

HOW I ARRANGE MY MIND

I read a story about a 92-year-old Christian woman who was legally blind. In spite of her limitation, she was always neatly dressed, with her hair carefully brushed and her makeup tastefully applied. Each morning she would meet the new day with eagerness.

After her husband of 70 years died, it became necessary for her to go to a nursing home where she could receive proper care. On the day of the move, a helpful neighbor drove her there and guided her into the lobby. Her room wasn't ready, so she waited patiently in the lobby for several hours.

When an attendant finally came for her, she smiled sweetly as she maneuvered her walker to the elevator. The staff member described her room to her, including the new curtains that had been hung on the windows. "I love it," she declared. "But Mrs. Jones, you haven't seen your room yet," the attendant replied. "That doesn't have anything to do with it," she said. "Happiness is something you choose. Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how it's arranged. It's how I arrange my mind."

How we arrange our mind is extremely important when it comes to how we act and react in our spiritual lives. When I think of this story about this woman, it is easy for me to see many things that happened to her that could make her careless, bitter, angry, or sad. She has lost her vision, so she cannot see anything. Then she has lost the person who helped her walk and get around. The person she had loved for 70 years. To top it off, she is now having to move to a place that she is not familiar with, where she doesn't know how to get around, and she doesn't know anyone. There is a lot that she could be bitter about. But she isn't! Why? Because her mind is set on better things.

Romans 8:5-8 says, "For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God." When I read this passage, it relates so well to what we see all around us, and it is easy to become a participant in the wrong mindset. For most people, it is easy to see the negative in a

situation. It is easy for us to become angry or disgusted in what we are going through, but that is the mindset of the flesh. If we dwell in that, we can never see the beauty of what God is truly giving us.

Look back at what it says in **Romans 8:7**, "For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law". When we live in a worldly mindset, we cannot submit to God's law because we are not looking at it through God's law. We must change our lenses in order to see properly. After all, **Romans 8:28** says, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." So if things don't seem to be going the way we want, maybe it is because we have lost the perspective of His purpose.

I am reminded of what Paul wrote to the church at Philippi. When Paul was writing this letter, he was in prison. The church at Philippi was very concerned for Paul because of the love they had for him, but Paul was only concerned about one thing. In the beginning of his letter, in **Philippians 1:12**, he says, "I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel". It is obviously clear that Paul only had one lens in which he saw everything. That lens was the gospel. All he was concerned about was if the message of Jesus and salvation was getting out to the people. Even if that meant he had to be in prison to help spread the gospel, he was excited and grateful. Talk about a positive outlook!

Well, that is well and good for Paul and everything, but he is one of those "super-Christians". What does that have to do with us today? None of us are in chains because we were telling people about Jesus. But we do have "bad things" happen to us. Here comes the hard part, how does God see those "bad things" in our lives? I know how we tend to see them. As said earlier, we see them as unfair, painful, hampering us, and needing to be ended as quickly as possible. But is that the case for God? I don't have the answer to that question, and I don't think I ever truly will, but there is one thing that I do know. God is faithful and He will provide an escape so that I can endure it (**1 Corinthians 10:13**). I know that if I set my mind on things that are above instead of things that are here on earth, I can see the world in a new light (**Colossians 3:2**). I know that all things will work together for God if I seek God's will instead of my own. Finally, I know that if I have the perspective

of love, as Christ showed us, that I will not see as the world see's, but will look at all the amazing opportunities God is giving me to grow, even during some of the hardest of times. As **Romans 12:2** says, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." How is your spiritual mind arranged? **Andrew Spivey**

BIBLE CHALLENGE

We want to encourage everyone to continue to do their daily Bible reading and send in how many chapters you read to the office for us to record for our daily updates. *Considering how fast we have exceeded our previous goals, let us make the next goal be 4,000! Chapters read to date: 3,019*

THANK YOU

Dear Church family, We are so grateful for your prayers, notes, cards, and calls for both Jim and Craig as they battle health issues. We are so touched by your love and concern and are strengthened by your love and prayers for our family. So many people everywhere are struggling in many challenges, so we are humbled by your outpouring of communications to our family. Craig always calls us to tell us of cards and notes he has received. He is so touched and strengthened by your love. We are so blessed by Nashville Road Church of Christ every day. Our Love, **Jim & Doris Sweeney**

GROW IN GRATITUDE

Oh, God, who made the summer and warmed the earth with beauty, warm our hearts with gratitude and devotion to our duty.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name

Psalms 100:4

From the Heart by Helen Steiner Rice

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men"

Colossians 3:23

WORSHIP SERVICES

We have begun holding Sunday morning worship service. We have two Sunday morning services. If your last name begins with A-L, we ask that you come to the 9:00 am. service. For those whose last name begins with M-Z, we ask that you come to the 11:00 am service.

