

# Second Street Church of Christ



March 4, 2018

## MINISTER

Doug English

## 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*

## Why we can't ignore attempts against the truth

**E**rror surrounds us. From the first, since the days of Jesus, false teaching has spread its wings. How should we react to it? There are extremes. One can see nothing but an enemy. Another ignores it, wanting to emphasize only the positive.

While we follow the truth in love, we must also maintain balance by warning and exposing error. Here's why.

### I. Because we are our brother's keeper

When God asked Cain about his brother's whereabouts, he replied, "I don't know! Am I my brother's guardian?" Genesis 4.9. In a real sense, we are guardians of the welfare of our neighbor. To love another is to look after his well-being.

In the body of Christ, God gave us responsibility for one another. Many of the New Testament letters seek to steer God's children away from grace-removing error. Christians are charged to correct and admonish one another, Galatians 6.1. The Bible exists, in part, to correct and admonish, 2 Timothy 3.16-17.

### II. Because error will not keep its distance

False teaching spreads. It is never static. It seeks openings to enter and spaces to fill. It is an active influence. Jesus called it leaven. If it is not actively resisted, it will encroach upon our hearts and infiltrate our congregations.

Any doubts ought to be removed by listening to Paul in Acts 20 or Peter in his second letter, on the resurrection. In his first letter, John was vigorous in his opposition to error about Jesus' incarnation. James gives no quarter to faith-only doctrine, James 2.

When it appears, false teaching must be met head-on. If we wait until it penetrates the church of God, we will have given it a foothold.

(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.

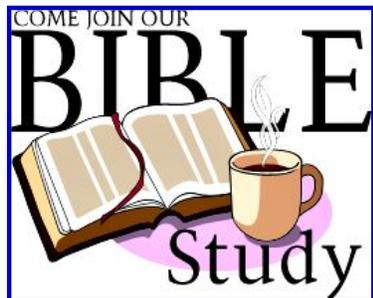
**Ron Deaton** will be speaking today.

**Doug and Judy** will be here to begin the work with us on March 7th. Pray they will have a safe trip here.

**Next Sunday** scripture and songs followed by fellowship meal.

**Move clocks forward** 1 hour next weekend.

**Bear stuffing** March 13th.



## Ten Thoughts to Start the Day from Psalms 116 and 118

1. This is the day the Lord hath made: we will rejoice and be glad in it.
2. I will praise thee; for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.
3. The Lord is on my side; I will not fear; what can man do unto me?
4. The Lord is my strength and song, and is become my salvation.
5. I love the Lord, because He hath heard my voice and supplications.
6. Because He hath inclined my ear unto me, therefore will I call upon Him as long as I live.
7. I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
8. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all His people.
9. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.
10. Thou art my God, and I will praise thee; thou art my God, and I will exalt thee.

*Bulletin Digest*

*(Continued from page 1)*

### III. Because we have the example of Christ and his apostles

Jesus excoriated the Jews for refusing the truth and embracing the lies of Satan, John 8. He warns still from heaven, Hebrews 12.25. The apostles confronted error in practice and teaching, Acts 5; Galatians 2.

They all tell us to do the same as they were doing. We must look at the lives of teachers to determine their truthfulness, Matthew 7.15-23. We must test the spirits (teachings), 1 John 4.1. We must prove all things, 1 Thessalonians 5.21. The rebellious, idle talkers, and deceivers "must be silenced" Titus 1.10-11.

#### If the truth

If the truth frees, error enslaves. If the truth saves, error causes one to be lost. If the truth unites, error separates. If Jesus is the truth, Satan is the father of lies, and those who embrace and propagate his lies must be resisted and exposed.

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## True greatness

*Why* is it that people always want to be the greatest? I realize that we should always strive to do our best, but that is not what I am referring to. We want to be better than everyone else in whatever we are doing. Even when equality is emphasized it really isn't equality that we are after – most people seem to want special privileges and at least to feel they are better than others.

The former communist nations are a good example of this. What started out as a push for everyone to be equal very quickly turned into equality for the masses but privileges for the elite. The modern state of Israel was built on the kibbutz. These were plentiful in the early days of the new state where all lived in a collective community, with each contributing what they earned so that all had an equal share. As more people began earning greater wages they left the kibbutz in order to live on their own and keep the benefits of their own labour.

We even see this idea among the disciples of Jesus. It was in the upper room that the apostles began to argue over who was the greatest among them.

*“A dispute also started among them over which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. So Jesus said to them, ‘The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in authority over them are called “benefactors.” Not so with you; instead the one who is greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is seated at the table, or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is seated at the table? But I am among you as one who serves”* (Luke 22:24-27 NET).

Can you imagine the scene? Jesus had just taken the bread and wine they were using in their Passover meal and had given them a new significance, representing his body and blood. Jesus told them that one of them at the table would betray him. John's gospel indicates that he identified, at least to the disciple beside him, that it was Judas Iscariot who would do this.

*May we seek to be the one who serves and not strive for self-importance.*

Perhaps this is what started the argument over who was the greatest – after all, if they were the greatest they couldn't possibly be the one who would betray their leader. In human organizations, everyone wants to be the greatest and have the rest serve them.

Jesus told them that this would not be the way among those who wanted to be his disciples. The greatest had to become like the one with least experience, the youngest; the leader had to be the one who served. After all, Jesus came to serve.

It would seem that immediately after this Jesus got up and began to wash his followers' feet, just like a slave would do (recorded in John 13). Can you imagine the reaction this must have caused? They had been arguing over which one was the greatest and Jesus serves them like the least. No wonder there were objections to his doing this – this wasn't the way it should be! And they realized this!

What about us? Do we want the most important places among our fellow Christians or are we content to do what needs to be done, what many consider to be the lowest tasks? Maybe we should ask ourselves, “which would Jesus do?” To ask the question is to answer it.

May we seek to be the one who serves and not strive for self-importance.

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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**

### Prayer List

Paula Wanner	David Alexander
Cassie Tierce	Ruth James
Betty Moore	Francis Mortland
Stephanie Moore	Barbara Trollinger
Ralph Montgomery	Linda Parker
Lou Dodson	Lynn Sander
James Adams	Christian Harris
Jimmy Searcy	Londyn Perry
Christy Hickox	Brenda Leatherwood
Susan Vandagriff	Kenneth Orrick
Tonia Martin	Misty Inmon
Rusty Porterfield	Katrina Pharr
Freda Baron	Henry Vandagriff
Alice Tate	Brenda Jacobs
Stephen Saponara	



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.



### March Birthdays

*Jonah Holcomb 3/3*  
*Jimmy Higginbottom 3/15*  
*Michele Holcomb 3/26*  
*Eli Johnson 3/30*

### March Anniversaries

*Jerry & Janey 3/2*

*Sympathy*