

January 5, 2023

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Zeng Shen was young enough to be Confucius's grandson, yet he won high praise from the old sage. One of the sayings for which Zeng Shen is famous goes something like this. "Every day I ask myself three questions. The first is, 'Have I sinned in my thoughts and actions toward others?' The second is, 'Have I broken faith in any of my friendships?' The third is, 'Have I tried to teach anything to others I have not fully learned and understood myself?'" If Zeng Shen really asked himself these three questions every day, resolving to make no mistakes, then it makes sense why Confucius praised him so much. Not only is each of the three questions extremely important in itself, but the practice of examining one's own behavior and mindset is a necessary and great habit to build in order to help with leadership and personal growth. Not only is it important in personal growth, but it is important in spiritual growth as well.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29 says, "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself." Paul makes it very clear that self examination is not only important but necessary, particularly before partaking of the Lord's supper. But, what exactly does Paul mean by this? I can obviously remember times when I was younger and being particularly distracted from the importance of the Lord's supper, so I know what not to do, but when it comes to self-examination, how do we know that we are focusing correctly? Well, I think one reason the idea of examining ourselves seems to be so challenging is because there are many categories in which we could choose to examine during the Lord's supper along with many particular questions to ask ourselves, and each are equally important. Therefore, I would like to take a moment to go over some of these categories and would like to encourage you to focus on these this coming week when you partake of the Lord's supper.

One of the first categories that I can think of when it comes to self examination is that of faith. Before we partake of the Lord's supper it is important for us to consider if our faith is truly alive or dead. All it takes is a quick glance at yourself and how you have acted the past

few weeks, and you should know if you are genuinely living and energetically trusting in God. **James 2:14-17** says, "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." An active and living faith should direct you to Jesus as the sacrifice for your sin. Your faith should be anchored and grab onto God's as the only strength and power that can truly clean and pardon you. If you want to examine your faith, you could ask yourself some of the following;

- Where do I put my trust?
- What can I do to grow in my faith?
- How can I express my trust in God better?
- When do I feel my faith is strongest vs. weakest?

Another category that we can examine in ourselves before the Lord's supper is our own repentance and confession. It is easy for us to think of the steps to salvation and think that we need to only do each of them once, when in all actuality, the only one you do once is baptism. When it comes to hearing, believing, repenting, and confessing, we should be doing each of those every day. To examine repentance and confession, you can consider if you have truly repented of sin and determined that you were going to lead a better life, or if maybe it was false repentance and you truly haven't changed at all. If you want to examine your repentance, then you could ask yourself some of the following;

- Do I abhor sin?
- Do I strive to avoid sin in my life?
- Do I feel sorrow about my past sins?
- Do I see clear evidence of changes in behavior or actions in my life?
- Am I willing to confess my sins to God and to others?
- Do I simply say I am sorry to God for offending Him, or do I try to not make those same mistakes in the future?

Andrew Spivey

****Watch for next week's bulletin for the second part of Andrew's article.**

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Luke 7:1-35

Wednesday Read – Luke 7:36- 8:3

BIBLE STUDY



Questions for last week's reading of;

Matthew 6 - 7.

1. Why does God not want us to tell everyone when we are doing something good?
2. Why is it impossible to serve both God and money?
3. What will happen if we seek the kingdom of God first?
4. How can we know if someone is a false prophet?
5. What must we do to be like the wise man?

LADS TO LEADERS

Lads to Leaders convention is at the Opryland Hotel on **April 6 - 9, 2023**. If you or your student are interested in participating in the Lads to Leaders program, please see Garrett Rowlett, Andrew Spivey or Tim Strickland before **February 5th** to participate in the 2023 convention. **We will begin meeting on a regular basis after the beginning of the year.**

SYMPATHY

Our Love and Sympathy to the family of **Glen Smith** who passed away on Tuesday, January 3. Funeral Services will be at the Family Heritage on Saturday, January 7th at 2:00 pm. Glen was a nephew to Frances Catron, Bernice Hall, Jean Law, MaryAnn Reinhart, Kenneth Smith and a cousin to Brent Smith.

" I AM THE WAY, AND THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME."

John 14:6

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

January 8, 2023

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Ben Hutson
 Opening Prayer.....David Thompson
 Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Charlie Seals
 Song Leader.....Garrett Rowlett
 Opening Prayer.....Bob Brown
 Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
 Lord's Supper.....Tim Cummins
 Closing Prayer.....Jonathan Senn

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Charlie Seals
 Song Leader.....Garrett Rowlett
 Opening Prayer.....Eric Stephenson
 Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
 Lord's Supper.....Brent Smith
 Closing Prayer.....Ken Veale

WEDNESDAY

January 11, 2023

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Charlie Seals
 Song Leader.....Garrett Rowlett
 Opening Prayer.....Adam Williamson
 Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
 Closing Prayer.....Matt Ellis

**Door Greeters – West Door.....C/P Newby
East Door.....L/J Clark

Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Julie Cummins

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935

Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ
 1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066
 Web Site: nashvilleroad.org
 E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Mary Ann Reinhart has been diagnosed with cancer. She has begun radiation & chemo. Andy Boner had knee surgery on Dec.15th. Aza Topik, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals, snowboarding accident in Utah with severe spinal injuries. In rehab now. Mike Martin, friend of the Jennings & Cato families has been moved to the Select Specialty Hospital at St Thomas West. He is improving some. Rob Spivey, son of Keith & Lisha Spivey, is recovering from a broken leg. Paul Norman, nephew of Carolyn Vester and cousin to Valarie Senn & Wanda Sherrill, has been diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer. Ty Tyler, son of Ann Tyler, is home now. Becky Mears, friend of Bob & Tarina Brown had a bone marrow transplant and is doing well. Rachel Goode, friend of Carl & Pam Newby is recovering at home from surgery she had on November 7th and is doing well. April Cothran, a good friend of Celena Marshall has been diagnosed with stage 4 adenosquamous carcinoma of the pancreas. She is taking chemo treatments. Bryan Grissom, cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover, has been diagnosed with cancer.



PRAYER LIST

Vetrus Mee, Charter Senior Living of Gallatin; Shelby Ross; Sandi Jones; Maxine Cothron; Gerald Miles, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 305; Frances Catron; Jean Deaton; Charlie Cliburn; Vycki Puckett, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; Larry Bailey son of Tina Bailey; Ricky Cantrell; Wade & Wanda Kennedy parents of Diana Stephenson; Ricky Cross, friend of Betty Buttrey; Ida Lou Sherrill, mother of Alex Sherrill; Lawrence Redding, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; Taylor Lackford, niece of Brenda Veale; Dustin Lackford, nephew of Brenda Veale; Janice Haskins, sister of Jim Cherry; Larry Conley, friend of Wanda Proctor; John Gregory, brother of Bob Gregory; Harold Cole, friend of Lena Baggett; Bobbie Carter, sister of Janice Johnson; Betty Billingsley, sister of Wanda Proctor; Walter Wooten, brother of Wanda Sherrill.

SHUT-INS

Marilee Frederick, Gallatin Rehab, Room 220; Joyce Savage, NHC Place Sumner, room 322; Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; Melba Hill; Dorothy Sullivan, Front Porch Senior Living 115 Sunset Pl. Portland TN, 37148.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	83
Morning Worship.....	115
Sunday Evening.....	52
Wednesday Evening.....	75
Contribution.....	\$9,543.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$6,411.00

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Ken Veale	Adam Williamson



Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

1883 Nashville Road
 Gallatin, TN 37066

Phone (615) 452-3431
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30. p.m.
 Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org
 Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
 TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
 GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister