

## It's About People! By Kevin Cauley

One of the greatest challenges that we face in our lives is connecting with other people. When we think about our purpose, to love God and love our neighbor (Matthew 22:37-39), we realize that this is the great challenge God has given us. We let things get in the way of doing that. We also let things get in the way of others showing love to us. Being about the Lord's business is being about the business of visiting with and learning about other people. The more that we can do this, the better job we will do in fulfilling our purpose in life.

One of the greatest obstacles that we place in our path of connecting with other people is simply failing to talk to them. So often we conceive of prejudices in our mind as to why a person is one way or another. We think, "I can't talk to him/her about this because he/she will never listen." How do we know until we try? Jesus told us that if we have a problem with another that we need to go to him/her and talk (Matthew 18:15). Jesus' way is the best way. More often than not, we will be able to resolve our differences.

Many times the reason we don't want to talk to other people lies within our own heart. We allow others to control us by blaming them instead of doing what we can. This is debilitating. We must take responsibility for our own thoughts, beliefs, decisions, feelings, and actions. This will put us back in control of our own life and go a long way toward helping us be more relaxed and comfortable around other people so that we can fulfill the purpose that God has given us in this life.



Brushy church of Christ  
774 Hwy 48 South  
Centerville TN 37033



## The Brushy Beacon

### "Staying Humble in Thee in 2023"

January 15, 2023

#### 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	Deacons
Ricky Atkinson	Paul Johnston Terry Banks
James Atkinson	Kevin Johnston Justin Atkinson
Tony Duncan	Caleb Truett

**Preacher:** Kevin Johnston

#### ABC's To Successful New Year's Resolutions by Brett Petrillo

The New Year brings a wonderful feeling. It signifies a new beginning and a fresh start. It is an opportunity to make serious changes. It is the closest chance we have to a "reset button." No wonder New Year's Resolutions are so popular. We want to do things better. We want to make better decisions. We want to make life-altering changes. No time is more inspiring to do so than the New Year. Unfortunately, resolutions are easier said than done. Breaking old habits fashioned by years of repetition are not easy changed. We all want this year's resolutions to stick and to become our new way of life. So, here are some ABC's to help make our New Year's Resolutions successful.

**Accept Responsibility (Galatians 6:4-5; Matthew 12:36).** If we truly want to make changes, then we must accept responsibility for ourselves. Have we developed bad habits? Have sins crept into our lives? Do we just want to make improvements? Then let's accept responsibility for any bad qualities we've formed, face them head on, and commit to make changes!

**Believe You Can Change.** We've all felt that sense of hopelessness when we failed to break a habit. The deeper the roots of a habit grow, the more hopeless change seems. This is especially true of people who struggle with addiction. The good news is, we can change! We are stronger than we think we are! We can control our minds and bodies (2 Peter 1:5-9; 1 Corinthians 9:26-27). We can escape from sin (1 Corinthians 10:13). Believe in yourself and lean on the Lord for help!

**Clarify What Is Important.** Sure, losing weight and eating better are great resolutions (they are on my list this year too). These are only so important though. We need to clarify what is truly important for our lives. Paul said it this way, "For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." Don't let the most essential changes be absent from this year's resolutions. Make sure the eternally important goals are at the top of the list!

**Do It With All Your Might (Ecclesiastes 9:10).** Make clear and specific resolutions. Have a way to measure success along the way. Have a plan in place. Work hard. Push towards these goals with everything you have. Don't let yourself forget about your resolutions. Write them down and keep them in a place where you will see them several times every day. Do whatever it takes to fulfill your goals!

There is no reason 2023 can't be a life changing year. This can be the year we look back on as the turning point. It's within our grasp. No matter what roadblocks come or challenges we face, we can improve ourselves, we can make our relationships with others better, and most importantly, we can make our spiritual lives better (James 4:8). May this year bring happiness, success, and above all, spiritual growth!

# Family News and Notes

**Visitors** If you are visiting with us today, we want to hear from you. We are thankful for your presence. Please fill out a Visitor card and leave it in your seat.

**Wednesday Monthly Meal** We will enjoy our monthly fellowship meal this Wednesday, January 18. There is a menu on the table in the back.

