

PRAYERS

Connie – Received a very good report last week. She doesn't have to go back for 4 months.

Chris (Anita's daughter in law) – DRs are concerned with her test numbers.

Zack – doing better. Checking on surgery for his hietal hernia.

Chance – Her blood count is up and Drs are keeping a watch on it.

Bill Lunsman – Recent heart surgery

Congregation News:

Next Sunday is pot luck. Please bring a dish and share a meal. Also, plan to stay for Sunday singing following the meal.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: A Christian is a living sermon--whether or not he ever preaches a word!

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

10/14/18

10/21/18

Bible Class	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Announcements	Paul Darling	Colby Crawford
Song Leader	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Opening Prayer	Paul Darling	Colby Crawford
Lord's Supper	Paul Darling	Tom Bright
Closing Prayer	Colby Crawford	Paul Darling
Sermon	Colby Crawford	Paul Darling

Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

Adult	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Children	Colby Crawford	Linda McBrayer
Toddlers	Cindy Bright	
Babies	Anissa Crawford	

Birthdays & Anniversaries

October 11th – Carmen Meyer

Building Cleanup

Darling

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Bulletin Submissions

If you would like anything added to the bulletin such as prayer requests, news, or events, please make submissions by Friday night to: tlbj@sbcglobal.net

Aberdeen church of Christ

October 14, 2018

Judas Iscariot

The name "Judas" has gone down in history as the name of a traitor and this is accurate. It will forever be known as the name of the man who betrayed the Savior of the world for thirty pieces of silver. Few parents would name their son Judas for fear of ridicule and rejection. Very few of us would appreciate being named Judas by our parents. All this because Judas was a man who acted upon his greed. If Judas were on trial for betraying Jesus, I can imagine nearly everyone would be willing to have him placed in prison for life or even to be put to death. They would say (and rightly so) that "He is the cause for the crucifixion of Jesus!" Or, "He betrayed an innocent man!" All would be quick to condemn Judas and find him guilty as charged.

But sometimes I wonder--are we so different from Judas? I know, I know--many would immediately say, "No, we are not like Judas--at all!" I reckon if it makes your conscience feel better, you just go ahead and think that way. But the sad, painful, truth is we are more like Judas than we are willing to admit. We may not betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver, but when we sin, we betray the Lord for our own lusts and desires. In some cases it may be for more than thirty pieces of silver, but most of the time it is for much less worth than that. How many times have we betrayed our Lord for: pride--greed--arrogance--indifference or rebellion? If we are honest, it happens more times than we would like.

Brethren, don't get me wrong! Judas Iscariot was wrong in his actions and committed a great evil. He was not and is not (least ways he shouldn't be) anyone's hero. But before we get on our high horses and look down on Judas--we need to look at our own imperfections. We may find that the distance between Judas and ourselves is not as great as we like to think it is! And many times that distance is not as great as it should be!

We thank God that we can be saved from our sins through the blood of Jesus our Lord! Do you know how to contact the blood of Jesus? Paul says we contact it when we are buried into His death by means of baptism (**Rom. 6:3-4**). Say, have you done that?

Don't Bother Me--I'm Retired!

A preacher once asked an older Christian woman to teach a children's Bible class. She seemed to be the perfect candidate for the position: she was well-versed in the Scriptures and had an abundance of time on her hands. But she replied with those all-too-familiar words, "Don't bother me--I'm retired." Now, we may retire from secular work, but we must never retire from the Lord's work. There is a rest to come (**Heb. 4:8-11**) but we are not there yet. **1 Corinthians 15:58** says we are to be "*stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as-much as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord.*" The apostle Paul wrote "*I am debtor both to Greeks and to Barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish*" (**Rom. 1:14**). His inspired statement should be our attitude toward life. **Titus 2:3-5** says, "*that aged women likewise be reverent in demeanor, not slanderers nor enslaved to much wine, teachers of that which is good; that they may train the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be soberminded, chaste, workers at home, kind, being in subjection to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.*"

Let's not waste our talents or our opportunities to work for the Lord (**Matt. 25:14-30**). Jesus says that those who do so are "*wicked and slothful servants*" (**Matt. 25:26**). Let us learn to wisely "*redeem the time*" (**Eph. 3:16; Col. 4:5**). The American Standard footnote says that the phrase "*redeem the time*" literally means to "buy up the opportunity." We should never seek to retire from the Lord's work. Paul once said (and so should we) "*For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; or whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's*" (**Rom. 14:8**).

We certainly thank God for those who are exerting themselves to "*...work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work*" (**John 9:4**). One day, those who put forth such effort will hear these precious words, "*Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will set thee over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy lord*" (**Matt. 25:21, 23**). They will also hear "*...Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world*" (**Matt. 25:34**).

I pray that we will all strive to enter into that eternal rest that awaits the faithful children of God. May we never use the excuse, "I'm retired," when it comes to the Lord's work.

Bearing the Burdens of Others

When we think of bearing others' burdens the first thing that comes to mind is not usually gratitude! But, in Galatians 6:2, we find that such occasions should make us thankful, for we are told that in doing this we "fulfil the law of Christ". One cannot help but bring to mind Christ's words recorded for us in John 13:34-35 where we are told, "*A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*" But what does this love compel us to do? The word God uses for this supreme love He expects in us demands that we seek the best for others. In Romans 13, we find this fact stated in the negative way – what we won't do if we have this love. We are told that, "*Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law*" (10). So, when I see someone bowed down facing the struggles this life all too often places before God's children, what should my reaction be? I should give thanks for the opportunity that is before me to help that one bear that burden and then do all I can to share the load of that burden! If we read the judgment scene depicted in Matthew 25:31-46 we find an amazing thing. According to the Lord, when we help those in need it is just as though we have done it unto Him! And who could not be thankful for such an opportunity?! Let's open our hearts to the burdens others bear, and in love reach out to help them bear that burden – and then thank God for the opportunity to let them and others know we are fulfilling His law (Galatians 6:2) and are His disciples (John 13:35)!

—**Jack H. Williams,**

39th Street church of Christ, Independence, Mo

One more thought: "Be strong enough to stand alone, smart enough to know when you need help, and brave enough to ask for it." – Allow others to BE thankful!

Welcome to our Assembly. . .

Whether you are a first time visitor or a long time member of this congregation, we are happy to have you with us this morning. For those visiting, please make yourself comfortable. A good deal of information about this church and its activities can be found on this sheet. We encourage and invite anyone interested to participate in the activities offered throughout the week. If you have any questions about the facilities, our worship service, or want more information about the church, feel free to ask anyone present. Someone will be glad to help you!