

**Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness** By Jared Green

*“With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you” (Psalm 119:10-11).*

*“Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works” (Psalm 119:27).*

*“I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life” (Psalm 119:93).*

*“Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me” (Psalm 119:97-98).*

*“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” (Psalm 119:105).*

My hope and prayer is that each of us can repeat with confidence the words of Psalm 119. In the world we live in today, however, the truths found in God’s Word are becoming totally irrelevant to some and an afterthought for most. God’s Word is being attacked as antiquated, impractical, and even narrow-minded. While our culture’s views on the Bible’s truths are troubling, they are as old as time itself, and God, in his foreknowledge, has both warned and prepared us.

In 2 Timothy 4, as Paul wraps up his second letter to the young preacher, Timothy is prepared for this very subject. Paul tells Timothy, “I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete confidence” (2 Timothy 4:1-2). This charge, while important in and of itself, is explained in verses 3-4: “For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.”

The word “endure” can include the idea of tolerating something. In essence, Paul tells Timothy that people will choose not to tolerate the difficult teachings of Scripture. Instead, they will seek out teachings that will “suit their own passions” (v. 4). How true this is, even today! In a world that overlooks—or even denies—Scripture’s teachings, let us be a people who stand firm in God’s Word. Let us be a people who love, meditate on, and live our lives according to God’s Word. Jesus tells us, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied” (Matthew 5:6). Remember, God loves you!

Brushy church of Christ  
774 Hwy 48 South  
Centerville TN 37033



**The Brushy Beacon**  
“Open up Your Heart & Door in 2024”  
**February 25, 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**

<b>Elders</b>		<b>Deacons</b>	
Ricky Atkinson	James Atkinson	Paul Johnston	Terry Banks
Tony Duncan		Kevin Johnston	Justin Atkinson
		Caleb Truett	

**Preacher:** Kevin Johnston

**It Is Not a Ritual, It Is a Path to Holiness** By Dan Jenkins

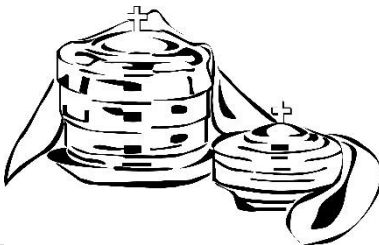
Because it happens every week, it is easy for the partaking of the Lord’s Supper to become somewhat of a religious ritual and we fail to understand the part it plays in our spiritual growth. The abuse of this feast in Corinth brought dire consequences. “For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep” ([1 Cor. 11:30](#)). If one does not remember Jesus and discern His body as he partakes of the bread and cup, he eats and drinks damnation to his soul.

In the New Testament we remember Him, but in the Old Testament they remembered their deliverance from Egyptian bondage. From the time the Sabbath was given until the close of the Old Testament, there was not a weekly assembly, but a time when the Jews, their families, their Gentile neighbors, and even their animals stopped all activity and spent that day thinking about God delivering them from bondage. Tragically, by the time of the New Testament, it had become a day which involved the precise distance one could walk on that day, whether it was sinful to walk through a field of grain and eat the wheat in that field as they walked. It had become a day where one could water his donkey and help his ox get out of a ditch, but the Messiah was forbidden to heal on that day. It was so ritualistic that keeping the rites of that day became a symbol of righteousness!

The failure to keep that day holy by remembering their deliverance from Egypt was a primary reason for the Babylonian captivity that lasted seven decades. God described it this way: “Her priests have violated My law, and have profaned My holy things...and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, and I am profaned among them” ([Ezek. 22:26](#)). The sabbath was holy and so is the Lord’s supper.

So, what happens to us as we remember, not the sabbath, but the Lord in His feast? Peter described those who were failing to add the “Christian Graces” to their faith when he says, “For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten he was cleansed from his old sins” ([2 Pet. 1:9](#)). The Lord’s Supper is a weekly reminder of how He purged us from our sins and delivered us from the bondage of sin. It is a time we examine ourselves as we visit the cross. The Lord wanted Israel to remember deliverance from the bondage of Egypt every week and gave them a memorial day to ensure their spiritual growth. The Lord wants us to remember our deliverance from the bondage of sin every week and has given us a memorial feast to ensure our spiritual growth.

As you eat the bread and drink of the cup, never let it become a ritual. But let it be that time when you commune with Him around His table and visit the cross of our salvation.





## Family News & Notes



**Welcome Visitors!** We are thankful you are here and want to give you warm welcome!

**Vacation Bible School Meeting** Have you ever wanted to help out a little more or find a way to serve and grow spiritually? Now is your chance by helping with Vacation Bible School. All who are interested in helping in any way, please stay for the planning meeting on February 25, in the Ladies Classroom.

**Men’s Business Meeting** There will be a Men’s Business Meeting next Sunday, Febrbruary 25, at 5 P.M. All men and young men are invited to attend.

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night** Josh Copley will be speaking on Sunday, February 25. He is a student at Freed Hardeman University and attends the Fairfield chruch of Christ.

**Spring Food & Supply Drive** Tennessee Children’s Home is having it’s Spring Food and Supply Drive. The truck will be here on March 21. All items need to be at the building on Wednesday, March 20. Also, they ask each family to consider giving \$25 or more in cash/check for the purchase of perishable foods such as milk, meat, and produce. The following non-perishable items are needed:

100% Grape and Apple Juice	Pop Tarts	Cooking Oil	Hot Sauce
Canned Peaches, Pineapple, Oranges	Instant Potatoes	Velveeta Cheese	Baked Beans
Cake Mix & Frosting	Toilet Paper	Kool Aid Canisters	Bar Soap
Paper Plates & Cups	Liquid Hand Soap	Men’s Deoderant	
Laundry Detergent	Bar Soap	Garbage Bags (39 Gallon)	

**A Happy Birthday to...** Amy Johnston...February 20



**Compassion Cards/Groups** We are kicking off the Compassion Cards and Groups the first Sunday in March. Each team has a leader who will be trained on what to do and expect. We would like for you to stay on your assigned Sunday following the morning worhsip service to sign cards for people in our community. We’ll meet in the Ladies Classroom. Below you will find your name on the list and the date you are needed.

This is a big part of our evangelism efforts and we hope you will take advantage of these opportunities. John 4:35 “...Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.”

**If you do not see your name, please let Kevin or one of the Elder know.**

TEAM 1 – March 3	TEAM 2 – March 10	TEAM 3 – March 17	TEAM 4 – March 24
<b>Leader: Tony &amp; Cathy</b>	<b>Leader: Caleb &amp; Paige</b>	<b>Leader: Justin &amp; Emily</b>	<b>Leader: Terry &amp; Debbie</b>
Jim, Louise, Beverly	Ella & Mabry	Tate	Carl, Ann, Mason
Ronnie & Patsy	Ricky & Jo	James & Kim A.	David & Jeannine
Dean, Cecily, Dustin	Hannah, Teague, Candace	Patricia	Joanne
Jim & Pamela	Hunter, Faith, Cayce	Keith & Nancy	Shirley & Darby
Cindy, Crystal, Laynie	Kevin, Amy, & Boys	James & Helen	Kim
Lois & Mark	Ralph, Ande, Dillin	Glenda	Trenton, Anna, Charlie
Brad, Jacinda, Leland	Braxton, Madison,	Maelynn	Anita
Emma, Lynlee,	Houstyn, Oaklynn	David & Crystal	Clara
Ansleigh, Everleigh	Paul & Evelyn	Rodney, Tessa, & Boys	David Love
	Ed & Terri	Annis	Eric, Amanda, Sierra
		Tammy & CJ	Jackson & Walker

## Pray for Those Sick Among Us...

**Carl Bryant** is in the Life Care Center in Centerville.

**Dillon Burnsed** is recovering after having gall bladder removal surgery.

**Cade Tucker** son of Rodney and Tessa, is at home dealing with sickness.

**Becky Gatewood** mother of Emily Atkinson, is taking chemotherapy treatments for cancer.

**James Bryant** brother of Glenda Tanner, is dealing with several serious health issues.

**Flora Mae Melton** mother of Greg Yates, is dealing with health issues.

**Jack Mayberry** father of Eric Mayberry, is home with medicine for his heart/getting stronger each day.

**John Baldwin** friend of Dean and Cecily, has advanced prostate cancer/will have surgery end of March.

### 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, Soliel Duncan, Shannon Irwin

Special Requests - Scottie Simmons, Fred Bowman, William Kirby, Deborah Brazil, Ryan Horton, Claud & Glenda Teet, Jeff Lynn, Ronnie Howell, Carl Bryant, Leona White, Rachel Watts, Angelica Essary, Paul Schneider, Dusty Covington, James & Helen Bryant, Elsie Ray Webb

### 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, February 25 ~ VBS Planning Meeting after Morning Worship

\*Today, February 25 ~ 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night with Josh Copley Speaking

### For the Record

Sunday Morning Bible Class	54	Sunday Morning Worship	77
Sunday Evening Worship	37	Wednesday Evening Bible Study	28
Contribution		\$2681	

**Evangelism & the High Dive: Standing on the edge – The Decision** By Travis Main

Standing on the edge of the diving board, toes curled and hanging on tightly, the diver has a big decision. Many a first time diver has stood there for what seems like an eternity. How many below have watched and chanted for them to jump... or chanted “Billy Bob is a Chicken”. This is the moment. This is decision time. Once you leave the board, you are committed. There is no turning back once your body commits to jump. The Christian evangelizer has reached the door. Do they ring the bell? Do they knock? Do they just leave their flyers and run? Does the Christian trust his emotions or God (Hebrews 2:10-13)? Satan is hoping against the Christian. He wants the Christian to turn back. Yet, God has commanded. Will the Christian deny Christ (Matthew 10:33). Those who have chosen to suffer the life of a Christian are to commit themselves to God (I Peter 4:19).