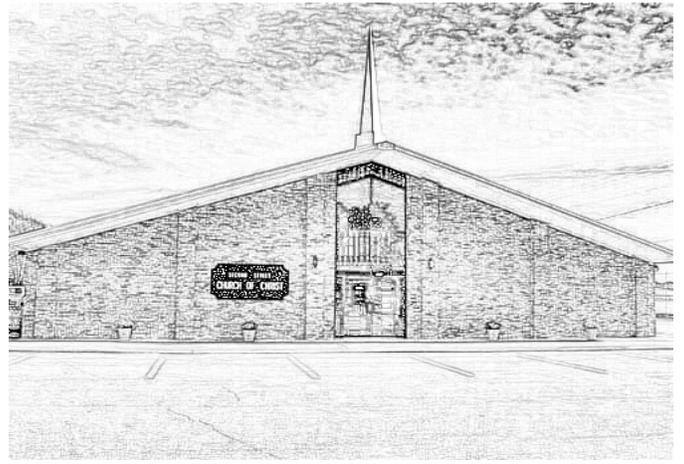


# Second Street Church of Christ



*February 22, 2015*

## MINISTER

Adam Cozort

662-663-0231

## Office

662-454-9429

P.O. Box 126  
Belmont, Ms. 38827

## SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class.....9:00am  
Sunday Morn. Worship.10:00am  
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm  
Wednesday Evening.....7:00pm

*Endeavouring to keep  
the unity of the Spirit in  
the bond of peace.  
Ephesians 4:3*

## Handbook for the Christian Journey

Make it simple. Keep it practical. Peter delivers.

The letter of 1 Peter offers us a short handbook on how to live the Christian life within a hostile society. It may have other purposes as well, but it certainly provides us with a practical guide for traveling to heaven. Five practical commands show the way.

You might have difficulty identifying only five imperatives in your Bible. The reason is our English translations typically cut up Peter's long sentences. In the process they transform various participles and verbal forms into commands, thereby diffusing the actual force of Peter's imperatives within a heap of others.

Here's Peter's advice:

1. Set your hope completely upon the grace you will receive when Jesus Christ is revealed (1 Peter 1:13). Having already described the incredible inheritance awaiting us, we focus on our future while living in the present.
2. Be holy in everything you do (1 Peter 1:15). We belong to God's holy family.
3. Live out your Christian journey with reverence (1 Peter 1:17). What an appropriate response to God for those of us who have placed our hope in Christ, while knowing that God is an impartial judge who has redeemed us.
4. Love one another (1 Peter 1:22). Those made new by God's word ought to live as God's people.
5. Yearn for the nourishment coming from God's word (1 Peter 2:2). We need strength to complete the journey.

While hardly an exhaustive list for Christian living, nevertheless: Set your hope, be holy, live with reverence, love each other, and yearn for spiritual milk provide excellent guidance for wading through difficult times toward the goal. Our Christian journey reaches completion when we finally enter the promised destination.

Which of these do you need most in your life now?

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February 22, 2015

## What's Going On?

*Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life, he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin. Prov. 13:3*



Trays for March

Debra Brewer

**Trays for 2015** - There is a sign up list on the board in the back. If you can please sign up for a month.

**Sign up Sheet** for singings and fellowship is on the board in the back.

**Monthly Singing 2/27** at 6:00pm Adam & Shea's.

**Our Gospel Meeting** March 8-11. W. T. Allison

**Electronic Meeting** announcement is available to email or text. See Steve.

### Quote of the day:

"Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears." (Hebrews 12:12-17, NKJV)

The Jewish Christians, to whom this letter is written, have been chastised a great deal over the last few chapters. While facing turmoil, they have struggled with whether or not to stay the course with God or to quit for something "easier."

As they are being told to buck up and see it through to the end, they are given a reminder of a man from the Old Testament: Esau. It is found in Genesis 25. Esau was hungry and because of his shortsightedness he sold his birthright (that by which he claimed his inheritance) to his brother Jacob for a meal.

We have to be careful that we don't allow the same shortsightedness to engulf our lives. Many people have sold their birthright to Heaven in order to get things of immediate fulfillment. Sometimes it has been sold for one's job, or family, or money, or pleasure, or any number of other things. When it is sold, those who do so, like Esau, often don't realize what they have lost until it is too late.

Are you selling your spiritual birthright for physical things?

Adam Cozort



Don't forget about your Bible Reading!!



## **Be Not Conformed To This World**

*By Ron Boatwright*

Paul tells us "that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God...And do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:1-2). Giving ourselves as "a living sacrifice" requires that we "do not be conformed to this world". If we conform to this world, the living sacrifice of ourselves becomes polluted and unacceptable to God. As Christians we are not to be conformed to the world in our speech (Ephesians 4:29), thoughts (Matthew 15:19), dress (1 Timothy 2:9-10), or actions. We are to be transformed or changed. We are to "Put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man" (Colossians 3:9-10).

Worldliness has no place in a Christian's conduct. Worldliness is a malignancy eating away at the very souls of people. Worldliness weakens and destroys our love and respect for God and sets us in opposition to His will. One becomes worldly when he loves the things the world does. Worldliness begins with wanting to fit in and to get along with the world. "Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (James 4:4). John tells us "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world passes away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever" (1 John 2:15-17).

As members of the Lord's body, His church, we are not to have "spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:27). We must "keep oneself unspotted from the world" (James 1:27) so we can go to Heaven.

We tend to become like those with whom we associate. "Do not be deceived, evil company corrupts good morals" (1 Corinthians 15:33). We are not to participate in the sinful deeds of the world but, "Therefore come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord" (2 Corinthians 6:17). We must carefully choose those with whom we associate. "I am a companion of all who fear You, and of those who keep Your precepts" (Psalms 119:63). We cannot become a hermit even though we live in a world with sin all around us. But we must live in a way so, "That you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world" (Philippians 2:15). We are to "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them" (Ephesians 5:11). It is not sufficient just to abstain from the evil practices but we must also speak up against them.

But "If we say we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth" (1 John 1:6). Put on righteousness is nothing but hypocrisy. The Lord had much to say against hypocrites in Matthew chapter 23. Many people's morality is the current and popular practice of others.

Even though we must provide for our families, many people in this materialistic world, equate individual success with the size of their cars, wardrobes, houses, and bank accounts. "One's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses" (Luke 12:15). We are to "Set your mind on things above, and not on things of the earth" (Colossians 3:2). True success is pleasing God so we can go to Heaven. We are to be "a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14). In not being conformed to this world, you will "make your calling and election sure" (2 Peter 1:10) and be assured of a home in Heaven.

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

**Bible Study**      **9:00am**  
**Worship**          **10:00am**  
**Evening**          **5:00pm**

### Wednesday

**Bible Study**      **7:00pm**

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**Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.**

*Hebrews 10:25*

The process for becoming a Christian is the same as it was over 2000 years ago! To become a Christian, one must:

*Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17*

*Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6*

*Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3*

*Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10*

*Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38*

*Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10*

None of these alone will make you a Christian. These commands are from God and must be obeyed from the heart to become a Christian.

### Prayer List

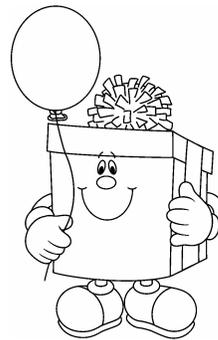


Paula Wanner	Ann Martin
Norma Taylor	Joey Pierce
Craig Pierce	Trisha Johnson
Stephanie Moore	Faye Metts
Becky Raper	Barbara Blackman
Clarence Brown	Phillip Pharr
Cathy Gober	Dianne Vandagriff
Jerry Vandagriff	Deck Taylor
David Ivy	Tamri Barnes
Rumell Thomas	Jeff Goff

### Sympathy

Dees Family

### February Birthdays



<i>Edna Gibson</i>	<i>2/3</i>
<i>Johnathan Cozort</i>	<i>2/7</i>
<i>Ashley Tidwell</i>	<i>2/8</i>
<i>Wallace Williams</i>	<i>2/11</i>
<i>Alan Williams</i>	<i>2/11</i>
<i>Larry Harris</i>	<i>2/16</i>
<i>Wendell Vandagriff</i>	<i>2/19</i>

### February Anniversaries

**Jim & Faye Johnson**

**February 28th**

