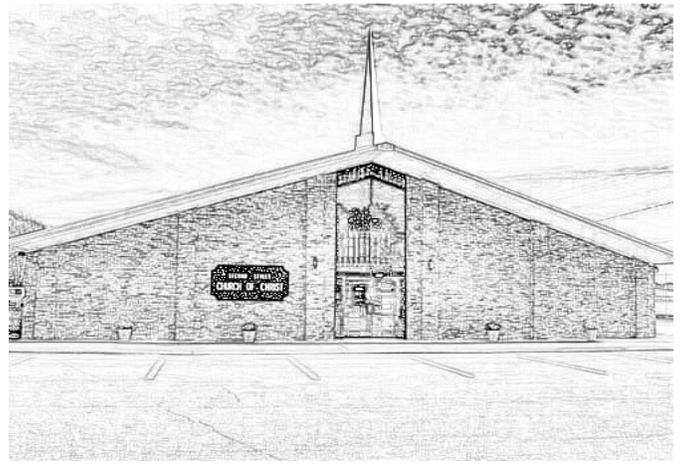


# Second Street Church of Christ



August 20, 2017

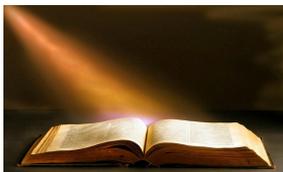
## MINISTER

### 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*

## Five hideous truths about sin—and one great truth of hope

**B**ehind sin works a living, personal, spiritual force called Satan. He opposes God and he considers mankind his battlefield. We know little about his origin, but we have learned much about his tactics and objectives. These should be studied carefully.

When we speak of sin, therefore, we are actually speaking of the work of Satan against God's special creation of mankind.

### Sin overpowers

It cannot be controlled. It is the lion crouching just outside the door ready to pounce and kill, Genesis 4.7; 1 Peter 5.8. It is the kudzu that will not stop growing until it has covered every good intent and smothered all good works. There is no dabbling in sin, no setting limits for sin, no negotiating with sin.

### Sin destroys

It destroys relationships, motivations, health, spirituality. Sin undermines strong foundations, creates hurts and offenses between people, accuses others of self ambition, opens up to swallow people and families alive, Numbers 16.1-34. Sin never helps, never builds up, never brings advantages, never unites.

### Sin deceives

In temptation, sin shows only its attractiveness, the pleasure from engaging in it. It tells you how much you deserve it, how others are doing it, how you can do it just once and not be hurt, how no one will know about it. Satan is the father of lies, John 8.44, and he tells every lie in the book. His is the first lie recorded, to Eve, and his greatest lies are told about God, Genesis 3.1-5.

### Sin twists

It uses people and loves things. It manipulates for selfish purposes. Truth, faith, and

*(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.

**Wendell Fikes** will be speaking today.

**Be praying** for our search for a minister, that one will be chosen that has a love for the Gospel and will always speak nothing but Your Word.

*The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that they have.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

love become tools of the trade. Instead of righteousness, respectability. Rather than zeal, it counsels lukewarmness in the guise of moderation. Humility over one's own error is turned into smugness over avoiding the error of others. The commands of God become fields of doubt.

### **Sin separates**

Sin kills holiness. God is holy. Without holiness no one shall see the Lord, Hebrews 12.14. So sin separates us from God, Isaiah 59.2. The one essential relationship of man is broken by sin. This is the goal of sin. Sin works to this end. When man is estranged from God, sin celebrates. This separation from God begins in this life and carries through to eternity. There is no greater damage that sin can do than separate us from God.

### **Sin will die**

It is true that sin causes death, both physical and spiritual, but sin itself will one day die and perish at judgment. The sinner will die in the torments of hell with sin. Whoever separates himself from sin and appeals to God for salvation, in Christ, will live. Sin cannot overpower God or those who live by his Spirit. Sin will be vanquished. Sin and all sinners will be eternal losers.

“Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus” Romans 6.5-11 NLT.

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## Set free to live

“**T**here is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the life-giving Spirit in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death” (Romans 8:1-2 NET).

No condemnation. Nothing against us. What more encouraging words could there be? As Paul was writing in Romans 7, things seemed hopeless. But that was a life without Jesus. For those who are in Christ, it is an entirely different picture. There is no condemnation. Our sins have been washed away (Paul wrote about this in Romans 6). We have been set free from serving sin and death.

This means we need to live differently. No longer can our lives be centered on “the flesh” but we must live according to the Spirit (Romans 8:5-8). Those whose lives are centered on the physical only have death to look forward to. That is such a bleak outlook! But if our lives are centered on the Spirit then we have real life and real peace. This is what Jesus gives us! I don’t know anyone who isn’t wanting a life with peace. Sadly, many miss it because they are so entangled with living in the world.

If we are Christians, if the Spirit of God lives in us (which we received when we were immersed into Jesus and also received forgiveness – Acts 2:38), we belong to Jesus (Romans 8:9). By being in Jesus we have a new life, a life without condemnation.

“But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is your life because of righteousness. Moreover if the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his Spirit who lives in you” (Romans 8:10-11).

*Those whose lives are centered on the physical only have death to look forward to.*

We have access to the same power that raised Jesus from the dead! This power gives real life to our bodies because the Spirit now lives in us. And this is as certain as Jesus’ resurrection! That is certainty!

Do we sometimes feel as Paul did in Romans 7, that no matter how hard we try we just can’t seem to get it right? The answer is that although we can’t do it on our own, we now have the power of the Spirit who raised Jesus living in us. We can do it through him who died for us.

Does this mean we will never fail? No, because we will. Does this mean that our bodies won’t get tired and prevent us from doing things? No, because we are still housed in these mortal bodies. But it does mean that as we keep our lives centered on Jesus and living for him, that we will be able to “put to death the deeds of the body” (Romans 8:12-13). We can’t do this on our own power. But we do this by God’s Spirit who now lives in us.

The Spirit living in us is God’s seal of ownership on us as his sons (Romans 8:14-17). In Ephesians 1, Paul spoke of the Spirit being God’s seal and guarantee of our inheritance as sons. We have so much to live for, now that we are no longer under condemnation!

As we live in our physical, mortal bodies, we must not get discouraged. We may suffer physically but if we persevere, we will be glorified with Jesus (Romans 8:17).

“For I consider that our present sufferings cannot even be compared to the glory that will be revealed to us... What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:18,31).

No matter what we go through, remember the Spirit we have living in us who can give us strength. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus!

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## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

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

### Wednesday

**Bible Study**            **7:00pm**

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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	Dianne Vandagriff
Cassie Tierce	Kathy Alexander
Phillip Pharr	Stephanie Vandagriff
Stephanie Moore	Margie Pharr
Ellie Sander	Brenda Jourdan
Lou Dodson	Lynn Sander
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
Jimmy Searcy	Tim Brown
Christy Hickox	Mike Gaddy
Susan Vandagriff	James Bailey
Patsy Wanner	Ken Saylor
John Johnson	Cheryl Pardue
Kenneth Orrick	Brenda Leatherwood
Barbara White	Fred Albers
Jo Vandagriff	Gene Searcy



### August Birthdays

*Ronnie Taylor 8/1*

*Lily Robinson 8/6*

*Jerry Brewer 8/8*

*McKenley Cleveland 8/21*

*Rajama Johnson 8/30*

### August Anniversaries

*Sympathy*