**Mission Trip** We are thankful to report that Tony and Ben have made it safely to India. Please continue to pray for them as they work to share God's Word. They will return on January 25.

**Calling All Bible Scholars...** The Education Committee is challenging our young people to learn the Books of the New Testament, the Old Testament, The Ten Commandments, and The Days of Creation. Certificates will be handed out on Jan. 29, at the Congregation Appreciation Dinner. You can say them to your Bible Class teacher, Kevin, or one of our elders.

**You're Invited to the ...** Congregation Appreciation Dinner on Sunday, January 29! We look forward to this time every year where we get to honor our members! This year you will get a meal from the Atkinson's, Duncan's, Johnston's, Truett's, and Bank's families. We hope you will make plans to attend and enjoy this special time of fellowship. We have a wonderful meal planned to honor you and all you do for the church at Brushy and the community!

**Special 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday** Kyle Butt will be our speaker on Sunday, January 29. Kyle has been preaching the Gospel for more than 25 years. He graduated from Freed-Hardeman University. He has worked in the Bible Department at Apologetics Press for the past 23 years. He is the author of numerous books and video projects on Christian Evidences. He and his wife Bethany have been married for 23 years and have three teenage children: Drew, Anna Claire, and Reed. They live in Columbia, TN. The following are the topics for the day:

9 A.M. Bible Class: *The Fall of Jerusalem*  
 10 A.M. Morning Worship: *The Bible is from God*  
 1 P.M. Evening Worship: *You Can Trust the Bible*

**Youth Bowling Trip** All are invited to go bowling on Sunday, January 30, following the early afternoon service. We will leave from the Annex and go to Tenn Pin Alley in Columbia. Each family will pay for their own bowling. Please add your name to the signup sheet if you plan to go. See Justin & Emily for more details.

**A Happy Birthday to...** Maelynn Campbell...January 19                      Paige Truett...January 19

*"People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care."*

## A One Year Chronological Bible Reading Plan

**Last Week's reading in Job was powerful! Read God's Questions in Job 38-39**

Jan. 15	Job 40-42		Jan. 18	Genesis 19-21		Jan. 21	Genesis 27-29	
Jan. 16	Genesis 12-15		Jan. 19	Genesis 22-24				
Jan. 17	Genesis 16-18		Jan. 20	Genesis 25-26				

# Pray for Those Sick Among Us...

- Christie Tanner** daughter of Glenda, will see another specialist on January 23.
- Rachel Watts** daughter of Dan & Melissa Watts, is continuing therapy and treatments.
- Dennis Donaldson** cousin of Anita Quillen, the skin grafts are healing well.
- Maddie Owens** daughter of Scott & Leah, is recovering after skin graft surgery last week.
- Gwen Rogers** is in rehab and improving.
- Charles Stem** father of Amanda Mayberry, will have surgery on January 23.
- Walter Gilbert** is continuing with treatments for cancer.
- Mark Gilbert** will have a procedure on January 25.

## Continuing Prayer Requests

- Dealing with Cancer - Aaron Bell, Walter Gilbert, Juanita King, Glen Herrington, Roger Pace, Lynn Pigue
- Special Requests - Scottie Simmons, Kevin Lawson, Fred Bowman, Deborah Brazil, Ryan Horton, William Kirby, Arthur Donaldson, Claud & Glenda Teet, Jeff Lynn, Ronnie Howell, Carl Bryant  
 Leona White, Maelynn Campbell, Evelyn Barr, Joe Atkinson, Carl Bryant

## Pray for Those in Nursing Homes

- Dickson Nursing Home... Larry Donaldson                      Life Care Centerville... Frances Qualls
- Lewis County Nursing Home... Lee Freese

## 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

- \*Wednesday, January 18 ~ Wednesday Fellowship Meal at 6 P.M.
- \*Sunday, January 29~ Special 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday with Kyle Butt Speaking
- \*Sunday, January 29 ~ Congregation Appreciation Dinner & Bowling Trip

## For the Record ...

Sunday Morning Bible Class	51	Sunday Morning Worship	73
Sunday Evening Worship	39	Wednesday Bible Study	28
Contribution		\$1950	

**Galatians 6:1, 2** "Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."