

## Light the Fire! by Zach Williams

There is a substance so powerful that the Bible likens it unto the very words of the Almighty God. This is no minor feat. The Word is given by inspiration of God (2 Timothy 3:16). It is sharper than any two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12) and has the power of God unto salvation for all who believe (Romans 1:16). It is His Word that will judge us in the last day (John 12:48). According to John 1:1, the Word is not only from God, the Word IS God! What earthly substance could stand in comparison to the Holy Word of the living God? "Is not my word like as a **fire**? saith the LORD" (Jeremiah 23:29). Today, the Lord's church **needs more fire**. We need more fire in our congregations, in our worship, in our sermons, in our homes, in our lives, and in our bones. For far too long, those called to be the light in this world have let the fires go out! It is time to light the fuse. It is time to reignite the blaze. It is time to light the fire—and here is how we can do it. **THE SPARK:** "Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!" (James 3:5) Exactly one year ago, the Sunset church of Christ decided to refocus on her "One Mission." After meeting with the elders, we began with a series of six sermons straight from the HTHSOE curriculum. We motivated our members, trained them to use *Back to the Bible*, and explained how we would begin prospecting at a congregational level. Once the initial training was complete, every single member was assigned to an Evangelism Team. We set up an Evangelism Table, arranged a classroom for writing Compassion Cards, put up posters to display the Evangelism Model, assembled new movers baskets, and stocked up on visitor gift bags. Then we went to work. Within the first month, we collected 140 Contact Cards. We made our first Congregational Prospect List and began mailing out Compassion Cards daily. We worked out the kinks, and by the end of the month, everyone was on board and understood the process. The excitement was palpable. A congregation stuck in neutral and coasting on auto-pilot for decades was finally gaining momentum. There was potential to grow. There was hope. There was a spark! **THE FLAME:** "The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed . . ." (Matthew 13:31). After the initial spark made it operational, we had a flame. This flame quickly produced a Bible study, and just one month later, a baptism. This first conversion had a major impact on the congregation. This prospect was a well-known and respected man in the community. Everyone knew and loved him, and everyone knew that he was deep in denominationalism. The power of God's Word was on full display. Most importantly, a soul was added to the Kingdom. When our Evangelism Team met that Sunday night to write Compassion Cards, there were smiles all around as we wrote cards to welcome our new brother in Christ. There was excitement because our members saw how Compassion Cards played such a major role in this conversion, and they were ready to make it happen again. Where there was once just a spark, now there was a bright, glowing flame! The flame was small in size but giant in potential.

Brushy church of Christ  
774 Hwy 48 South  
Centerville TN 37033



## The Brushy Beacon

"Open up Your Heart & Door in 2024"

June 30, 2024

### Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:00
Sunday Morning Service	10:00
Sunday Evening Service	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

### The church of Christ at Brushy

#### Elders

Ricky Atkinson  
James Atkinson  
Tony Duncan

#### Deacons

Paul Johnston Terry Banks  
Kevin Johnston Justin Atkinson  
Caleb Truett

**Preacher:** Kevin Johnston

### A Leader's Prayer by Cory Waddell

The Bible describes Solomon as the wisest man who had ever lived in his day (1 Kings 4:29-34). This wisdom was not the product of his own study and observation, though I'm sure he had plenty of that. Rather, scripture tells us that Solomon's wisdom was bestowed upon him by God in answer to the king's request. At the beginning of his reign, the Lord spoke to the young ruler in a dream and offered to give him whatever was asked. Instead of riches and power Solomon said... *"You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"* (1 Kings 3:6-9 ESV)

We are often, and rightly, impressed with Solomon's request that God give him wisdom to govern a nation. He shows humility by recognizing his own limitations. He demonstrates a need to grow himself so that the people can grow. Furthermore, he acknowledges the necessity of God's hand in the past, present, and future to succeed in this role. Consider the elements of this prayer are applicable to all leadership positions. Most all of us are responsible for leading someone. Do any of the following apply to you?

Husbands > Households	Parents > Children	Teachers > Classrooms
Coaches > Teams	Managers > Shift Teams	Bosses > Employees
Deacons > Ministry Teams	Elders > Congregations	

The likelihood is that many reading this wear multiple hats like those above. If the roles are new, then perhaps you are touched by the same feeling of being overwhelmed like Solomon. For those who have been leading for a while, maybe the angst is gone, but the need for wisdom is not. You still have limitations, growth-potential, and the need for God's hand in your work. Today, I call upon all leaders to reflect on Solomon's prayer for wisdom. Inserting your specific situations into the text, make this prayer your own. Learn from the wisest of men to verbalize the need for more wisdom, and our great God will provide what we need in abundance.



# Family News & Notes

**Our Food Ministry** Pamela Brooks will be taking care of the food ministry while Kim Atkinson is recovering from her shoulder surgery. If you or a family member are having a procedure, a surgery, or a hospital stay and need a meal or meals prepared, please let Pamela know and she will get you taken care of. We appreciate her willingness to take care of this ministry.