We have also begun Wednesday Bible Study in the auditorium for all ages at 7:00 pm.

No classes will be held anywhere else in the building.

We will still need to follow the new guidelines for social distancing and the wearing of masks.

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

August 30, 2020

9:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
Song Leader..... Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Tim Cummins
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Lee Boone
Closing Prayer.....Carl Newby

11:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Tim Strickland
Song Leader.....Jerry Watson
Opening Prayer.....Adam Williamson
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Eric Stephenson
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith

WEDNESDAY,

September 2, 7:00 P.M.

Welcome.....Tim Strickland
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Ken Veale
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Jim Cherry

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL
Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sun. Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. & Sun. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Wed. Evening Bible Class 7:00 • Tues. Ladies Bible Class 10:00 a.m. September-May

SICK LIST

June Thompson had double knee replacement on Aug. 26th. **Faye Britt** had surgery on August 27th. **Gerald Miles** is now home and doing well. **Allyn Hosman** is home and doing well. **Donna Jennings** has finished her radiation and chemo treatments. More tests in Sept. to determine any other treatments needed. **Jim Sweeney** is home now on home health. **Robert Williamson** continues treatments for lung cancer. **Cora Mayes-Barron**, daughter of Barry & Rachel Mayes has been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. She has finished her first round of chemo but is home recovering from pneumonia. **Danny Lowe**, cousin of Linda Cherry has been diagnosed with cancer. **Beth Smith**, sister-in-law to Bernice, Frances, Jean & Mary Ann, is now taking immunotherapy. **Craig Sweeney**, son of James & Doris Sweeney, has been accepted into a new drug trial clinic. **John Arnold**, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.

CARE LINE: 615-452-2464



PRAYER LIST

Bob Harris; J.H & Frances Catron; Melba Hill; William Dunn; Jean Deaton; Ron & Anna Radish; Donna Holmes, daughter of Eva Petty; **Melvin Stephenson**, father of Eric Stephenson; **Wade & Wanda Kennedy**, parents of Diana Stephenson; **Bob Wall**, friend of Betty Johnson; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Will Flowers**, brother-in-law of Grace Bracey. **Dana Loveless**, friend of Jim & Linda Cherry; **Zachery Simmons**, grandson of Charles & Fay Simmons; **Elias Benjamin Simmons**, great grandson of Charles & Fay Simmons; **Jane Huffard**, friend of Carl & Pam Newby; **Lester Sparks**, father of Rachel Mayes; **Debbie Sparks**, sister of Rachel Mayes; **Lawrence Redding**, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale;

(cont)

Janice Haskins, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Wayne Holt**, nephew of Grace Bracey; **John Gregory**, brother of Bob Gregory; **Pam Flory**, friend of Sherry Sever; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Betty Billingsley**, sister of Wanda Proctor; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill. **We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.**

SHUT-INS

Ilene Kinney; Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Bill & Jane Dunn; Cathy Henderson; Penny Campbell**, The Village of Bellevue, Room 417, 8118 B Sawyer Brown Road, Nashville, TN 37221; **Dorothy Sullivan**, Front Porch Senior Living 115 Sunset Pl. Portland TN, 37148; **Jean Thurman**, mother-in-law of Myra Rasnick, Brookdale, Hendersonville.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	N/A
Morning Worship 9am.....	64
Morning Worship 11am.....	49
Wednesday Evening.....	56
Contributions.....	\$7,134.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$8,604.92

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
Jerry Watson.....	615-461-8137

Deacons

Carl Newby Brent Smith
 Ken Veale Adam Williamson



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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister