



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

January 30, 2018

God Is Not Pleased With Halfway Measures

Mike King

*FULL RESULTS DON'T COME
FROM HALF HEARTED EFFORT.*

There is a biblical principle that if observed and performed will revolutionize the Christian's quality of service to God. Solomon said, "*Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going*" (Ecc. 9:10). This was a great fundamental of truth that he spoke. God has always demanded wholehearted service to Him. He has always been more interested in the effort than the result. God apparently is more interested in seeing a one-talent man putting forth ten-talent effort than a ten-talent man putting forth a one-talent effort.

When God sent King Saul to destroy the Amalekites he had Samuel to tell Saul, "*Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have*" (I Sam. 15:3). Israel was rebuked for robbing God. Malachi commanded them to "*Bring all the tithes into the storehouse*" (Mal. 3:10). As Paul commended the Macedonians in their giving, he pin-pointed no half-way measure by saying, "*they first gave themselves to the Lord*" (2 Cor. 8:5). These are but a few instances of many in the Scriptures where God commanded and commended wholehearted service. It is easy to establish wholeheartedness as a scriptural principle. Paul used the word "abounding" in I Cor. 15:58 when describing the nature of the work of a Christian. It means "to go beyond a fixed or expected point."

Some insightful person said, "If your task be great or small, do it well or not at all." Another has said, "If it is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well." I think that we could colloquially say that His work and that of His followers is to be a "class act" or quality completion.

Whether leading in worship by singing, waiting on the Lord's table, teaching a class, leading a public prayer, serving as a missionary in a foreign land, writing a book or preaching a sermon we must strive to make it quality. We may even be assigned to listen to a sermon, help the song leader sing praises, study a Bible lesson, sit with a sick person, give a cup of cold water, invite someone to a gospel meeting or Friends and Family Day, give to the treasury, live an unassuming Christian life, it needs to be done well to please God. You have read the bumper sticker, "God don't make no junk," neither should His people when being done to

THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2018

Announcements: Jim Gann
Sound Room: Matt Jennings
Usher: Will Bowlin

Lead Singing: Sun. A.M.: Greg Harrison
Sun. P.M.: Richard Jennings
Wed.: Ruston/Jim/Thomas/ David

Sunday Prayers:

Feb. 04:
A.M. Kevin Simmons
Troy Robertson
P.M. Thomas Wall
Harold Russell
Feb. 11:
A.M. Steve Todd
Randy Wall
P.M. Phil Young
Shane Crotts
Feb. 18:
A.M. Phillip Young
Roger Clayton
P.M. Hunter Jennings
Ronnie Griggs
Feb. 25:
A.M. Tim Dye
Mark Jennings
P.M. Daniel Drummond
Perry Jones

Lord's Supper:

North Head: Richard Adams
North Helper I: Mason Simmons
North Helper II: Alvin Parks
South Head: Terry Stubblefield
South Helper I: Ruston Adams
South Helper II: Olen Clark

Scripture Reading:

Feb. 04 — Martin Crotts
Feb. 11 — Michael Crotts
Feb. 18 — Caleb Jennings
Feb. 25 — Dean Dillard

Wednesday Prayers:

Feb. 07 — David Clayton; Dillon Clayton
Feb. 14 — Jason Jennings; Greg Clayton
Feb. 21 — Paul Ormon; Roger Clayton
Feb. 28 — Richard Jennings; Jason Jennings

Usher:

Feb. 04 — Roger Clayton
Feb. 11 — Shane Crotts
Feb. 18 — Jason Jennings
Feb. 25 — Randy Wall

Lock:

Feb. 04 — Roger Clayton
Feb. 11 — Mark Jennings
Feb. 18 — Jason Jennings
Feb. 25 — Dan Cobb

Prepare Communion:

Emily & Madison Gann

Host Youth Devo:

Will & Sallye Bowlin



* If you are unable to carry out your assignment please let Randy Wall know before service time.

The Company We Keep

The social network Facebook, has given the term “friend” a whole new meaning. We become friends with hundreds of people at a rapid pace. However, true friendship is vastly different.

A study of God’s word reveals how important true friends are and should be. Examples are David and Jonathan, Paul and Barnabas, and Jesus and his apostles. A friend cares about you enough to always tell you the truth, even if that truth is not pleasant.

In I Kings 13, we see a sad example of what can happen when we allow ourselves to befriend the wrong person. This so-called friend told him a lie, and ultimately cost him his life.

An unnamed prophet of God had been given the assignment to go to the evil king Jeroboam and tell him of the judgment which God had planned for idol worship at the altar in Bethel. As God had instructed him, he cried out against the altar and pronounced judgment to come.

After that, the prophet continued on his way and met an older man on the road claiming also to be a prophet of God. He invited him to his home to refresh himself. However, God had given instruction not to do that.

“And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place: For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest” (I Kings 13:16-17).

This should have been the end of the matter, but the older prophet then told him God had given him a new revelation, and to refresh himself at his home. *“But he lied unto him” (I Kings 13:18).* Unfortunately, the young prophet believed the lie and it led to his death.

This should be a warning to all of us, not just the young, to carefully choose our friends. To a Christian, a friend is someone who loves another person so much that his greatest desire is to help that person reach heaven. May we all have such friends.

~ by Tony Huddleston

PRAYER LIST



Kurt Clayton, is suffering with back problems and is scheduled to have an MRI.