**Special 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday** You are in for a special treat today as the Young Men are conducting the worship service during morning worship. We will have a potluck meal and an early evening worship service after the fellowship meal at the Annex. They always do a great job!

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration** We will celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July on Wednesday, July 3. We will eat at 6 P.M., have a devo at 7 P.M., and then have fireworks at dark. If you would like to contribute to the fireworks, please give the money to Justin and Emily or Paige and Caleb. *There is a menu on the table.*

**The Youth Summer Series Continues...** on Wednesday, July 10! We will have our final lesson on Esther. Our youth will present the skit on Esther to the congregation on Wednesday, July 17.

**Team 1 – Compassion Card Group** You will need to sign cards on Sunday, July 7. Please go to the Ladies Classroom following the morning worship service. It will not take you long. Please see Tony or Cathy if you have questions.

*Jim, Louise, Beverly      Dean, Cecily, Dustin      Jim, Pamela      Lois & Mark  
Cindy, Crystal, Laynie      Brad, Jacinda, Leland, Emma, Lynlee, Ansleigh, Everleigh*

**Adult Summer Series** Eric Lyons will be here to speak on Wednesday, July 31. You will learn so much by attending. Bible Classes 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and up will stay in the Auditorium.

**Wednesday Night Ladies Class** Cathy Duncan will speak on July 10. Regular classes will resume in the Ladies Class on Wednesday, August 7.

**A Happy Birthday to...** Oaklynn Taylor...July 3

**A Happy Anniversary to...** Robert & Cindy Atkinson...July 5

**We Need Contacts** We continue to need names for compassion cards. Please get a contact card from the evangelism table, fill it out, and put it in the box. Know of someone who would like a Bible Study? Fill out a Contact Card! Know of someone with a benevolence need? Fill out a contact card! Keep your eyes and ears open for those around you who may have a need that we can fill and hopefully share the Gospel of Christ with them. It is going to take us all working together!



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You're Invited to a Bridal Potluck Honoring  
*Leland Porter & Savannah Wesbrooks*  
On Sunday, July 7, 2024 Following Morning Worship  
They are registered at Amazon and Walmart.  
Hosted by the Ladies of the Brushy church of Christ  
Men & Women are invited and **NO dessert will be needed.**

## Pray for Those Sick Among Us...

- Helen Bryant** is feeling some better but continuing to deal with knee pain.
- Ralph Burnsed** is continuing to deal with a compression fracture.
- Anita Quillen** is feeling a lot better and appreciates all the prayers.
- Kim Atkinson** is recovering at home after having shoulder surgery last week.
- Dana McCaleb** mother of Anna Freeman, will have a wound vac put in on July 10.
- Monica Ward** niece of Ed & Terri Perkins, is continuing to deal with health issues.
- Melissa Henderson** sister of Tammy Forrester, had to go to the doctor yesterday but is back home.
- Chris Allen** friend of Joanne Karidis, is feeling better.
- Randy Prince** is doing much better after having surgery.

### Continuing Prayer Requests

Dealing with Cancer - Aaron Bell, Roger Pace, Lynn Pigue, Megan Inman, Debbie Pierce, Ricky Chandler, Ron Pafford, Robbie Pinkerton, Ruth Sanders, April Colvett, Wilma Elkins, Glen Herrington, Shannon Irwin  
Special Requests - Scottie Simmons, William Kirby, Deborah Brazil, Ryan Horton, Claud & Glenda Teet, Jeff Lynn, Ronnie Howell, Paul Schneider, James & Helen Bryant, Elsie Ray Webb, Hilda Buckingham, Marilyn Horner

### Pray for Those in Nursing Homes

Dickson Nursing Home... Larry Donaldson  
Community Living Center in Murfreesboro... Fred Bowman

### Ongoing Prayer Reminders

- All in the military and civil workers overseas and their families right.
- All those Preaching and teaching the Good News all over the world.
- Our Government Leaders – Local, State, and National (1 Timothy 2:1-2).
- Our Elders and Deacons who oversee, care for, serve, and feed us spiritually. (Hebrews 13:7)

### Upcoming Events

- \*Today, June 30 ~ Special 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday with the Young Men to Conduct the Service
- \*Wednesday, July 3 ~ 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration – Eat at 6 P.M. – Service at 7 P.M. Fireworks at Dark
- \*Sunday, July 7 ~ Bridal Potluck for Leland Porter & Savannah Wesbrooks
- \*Wednesday July 10 and 17 ~ Our Youth Summer Series on Esther
- \*Sunday, July 21-24 ~ Our Gospel Meeting with Cary Crews Speaking
- \*Adult Summer Series ~ July 31 with Eric Lyons & August 28 with Kyle Butt
- \*Sunday, August 4 ~ Back to School Special with Carter Hoover, Speaking

### For the Record

Sunday Morning Bible Class	47	Sunday Morning Worship	75
Sunday Evening Worship	73	Wednesday Evening Bible Class	41
Contribution	\$2579		