

Sunday Morning Servers

February 24, 2013

1st Prayer Doug Wilson
 Scripture Creighton Powell
 Closing Prayer David Wilson
 Announcements Rick Phillips
 Song Leader David McFadden
 Greeters Glenda Tarwater
 Betty Ford
 Comm. to Shut-ins David Wilson
 Lonnie Seabaugh

Those to Serve at Lord's Table:

David McFadden, Jody McFadden, Rick Phillips, Lonnie Seabaugh, Jerry Phipps

Sunday Evening Servers

February 24, 2013

Scripture & Prayer George Burnett
 Closing Prayer Lonnie Seabaugh

Items of Interest

Cleaning Team #4
 Children's Home Snack Cakes

March 3-6 Gospel Meeting
 March 3 Potluck
 March 10 Cemetery Meeting
 March 18 Children's Home Food Truck

For the Record

Sunday Morning Classes 49
 Sunday Morning Worship 70
 Sunday Evening Worship 33
 Wednesday Worship 31
 Contribution \$1,889.00

The Bulletin

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Deacons
 Rick Phillips 870.761.0649
 Jerry Phipps 870.697.2606

Schedule of Services

Sunday
 Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Evening service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday
 Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Plan of Salvation

HEAR the gospel Rom. 10:17
 BELIEVE the gospel John 3:16
 REPENT of your sins Luke 13:3
 CONFESS Christ Matt. 10:32
 Be BAPTIZED Acts 2:38
 Live FAITHFULLY Rev. 2:10

Weekly Reflections

Sexually Abused Women
www.preventabusenow.com

Statistics say that 1 in 4 women have been sexually abused in their lifetime. There is a great need for counseling by prepared counselors and encouragement for these women. Though some situations are obviously beyond the abilities of the average Christian to handle, there are some things we can all learn from the Bible that will help us fulfill each other's burdens (Galatians 6:2 — "Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ").

1) She needs to know she is not alone.

There are women included in the Scripture who were abused. Two are Dinah in Genesis 34 and Tamar in 2 Samuel 13. There are many women today as well!

2) She needs to know she is guiltless in this matter.

Often an abused woman feels guilty as if she committed sin herself. Sometimes her abuser even tells her so. God was very clear in the Law of Moses about this:

Deuteronomy 22:25-27: "But if the man meets the engaged woman out in the country, and he rapes her, then only the man must die. Do nothing to the young woman; she has committed no crime worthy of death. She is as innocent as a murder victim. Since the man raped her out in the country, it must be assumed that she screamed, but there was no one to rescue her."

Over

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I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

3) She needs a Savior's love.

It is difficult for an abused woman to feel worthy of love, especially the love of God. Remembering daily that Christ died for her helps her to feel special, but it may take some time for the words to sink in. Hold her hand and pray with her, asking God to help her see Christ's love.

4) She needs a Father's love.

There is a story of a little girl who had cut herself. For whatever reason, the doctors could not administer anesthesia. The girl looked at her father and said, *"Will you hold my hand? I think I'll be okay, if you just hold my hand."* In my own trials, I would pray and picture myself curled up into my Father's lap with His arms around me. It is a wonderful feeling to feel protection as a child of God.

5) When her abuser asks forgiveness, she needs to forgive and let go of anger.

Forgiveness is a serious matter but absolutely essential for the healing process. Jesus included it in His model prayer, taught us a parable about the punishment of an unforgiving servant in **Matthew 18**, and said this in **Mark 11:25-26**: **"And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."**

It is important to forgive others; however, it is a choice that often takes time. As we go through life, we may think we have finally forgiven that person, but then a situation arises and the anger reappears.

We must choose again to forgive and pray for strength. It is significant that Jesus says, **"...seventy times seven"** (**Matthew 18:22**).

6) She needs to know the power of prayer.

A friend counseled me by quoting Jesus' words, **"But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you"** (**Matthew 5:44**).

He challenged me to pray for my abuser. At first it was difficult to even mention his name in my prayers, but it wasn't long before my anger was replaced with genuine concern over his welfare. I wanted him to become a Christian and know God's forgiveness. Prayer changes things (**James 1:6**).

7) She needs to help others.

It is easy to keep the focus on herself and **"wallow"** in self-pity. At some point she must come to a place where she's firmly planted on God's solid rock and can reach down to pull someone else up from the depths of despair:

2 Corinthians 1:3-4: **"All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us."**

Adapted from an article by Dawn Pasley posted on Brad Harrub's Focus.org website

PRAYERS:

Doris McFadden is not doing well. **Sherman Cullum** will have eye surgery soon. **C.M. Tarwater** will see a surgeon on February 21st, to discuss treatment for pancreatic cancer. **Ronald Kirksey** will begin chemo February 25th. **Virginia Harris** of Stuart, FL, cousin of Sherman Cullum, had a stroke. Virginia is in West Palm Beach Hospital. **Homer Kennon** had surgery Tuesday in St. Bernards for a broken back. Also on the prayer list are: **Gladie Kemp, Jerry Roark, Patty Stevenson, Dewey & Della Imboden, Pete & Geraldine Peebles, Floyd Canard, Betty Gibson, Gary Hydrick, Lynnette Imboden, Maxine Stokes, Mike Seabaugh, Marlon Tarwater, Jason Tarwater, Deborah Kirksey, Joan Harlan, Boyce Jones, Judith Stevenson, Jennifer Davis, Hannah Davis, Beth Guillory, Hannah Guillory, Gary Davis, Johnita Burnett, Columbus Walls, Tracey Harbuck**

Nursing Home: **Betty Canard** (Wynne Healthcare); **Betty Kennon** (McCrary); **Eloise Long** (Trumann); **J.R. McFarland** (Crestpark in Wynne); **Davie Rutherford** (McCrary)

SYMPATHY is extended to the family of **Billy Kemp** who passed away.

SYMPATHY is extended to the family of **Amy Betts Garrett** who was killed in a car accident.

"The best way to teach morality is to make it a habit with children." —Aristotle

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CAMPBELL SOUP & Best Choice labels need to be turned in to Laura Stephens by March 1st.

HICKORY RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST is holding a gospel meeting March 3rd-6th, with guest speaker Michael Chaffin of the Northside Church of Christ in Blytheville, AR. Michael will speak on "Psalms of Salvation". Please make plans to attend.

POTLUCK will be served after morning services Sunday, March 3rd, in the fellowship room. Hosts & hostesses are Jerry & Kathy Phipps and Doug & Kay Wilson. All are invited to stay.

CEMETERY MEETING will be held in the fellowship hall Sunday, March 10th, at 2:00 p.m.

"Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest what you haven't planted."—David Bly

"If you would reap praise, you must sow the Seeds, gentle Words and useful Deeds." —Benjamin Franklin

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." —Galatians 6:7

"With every deed you are sowing a seed, though the harvest you may not see." —Ella Wheeler Wilcox