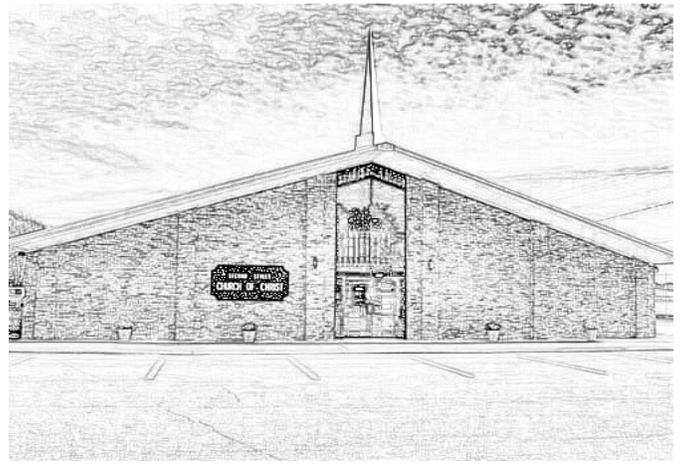


Second Street Church of Christ



December 4, 2016

MINISTER

Adam Cozort

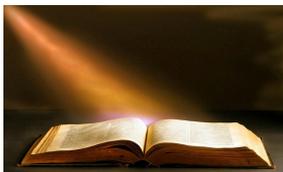
662-663-0231

Office

662-454-9429

P.O. Box 126
Belmont, Ms. 38827

Website:
secondstreetcofc.com



SERVICE TIMES

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

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

Christians need courage

Nothing supersedes faith (Hebrews 11:6). However, we must put faith into action in a sinful and obstinate world. Obstacles face us at every turn and we must have the courage to persevere.

No one will be able to banish all worry and fear from their lives because no matter how devoted we are as Christians, we're still human.

Even Jesus wished to avoid the pain and agony of the crucifixion (Luke 22:41-44).

Worry isn't inherently sinful. It becomes dangerous when it displaces God in our hearts and minds (Matthew 6:25-34).

God acts in his own time and methods to accomplish the larger goals he has in mind (2 Samuel 10:12). We're all important to the Lord but his plan is always first (Matthew 16:18; 1 Corinthians 15:24; James 4:15).

A firefighter that rushes into a fire or a soldier onto the battlefield are in no way immune to fear. Nevertheless they persevere because of their commitment to something larger than themselves.

When Moses died, the responsibility of leadership passed to Joshua and in God's instructions, we see the breadth of the courage and resolve we need as Christians.

While Joshua's situation may differ from ours, we still find much to inspire us from the text.

God tells Joshua that the promised land is theirs and that God wouldn't leave him (Joshua 1:1-5). He says the same to us (John 14:1-6; Hebrews 13:5). He kept his word to Joshua and will to us, as well (Titus 1:2).

Nevertheless, despite the promise of presence, provision and guidance, God tells Joshua repeatedly to be strong and resolute.

God says to Joshua:

***God acts in his
own time and
methods to
accomplish the
larger goals he
has in mind.***

(Continued on page 2)

Announcements

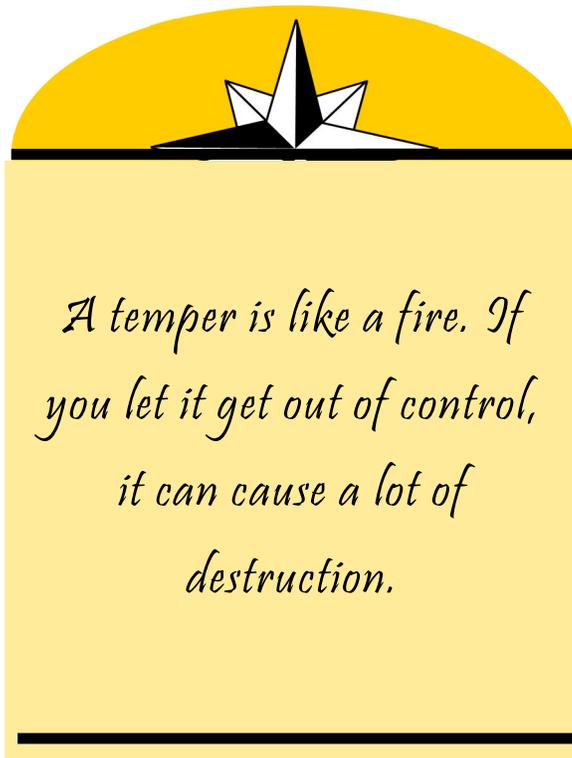
Welcome Visitors!! You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

The sign-up sheet to host a singing and fellowship night is posted on the board in the foyer.

Food Drive item - see list in the back for items that may be lacking.

Thanksgiving Dinner - Saturday Dec. 10.

Clothing Drive Continues - See Debra Wren if you have any clothes to bring.



If anyone is interested in helping.
From the Gatlinburg Church of Christ:

Our building was fully insured. If anyone wants to help those who lost their homes, we ask them to send a contribution to the Gatlinburg church of Christ and mark it For Fire Relief. We will use it to help our members first and then others as funds permit. The address is: Gatlinburg church of Christ, P.O. Box 361, Gatlinburg, TN 37738.

If conversion to Christianity makes no improvement in a man's outward actions – if he continues to be just as snobbish or spiteful or envious or ambitious as he was before – then I think we must suspect that his 'conversion' was largely imaginary.

(Continued from page 1)

“Be strong and of good courage” (1:6, NKJV).

“...be strong and very courageous”(1:7).

“Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed” (1:9).

Repeatedly, he assures and encourages the brave Joshua to be courageous. That is important to each of us.

Despite the Lord's word, will, way and presence, we must still be “very courageous” against our enemies (1 Peter 5:8; Ephesians 6:10-17; 1 Corinthians 16:13).

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Living a godly life

What do you say to someone as your life comes to its close?

As Paul wrote the second letter we have to Timothy, what memories he must have had of this younger man. He had taken Timothy with him on his travels and Timothy had learned from Paul to the extent that Paul could leave him to get on with the work that needed done for the Lord.

Yet there is always something more to say, some advice that you think the other person might need once you are gone. Listen as we read some of what Paul wrote as he knew his life was almost over.

“You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived” (2 Timothy 3:10-13 ESV).

Yes, there were memories of travelling and teaching, both proclaiming the good news of Jesus as well as helping young Christians as they started out on their journey of following Jesus. But it wasn't always rosy – in the midst of talking about all the good, he also mentions the persecutions and sufferings he had endured. These were not people calling him names or being obstinate – Paul suffered beatings, imprisonment, and was even stoned and left for dead. He had to have the scars on his body to remind everyone that following Jesus did have serious, physical consequences.

But notice what he told Timothy: if you want to live a godly life in Christ, this will happen to you. You will be persecuted. Not you might be, perhaps this will happen to you, or anything like that. But if you are doing what you should be doing, this will happen. The reason is that there are people who are evil and often they are imposters – pretending to follow Jesus, while in reality they are doing the work of the evil one. They deceive others and are deceived themselves.

What about us? Do we realize that following Jesus will bring opposition? It might even bring physical suffering. And from the same people that brought Paul suffering – from those who claim to be following God. How do we keep going when this happens? Notice what Paul told Timothy.

“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:14-17 ESV).

The way to survive persecution and suffering is to rely on what you know to be true: God's word. This is where we get real wisdom which will keep us safe spiritually. The reason is simple – what we have in the “sacred writings” has come from God himself! He “breathed out” these things so that we can be complete and be equipped for anything that might happen to us.

The question for us, then, is quite simple: have we learned, firmly believed, and are acquainted with God's word in such a way that it can get us through the hard times we will face in life? If not, what are we going to do about it? The only solution is to spend time with God's word every day so that we can be “complete, equipped for every good work.”

The way to survive persecution and suffering is to rely on what you know to be true: God's word.

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Study **7:00pm**

Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalms 133:1

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 | Henry Vandagriff |
| Joey Pierce | Faye Johnson |
| Phillip Pharr | Ellie Sander |
| Barbara Blackman | Stephanie Moore |
| Larry Sartain | Flora Wanner |
| Jennifer Steger | Eric Wilson |
| Lou Dodson | Shane Stevens |
| Mike Braden | Allison Heitzman |
| Tim Denson | Jim Johnson |
| Sammy Green | Brenda Leatherwood |
| Charlotte Lard | David James |
| Jimmy Searcy | Tim Thomas |
| Carolyn Holcomb | Mark Vandagriff |
| Steve Harris | Oscar Vandagriff |
| Dianne Vandagriff | Lynn Sander |
| Manzy Caldwell | Elizabeth Posey |
| Debra Brewer | |



December Birthdays

Flora Wanner 12/3

Faye Johnson 12/15

MaKayla Johnson 12/17

Steve Holcomb 12/21

Jan Higginbottom 12/26

Joe Horton 12/29

December Anniversaries

Sympathy