

October 7, 2021

### SUFFERING PRODUCES GAIN

Amos Purnell Bailey, writer and founder of "Our Daily Bread" newspaper column, once told of a time that he visited an orange grove where the irrigation pump had quit working. It was a very dry season that year and some of the trees were beginning to die because of the lack of water. The man taking him on the tour of the orange grove then took Bailey to his own orange grove. In this man's grove, irrigation was used very sparingly, but the trees looked to be in very good shape. The man then told Bailey, "These trees could go without rain for another 2 weeks." When Bailey asked the man how that can be, the farmer responded, "When they were young, I frequently kept water from them. This hardship caused them to send their roots deeper into the soil to find moisture. Now mine are the deepest rooted trees in the area. While others are being scorched by the sun, these are finding moisture at a greater depth."

Much like those trees, suffering in our own lives can produce great results as long as we root ourselves in God. **James 1:2-4** says, "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." Jesus also understood that suffering and persecution were going to be common to anyone who followed Him. He makes it very clear in **Matthew 16:24**, when Jesus tells His disciples, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me." When we consider the fact that Jesus was crucified, it should not shock us to learn that Jesus' followers will also be mistreated. Paul writes in **2 Timothy 3:12**, "Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted". But there is also good news as well, when suffering comes because we are living for God, we can also expect to receive both blessing and approval from the Lord. (**Matthew 5:10-12**)

However, over the years, many have misunderstood what it means to suffer for righteousness sake. There are countless examples of people who think that by imposing hardships on themselves is, in some way, good for the soul. There are accounts of catholic monks who would walk around hitting themselves with whips or refusing to lay down to sleep. There's an account of a man in the 4th century who wore chains all over his body. The chains were so heavy that the man had to crawl around on the ground. In some countries, even today, there are people

who reenact the crucifixion of Christ by being beaten and, on occasion, being nailed to a cross. But are these the kinds of suffering that Jesus was talking about?

Jesus certainly taught that there is blessing in suffering and persecution, but that blessing is for those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness. At its core, suffering is not good or bad. Much like what Shakespeare said in Hamlet, when it comes to suffering, it is "thinking that makes it so." If we look to God during our suffering and place our trust in Him, suffering will bring forth positive results. There is a big difference when it comes to suffering for righteousness sake and suffering from our own foolishness.

If you were to get slapped for being rude, offensive, or abusive to someone, you can hardly say that is suffering for the sake of righteousness. When it comes to our work in teaching the gospel of Christ, we must also remember to be both bold and gentle. As Paul says in **Ephesians 4:15**, "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ". Peter also says in **1 Peter 4:15-16**, "But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name." So what are you willing to suffer for? There is a lot you can learn about a person by simply seeing what they are willing to suffer for, and many spend their whole lives suffering over something that is temporary. In the end, the only suffering that truly produces great reward is suffering for the sake of righteousness which leads to eternal life. As Paul said in **Romans 8:18**, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

Andrew Spivey

### SYMPATHY

Our love and prayers to the following families;

**Tim and Julie Cummins** on the passing of Julie's brother, **Randy Hawkins** on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Funeral was held in Kimball, TN on Monday.

**Susan Jennings** on the passing of her son, **Cody Minatra**, on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Funeral was held in Nashville on Tuesday.

**Ann Tyler** on the passing of her brother-in-law **Gary Martin** on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Graveside services were held in Collinwood, TN on Tuesday.

## COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Acts 2  
Wednesday Read – Acts 3

### BIBLE STUDY



Questions for last week's reading of **Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 16:19; Acts 1:1-8; & 13-26:**

1. How did Jesus go to heaven and how will He come back?
2. Where were the apostles to be witnesses of Jesus?
3. Who was chosen to take Judas' place?
4. The man taking Judas' place had to be with Jesus from what event to what other event?
5. Where is Jesus now?

### FALL SERIES

Nashville Road Church of Christ  
1883 Nashville Road  
Gallatin, TN

Sunday, October 17-Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Theme: Step Out of the Crowd.  
Speakers: Mike Tidwell and Hugh Fulford.

Sunday services: 10:00 AM –  
Mike Tidwell - Dare to Be Different

Sunday services: 5:00 PM –  
Mike Tidwell - Seize the Day

Monday night: 7:00 PM –  
Hugh Fulford - A Peculiar People

Tuesday night: 7:00 PM –  
Hugh Fulford - The Voices That Call

Wednesday night: 7:00 PM –  
Mike Tidwell - Let God Do A New Thing in  
Your Life

**"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings of eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31**

## ORDER OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY

October 10, 2021

9:00 AM

### BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....	Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....	Fate Evans
Auditorium Lesson.....	Andrew Spivey

### 10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....	Jim Cherry
Song Leader.....	Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....	Allyn Hosman
Sermon.....	Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....	Bob Brown
Closing Prayer.....	Lee Boone
Ushers.....	D. Fitts/C. Suddarth

### 5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....	Jim Cherry
Song Leader.....	Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....	Jonathan Senn
Sermon.....	Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....	David Thompson
Closing Prayer.....	Tim Cummins

### WEDNESDAY

October 13, 2021

7:00 PM

Welcome.....	Jim Cherry
Song Leader.....	Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....	Brent Smith
Lesson.....	Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....	Matt Ellis
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....	Sue Kloes

### 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](http://nashvilleroad.org)  
 E-mail: [nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net](mailto: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

**J.H. Catron** is at home but not doing well. **Ilene Kinney** is in Trousdale County Medical Center. **Bob & Wanda Gregory** are both having health issues. **Shannon Shuhart**, brother-in-law of Ken & Brenda Veal, is now in Maryland on ventilator and dialysis. **Vicky Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato, is at Centennial and has improved some. **Art Vernon**, nephew of JoAnn Williamson, is home but not doing well. **Laura Irwin** sister of Julie Cummins is doing some better. **Ty Tyler**, son of Ann Tyler, continues with serious health issues. **Ron Kloes** step son of Sue Kloes, stage 4 lung cancer. **Allen Plunk**, cousin of Donna Jennings, colon cancer that has spread to his liver. **Ronnie Love**, cousin of Pam Newby, bone cancer. **Donny Pedigo**, friend of Tim Cummins, stage 4 cancer. **Jerry Ladd, Sr.** CLL Leukemia. **Craig Sweeney**, son of James & Doris Sweeney, continues cancer treatments. **John Arnold**, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.



### PRAYER LIST

**Sandi Jones; Demar Elam; Ricky Cantrell; Linda Wesbrooks; Maxine Cothron; Gerald Miles**, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 100; **Jim Sweeney; J.H & Frances Catron; Melba Hill; William Dunn; Presley Fitts; Jean Deaton; Ben Mayberry**, brother-in-law to Frances, Bernice, Jean, Kenneth & Mary Ann; **Ricky Cross**, friend of Betty Buttrey; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Will Flowers**, brother-in-law of Grace Bracey; **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; **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.

### SHUT-INS

**Ilene Kinney; Marilee Frederick**, Gallatin Rehab, Room 309A; **Jane Hughes**, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **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.

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

### OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	60
Morning Worship.....	91
Sunday Evening.....	58
Wednesday Evening.....	N/A
Contributions.....	\$8,782.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$8,580.69

### 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



# 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](http://www.nashvilleroad.org)

Email: [nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net](mailto:nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net)

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