

Sunshine Baskets for 11/18/07

Mary Nell Flatt, Nell Haney, Betty Smallwood,
Lorene Haney, Jewell Pippin, Rita Gentry

Happy Birthday to...

Brian Dawson (13), Plytha Petty (13)

Pantry Items We Need...

Chicken and Dumplings, Green Beans,
Peach Halves

**Our Sympathy Goes Out to the Families
of ...** Mary Davidson

Announcements & Upcoming Events...

Directory Changes: We are putting together a new directory! The dates are as follows: March 7th, 8th, and 10th. Please keep these in mind. If you would like to have your email address or cell phone number added with your other information, please put it on the newest typed paper in the back of the auditorium. Make sure if you have any elderly family members who may be sick and/or shut-in that you check their information as well.

November 16, 2007: P.A.J.C.H. Play & Choral Performance. "Angels Expose Leaks in Fairytale Land." Begins @ 6 pm @ the Center Grove Community Center. Free admission but donations appreciated. Concessions will also be available.

November 20 2007: Services moved to Tuesday night due to Thanksgiving.

November 25, 2007: Jackson County 4th Sunday Singing Here @ 2:00 pm.

Bulletin Articles: If you are a male and you would like to write an article for the inside right page of the bulletin, there is a sign up sheet in the back of the auditorium. Just choose the date you would like to have your article featured and list your email address so the template can be sent to you so you'll know how much to type! ☺

Privileged To Serve November 18th

- Ushers Alton Mayberry
- Glen Haney
- Thurel Flatt
- Tracy Jenkins
- Announcements..... Tyler Meadows
- Song Leader John Anderson
- Scripture Reading Jeremy Mathis
- Speaker John Mabery
- Opening Prayer..... Randy Duke
- Closing Prayer Roy Flatt
- Oversee Lord's Supper . Chris Mabery
- Prepare Trays Tyler Meadows
- Scripture Reading..... Raymond Haney
- Serve..... *Greg Scott
- *Charles Mitchell
- *Neal Chaffin
- Mike Netherton
- Roger Robinson
- Jesse Anderson
- Alternate to Serve..... Kevin Moss
- Burton Young
- Dismiss Classes Mark Collins
- Count Contribution Corky Trisdale
- Rellon Burris
- Blake Maberry
- Earl Crabtree
- Response Card..... Jerry Young
- Power Point..... Blake Maberry

Sunday Night (11/18)

- Speaker Jeremy Kirby
- Scripture Reading..... Larry Howell
- Song Leader Tyler Meadows
- Opening Prayer..... Greg Scott
- Closing Prayer..... Roy Smallwood
- Power Point..... Kevin Moss

Wednesday (11/21)

- Song Leader Farlin Flatt
- Invitation..... David Wilson
- Opening Prayer..... Burton Young
- Closing Prayer..... Neal Chaffin

*Take to the sick & shut-in.
Let Jerry Young know if you can't serve.

Elders:

- Ted Ragland 268.9387
- John Mabery 268.0651
- Cell: 265.3835

Deacons:

- John Anderson 268.2406
- Billy Scott 268.0569
- Robert Crabtree 268.4417
- Raymond Haney 268.2493
- Rellon Burris 268.4738
- Carl Call 268.2040
- Sjon Gentry 268.3273
- Bobby Haney 268.2754
- Jerry Young 268.2215

Ministers:

- John Mabery 268.0651
- John Anderson 268.2406

To Be Saved, JESUS Said We MUST...

Believe Him (Jn.8:24; Heb.11:6)
Repent of our sins (Lk.13:3, 5)
Confess Christ (Rom.10:9-10)
Be immersed in water for remission of sins
(Mk.16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom.6:3-4)

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Fishers of Men (Part I)
By John Mabery

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen. (Mat.28:18-20)

¹⁵ And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:15-16)

When the apostles preached the first gospel sermon, 3,000 souls repented and were baptized into Christ (Acts 2:41). As they continued to preach the gospel in that city,
"...the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2:47)

In Acts 4:4 we read of the incredible growth of the church of Christ.
"... many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the **men** came to be about **five thousand.**" (bold, jm)

Approximately 29-30 years later, the apostle Paul, inspired by the Spirit of God, wrote,
"... the gospel ... was preached to every creature under heaven,..." (Col.1:23)

The success of the first century church can make us feel bad about *ourselves*. How could they have accomplished so much in such a short span of time, while our efforts *almost* seem to be in vain? Let's think about these things.

Continued inside...

**Center Grove
Church Of Christ**

3857 Grundy Quarles Hwy.
Gainesboro, TN. 38562
931.858.7460 or 931.268.0651

Schedule of Services

Sunday: Bible Classes @ 9:00 a.m.
Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
Worship @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Classes @ 7:00 p.m.
Our A.M. Service is **Televised** on Monday
on Cable Channel 9 @ 6:00 pm

Radio: "The Lord's Word" on WLIV 920 AM
10:10 a.m. Monday - Saturday
(We broadcast Thursday, Friday and Saturday)

Website: www.centergrovecoc.com

Preaching and teaching need balance; a difficult task indeed. On one hand, you don't want to condone slothfulness, but on the other, you don't want to make sincere people feel like failures. Therefore, let's set the record straight right from the beginning. Some Christians ought to feel ashamed because they make no attempt whatsoever to lead others to Christ. This is a serious failure because our mission is to seek and save the lost. If you have no desire to lead men and women to Christ, you need to examine your heart; there is a problem! Now, for those who do what is in their power to do, let's think about things as realistically as we can.