Sandra Davis, daughter of *Betty Boren* went through surgery to remove a brain tumor ok, but had to be taken back to ICU due to pressure on her brain caused by swelling. She was some better Monday.

Betty Boren was to return to her doctor after being taken to the ER Sun., for possible low blood pressure.

Roland Stinson, brother-in-law of *Harold Russell* and *Janice Cobb* was severely injured in an auto accident last week and expects to be taken off life support.

Nancy Petrowski, is dealing with a sore on her foot that has been diagnosed as staff. She has been placed on 2 types of antibiotics.

Betty Young had kidney stone surgery Fri., in Oxford. She is back at home improving, as well as **Terry**, who spent last week at Sanctuary Hospice House for respite care.

Mason Simmons returns Wed., to St. Jude for a check up concerning the blood clots in his leg following his knee surgery a few months back.

Bobby White is not feeling well and dealing with an urinary tract infection.

Brian Carpenter will have carpal tunnel surgery on both his hands Feb. 7th.

Willie Ann Bryant, aunt of *Greg Clayton* is recovering from surgery for a broken hip. She will undergo rehab on the 5th floor of the local hospital for about a month.

Continue to Remember:

Jeff Atkins, William Bailey, Jimmy Bureson, Larry Cobb, David Crossings, Julie Katherine Davis, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Billy Joe & Benita Garner, Violette Glass, Phillip Haynes, Shane Hutton, Johnny Lee, Bobby Marques, Bob Musgrove, J.D. Stroud, Sam Warrington, Bobby White, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Teresa Clark, Maurine Drummond, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Terry Young

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Jean Drummond, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Cornelia Kennedy, Wadie Leopard, Ernestine McKinney, Mary Frances Reid, Price & Claudia Senter, Ione Wall

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley & Chase Seals

Expectant Mothers: Sallye Bowlin (boy) April



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



February 02. Stephanie Simmons

February 05. Paige Young

February 06. Owen Clayton

February 10. Carson Bowlin

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

February 12. Mike & Sheila King



FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY!

The date for this year's Friends and Family Day has been set for March 4th. Please mark this date on your calendar and make plans to be present and bring someone with you. Together we will enjoy a great day of worship and fellowship. There will be a noon meal and the afternoon service will begin at 1:15.



FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS

- Lads to Leaders participants will meet each Sunday evening at 5:00, starting Feb. 4th.
- Elders', Deacons', Preacher meeting Sun. Feb. 4th, at 5:00pm.
- Area Wide Youth Devo will be held at the Hwy 15 Pontotoc Church of Christ Feb. 11th ,at 6:30.
- Junior Bible Bowl will be held Sun. Feb. 18th, at the Mayfield Church of Christ, at 2:00pm.
- February's Youth Devo will be held Sun. night Feb. 25th, with *Will* and *Sallye Bowlin* hosting.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10: 13-17)
2. Believe the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16)
3. Repent of Sins (Acts 3:19)
4. Confess Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37)
5. Be Baptized for the Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38)
6. Be Faithful (Revelation 2:10)

I've Learned...

Everyday may not be a good day but there is good in every day.



CONGREGATIONAL THEME:

Working as God's team in 2018!

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Evening Worship.....6:00
 Wednesday Bible Study....7:00

MINISTER

Mike King 507-0625
 Home..... 534-6872
 Office 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163
 Phil Young.....316-2059

DEACONS

Greg Clayton252-9762
 Roger Clayton 538-8195
 Shane Crotts.....316-6364
 Jason Jennings.....801-3260
 Randy Wall 316-9255

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Martin Crotts
 A.M. Prayer.....Kevin Simmons
 Closing Prayer..Troy Robertson
 P.M. Prayer.....Thomas Wall
 ClosingHarold Russell
 Wed. 2/07.....David Clayton
 Wed.2/07.....Dillon Clayton
 Lock 2/04.....Roger Clayton
 Usher 2/04.....Roger Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....87
 Sunday A.M.....110
 Sunday P.M.....76
 Wednesday.....73
 Contribution.....\$3,798.00
 Budget.....\$4,385.16



PANTRY ITEMS

Cake Mix

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January 30, 2018

Volume 5

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The Game of Life

Have you ever played Milton Bradley's, "The Game of LIFE?" Probably you have at some point. This game has been around a long time - - since 1860! The object of this game is to cause its players to make several important "life decisions" and teach them several important "life lessons," while having fun all at the same time. Some of those decisions and lessons were:



Whether to go straight to work, or go to college first. Paydays are typically better for those who go to college.

Whether to buy or not to buy health/life insurance.

Having children can bring benefits as well as liabilities.

Life has many unexpected setbacks, as well as serendipitous blessings.

And ultimately, the decisions you make in life will determine whether you will wind up in a "Millionaire's Mansion" or the "Poor House."

But one lesson this game didn't teach us; in fact, the most important lesson of all is this... When the game is over, everything goes back in the box! No matter how good you were at this game; no matter how much money you were able to accumulate; no matter who you were able to beat; at the end of the game, you had to put everything you had accumulated back in the box.

Friends, now that's the greatest lesson you'll ever learn from "The Game of LIFE." No matter what you're able to accomplish in life; no matter how much money you are able to earn in your lifetime; no matter how many people you competed against and over which you were victorious; when your life is over, it all goes "back in the box." You take none of it with you. Then you'll stand before your Maker.

So, how well are you doing at the "game of life?"

~ Steve Higginbotham, bulletingold.com 11/17 ~