

# THE EASTSIDE EDIFIER

"So then let us follow after things which make for peace, and things whereby we may edify one another." (Romans 14:19)

## A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors:

We are happy that you have chosen to worship with us today. You are our honored guest!

Listen to our  
Radio Program  
"Focus on the  
Bible" **WWIC**  
www.wwicradio.com AM 1050

Sunday's @ 8:00 AM  
& Monday -Friday @  
7:35 AM. Also  
available online:  
[www.wwicradio.com](http://www.wwicradio.com)

## Five Day Bible Reading Schedule

### Week 2

- 1) Genesis 16-18;  
Mark 6
- 2) Gen 19-20;  
Psalm 1; Mark 7
- 3) Gen 21-23;  
Psalm 107; Mark 8
- 4) Gen 24-25;  
Psa 4; Mark 9
- 5) Gen 26-27;  
Mark 10

**26568 John T. Reid**  
**Parkway, P.O. Box 1256,**  
**Scottsboro, AL 35768;**  
Sunday AM: 9 Worship;  
9:30 Bible Class; 10:30  
Worship/Lord's Supper  
Wednesday: 7:00 PM  
**Evangelist:** Aaron  
Andrews (256.349.8911);  
[aaronandrews@me.com](mailto:aaronandrews@me.com)



Sometimes things go from bad to worse. We have an idea of the kind of person we ought to be and would like to be, but our efforts to live a quality life seemingly get us nowhere. The harder we try to overcome them, the stronger the grip our bad habits seem to have on us. Disappointment, frustration, and disillusionment become daily companions. What we would like at such times is a chance to start all over, a fresh opportunity to make of life something worthwhile.

The truth is, in Jesus Christ we can have a new opportunity to live. Jesus invites those who are weary of struggling with life on their own to come to Him for rest and for help: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Mt. 11:28). In Christ there is a very real renewal of life. It is as though our tired past is washed away, and we are given a fresh life to live. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (Jn. 10:10). Becoming a Christian is so much like starting over in life that it is spoken of as a new birth (Jn. 3:3), and as a resurrection from the dead (Rom. 6:4).

Not only in becoming a Christian, but in living as a Christian there can be a daily renewal of life. God's forgiveness is available to us at every moment: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 Jn. 1:9). In Christ there is compassion and grace. Our record can be washed completely clean at any time we are sincerely sorry and willing to repent of our sins. We can start over and be renewed. "'Come now, and let us reason together,' says the Lord, 'though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool'" (Isa. 1:18).

The new quality of life the Christian can experience results from a radical change in his thinking. Two important texts speak of this as the source of our renewal. In Rom. 12:2, Paul wrote, "And not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and

## News & Notes

**Sick:** *Angela Frank* is recovering from foot/ankle surgery/reconstruction fusion. ~ *The Andrews* are recovering from COVID-19.

**Prayer Request:** *Kim Hays's* son (*Dakota Clark*). ~ *Angela Frank's* niece, Brittany and her little girl, Cara. ~ *Angela Frank's* niece, *Makenzie Stovall*. ~ *Kimberly Hilliard's* mother, *Karen Chambers*, fighting colon cancer. **UPDATE (from Paul):** "Karen has deteriorated to the point where we have to be with her 24 hours now. We are taking turns with Kimberly's brother Lee in taking care of her. Hospice was called in yesterday." ~ *Mildred McGaha's* dealing with Alzheimer's disease. ~ Keep *Thomas LeRoy* in your prayers as he is going through a difficult spiritual battle. ~ Karen Daniel's friend, *Eva Gass* is dealing with a liver tumor. Her husband *Maurice*, has been diagnosed with bladder cancer. Another friend, *Bill Miller* is also battling cancer. ~ A friend of the Hilliards, *Carolyn Grinnell*, was diagnosed with B-cell lymphoproliferative disorder. She will undergo monthly infusions for the next two years. She is 82 years old. ~ Brenda Elkins mother, *Elizabeth Lones*, is in rehab and improving. ~ *Janell Newton's* husband Michael is scheduled for testing to get to the bottom of his confusion and dizzy spells.

### SERVING THE WEEK OF JAN 9:

#### Sunday 9:00 AM:

**Singing:** Singing

**Prayer:** Steve Daniel

**Lesson:** Singing

#### Sunday 10:30 AM

#### Announcements/Scripture Reading:

Marc Austin (*Isaiah 21:1-17*)

**Opening Prayer:** Felipe Benavides

**Song Leader:** Paul Hilliard

**Lord's Supper: Lead** - Jay Vance

**Assisting** - Abel Hilliard, Jake Vance

**Lesson:** Robby Callahan

**Closing Prayer:** Marc Austin

#### Wednesday Evening

**Song Leader:** Paul Hilliard

**Invitation:** Aaron Andrews

**Closing Prayer:** Abel Hilliard

perfect will of God." And in Eph. 4:20-23, he said, "But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind." Learning to base our conduct on truth and reality, as opposed to falsehood and illusion, makes a wonderful difference in the "freshness" of life!

Jesus Christ is not only concerned with what we have been, He is more concerned with what we can be. The woman taken in adultery, brought to Jesus by the scribes and Pharisees, was a person whose past would have caused the religious leaders to write her off as a lost cause, an expendable piece of human trash. But Jesus saw in her something worth salvaging. He said, "Go and sin no more" (Jn. 8:11). This was no minimizing of the seriousness of what she had done, but rather the promise of being something better than she had ever been before.

The possibility of renewal is one of the cherished possessions of those who have become obedient to Jesus Christ. In a world where most people are worn out trying to better themselves by merely human efforts, the chance to gain a fresh start in life is not the least of the blessings of Christianity. In Christ and in Christ alone can this renewal be found. But make no mistake about it, in Christ we can start over! (END)

#### ADDITIONAL NOTES