First, it isn't really true that 3,000 souls responded to the gospel after a *single* sermon. The Lord had been preparing Jerusalem to receive the Christ and the gospel message for about 1,500 years.

“... the law was our tutor *to bring us* to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”
(Gal.3:24)

Many of the Jews were godly people awaiting the arrival of their Messiah. Once it was proven that Jesus was the One they were looking for, they gladly received Him and His words. In addition to that, many of the people had been exposed and moved by the preaching of John the Baptist and Jesus Himself. Yes, it is true that 3,000 souls responded to the gospel the *first* time men preached the death, burial and resurrection of the Son of God, but it isn't correct to assume that these people knew nothing whatsoever about the Messiah prior to this day. Remember, Jesus came in the “fullness of the time” (Gal.4:4).

Second, while 3,000 souls is a large number of conversions, it was only a *fraction* of the people present when the apostles spoke on that Pentecost Day. Some of the most devout Jews in the world had come from great distances to worship God on this occasion. This should help us understand why the church grew so rapidly. People who traveled such great distances would gladly hear a message about the Prophet of whom Moses spoke. (cf. Deu.18:15; Acts 7:37).

Third, Paul said the gospel was “**preached**” to every creature under heaven; he didn't say every creature “**obeyed**”. The people *heard* about Jesus, but it appears that the number of Christians in any given city was only a *fraction* of the population as a whole. **To be continued...**

Sick at Home

Ida Thomas	Robert Haney
Sandy Haney	Aline Whitaker
Zella Charles	Marie Shoemake
Dorothy Burris	Bobby Elkins
Deleann Strong	Mildred Elkins
Ozelma Martin	Connie Rhodes
Bessie Young	Bill Wisdom
Lillie Goolsby	Vickie Wilson
Opal Pippin	Jo Ann Ledbetter
Ruby Dunn	

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer & supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Phil.4:6)

Area Hospitals:

Cookeville: Ray Flatt, Wanda Warren, Donald Burris, Regina Matthews, Bill, Dudley

Area Rest Homes:

NHC: Alice Pippin, Joe Anderson, Mary L. Dudley
Mabry: Plytha Petty, Wilma Howell
Atlanta: Kalob Roberson
Cookeville Rehab: Jady Long, Beatrice Byers

Family Values

Submitted by: Ted Ragland

Home is God's word for “Heaven on Earth.” When things are right in the home, there is no place on earth we would rather be. When things are right at home, the whole world is a better place.

Home...The word stirs the heart, tugs at the soul; thoughts of a fireplace, the warmth of parents, love, safety, security, peace. Home...Is suppertime & the smell of yeast bread, homemade stew, popcorn, peanut butter sandwiches. Home...A place of sharing, loving, caring, knowing that all is right no matter how bad the day has been.

We must understand that healthy, happy, functional Christian homes do not happen by chance. They occur as a result of work and discipline. Christian principles are not only taught, they must be modeled by seeing parents attend worship, praying, & reading the Bible. Parents talking about what was right & wrong & how to apply the Word to daily activities. The family, as God would have it, is no accident. It is a result of God-centered living.

There is lots of talk today about family values. “Family values” has become a nebulous phrase, twisted to mean a host of different things, depending upon the individual using it. Abraham is called the father of the faithful. It is time that we become *fathers-of-the-faithful*. I want my children & grandchildren to be faithful to God. We must return to an interest in how to get our children out of the womb, into the home, in the church, & on their way to Heaven; become parents of the faithful or we become family failures. How do we do it?

Place God First. At Sinai it was *no other gods before Me*. Jesus said, *Love God with*

all your heart, body, mind, & soul. In the Sermon on the Mount, He said, *Seek you first the Kingdom of Heaven*. Satan has convinced us that God does not have to be first, second, or even present at all, that Biblical principles have no place in modern families. Satan advocates that we can replace Abrahamic family values with whatever it takes to make us happy. No. Not ever & still be known as *fathers-of-the-faithful*.

Love your Spouse. Love the wife as Christ loved the church. No relationship on earth is as important as husband and wife; not job, education, investments, children, friends-nothing! We will not be great parents until we become great lovers. In counseling, we see dysfunctional children come from dysfunctional parents. Most often a result of a lack of love between parents & a lack of Biblical family values.

Love Our Children. God never gave the responsibility of raising our children to the government, local school board, day care center, or the church. Our children's spiritual, cultural, social, educational, financial, & physical welfare is Biblically placed upon our shoulders as parents. Any attempt to remove that responsibility & place it elsewhere is against God's will. For instance, if we allow today's public educational system to take over our responsibility, the next generation may become atheist, because the schools can't talk about God. It's against the law. We must restore Abrahamic family values-become *fathers-of-the-faithful*. We cannot violate God's will with no consequences.

Genuine family values, Abrahamic, Biblical family values, becoming parents of the faithful, getting our children out of the womb, into the home, into the church, & on their way to Heaven. That's family. That's value!