews 11:24-28.

“*By faith Moses...refused,*” v.24. Living by *faith* means *refusing* some of the personally advantageous options of life. Moses refused a position as “*the son of Pharaoh’s daughter.*” Being a wealthy and powerful man in the government of the wicked and idolatrous nation of Egypt was something *faith* caused him to refuse. Faith will also cause us to say “No” to other things that might be *personally advantageous* to us— like vocations that are incongruent with God’s word.

“*By faith Moses...choosing,*” v.25. *Refusing* one thing often enables the *choice* of another and better option. In this case, Moses chose to endure “*ill treatment with the people of God*” rather than enjoying “*the passing pleasures of sin.*” This choice was made *by* and *because of* faith. For us, such a choice usually doesn’t involve the opportunity to be a prince in the most powerful nation on the planet. More normally, it involves a decision to

stand with the righteous— even though it involves ridicule, rather than to *party* with the worldly.

“By *faith* Moses...**considering**,” v.26. In essence, to *consider* means to *spend time contemplating*. Faith causes one to stop and think— to reflect on how the contemplated course or action “fits” with, or is contrary to, God’s will. Allowing oneself the *time to think* about the relative values of each option, both in the short and long term, provides the opportunity to research or review God’s word on the matter, and to entreat Him for wisdom and courage by prayer. Such *considerations* are the product of faith.

“By *faith* Moses...**left**,” v.27.

The faithful choices to *refuse*, *choose*, and *consider* also meant that there would have to be *action* taken. To a large extent, the previous choices have been mental; *leaving* is physical. Faith is not confined to the mind and heart, but must also include the body. It is one thing to *think* and *feel* a certain way, but this cannot be all there is to it. Faith acts according to *faithful* thoughts and desires. Moses had conviction regarding what faith required, and followed through in faith. To be *faithful*, we must act in faith.

“By *faith* Moses...**kept**,” v.28.

Faith involves both *negative* and *positive* decisions and their incumbent actions. It is not defined or exemplified only by what one *refuses* and *leaves*, but must also include what one *keeps*. Moses *kept* “*the Passover and the sprinkling of blood...*” God’s word demands that we abstain from many things, but it also requires that we *keep* others also. God considers no one “faithful” solely on the basis of what they *refuse* and *leave*— as Moses’ example teaches. There are obligations to be *kept* also.

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of God
Romans 10:17

Thus, true faith is not a “better felt than told” sensation. It involves and requires: refusals of pleasurable but sinful activities; choosing lifestyles with benefits that are spiritual and eternal

over those that are only physical and temporary; considering always God’s will in every decision made and path taken; leaving behind anything and everything that is not conducive to pleasing God; and keeping His commands. If it isn’t this kind of faith, it is vain, empty, and worthless. “Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which you also received, in which you also stand, by which also you are saved, **if you hold fast the word** which I preached to you, **unless you believed in vain**” 1 Corinthians 15:1-2.

—Southside Sulphur Springs Bulletin 8/80/15

Thanksgiving

As a nation we officially observe the fourth Thursday of November of each year as a day of Thanksgiving. As early as the 1600s the early settlers of the American Colonies observed a day of Thanksgiving to thank God for the bountiful harvests they experienced.

Eventually, in 1863 Abraham Lincoln officially declared an annual day of Thanksgiving. I believe that it is good to have a national Thanksgiving day.

However, we as Christians should be thankful to God every day of our lives for the wonderful blessings, physically and spiritually, that God provides for us.

“*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with **thanksgiving**, let your requests be made known to God...*” (Phil. 4:6).

“*Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and **giving of thanks** be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.* (1 Tim. 2:1-2).

“*...giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*” (Eph. 5:20).

We have much for which to be thankful. God has provided this beautiful

universe and earth with all the resources to sustain us physically, but of greater importance He provides all the great spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus (Eph. 1:3). Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

—Leon Goff

Worship in Song Training

Tim Stevens will be with us **December 6th through 9th, Sunday through Wednesday**, to work with us, and especially with song leaders to encourage us and help us in our worship in singing of Psalm, Hymns and Spiritual Songs. Let’s look forward to Tim being with us. He has volunteered to be of service to us.

The Weekly Ladies Class

Will not be meeting again until after the first of the year.

NEWS (continued from back page) in Pleasant Springs. He is not doing very well and he needs someone with him most all the time. Peggy is with him most of the time—**Joyce Williams** was in pain with arthritis Wednesday night and not in our service—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.**