



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Volume 43

October 18, 2016

Number 42

Forest Hill Church of Christ

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Harold D. Mangrum
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Barry M. Grider,
Pulpit Evangelist
Matthew Jones,
Personal Evangelist
Jordan Pugh, Youth

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship.... 10:30 A.M.
Afternoon Worship.... 1:30 P.M.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

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A Hope for the Future

Hugh Fulford

At a point in time, He “sent forth His Son, born of a woman . . . that we might receive the adoption as sons” (Gal. 4:4-5 NKJV). He did this because He “so loved the world” (John 3:16). There has never been a time when God did not love His creation and plan for the redemption of humanity “according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Eph. 3:11). When men and women align themselves with God’s grand purpose, they have a glorious hope for the future!

The first two sons of Adam and Eve were Cain and Abel. In Genesis 4 we are told of Cain’s killing Abel and why he did it. Thus, from the beginning of time families have faced problems. Genesis 4:25-26 reveals that after the death of Abel, Adam and Eve had a son by the name of Seth. Adam was 130 years old when Seth was born and went on to father several other sons and daughters and lived to be 930 years old (5:3-5).

Genesis 5 provides a genealogical list all the way from Adam to Noah. An examination of this list shows that Adam lived well past the time of the birth of Methuselah, the oldest man on record in the Bible, who lived to be 969 years old (v.27). Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, was the father of Methuselah. Enoch “walked with God (vv. 22-24; Jude 14-15). What an exciting intergenerational ministry Enoch must have had! It is not hard to image the challenges, intrigue and tensions that often played out in all those families down through their various generations.

It is interesting (and perhaps a bit odd and even boring to some) that the New Testament opens with a summary of the 42 generations extending from Abraham, the ancestral head of the Jews, to the birth of Jesus Christ (Mat. 1:1-17). Luke, on the other hand, traces the fleshly ancestry of Christ all the way back to Adam (Luke 3:23-38). Matthew, writing especially for Jews, wanted to firmly identify Jesus as a Jew. Luke, a Gentile, writing to present the perfect manhood of Jesus, wanted to identify Christ with the entire human race.

The fleshly ancestry of Christ comes in for its own share of intrigue. Take, for example, the family of Jacob. Jacob was the grandson of Abraham. On one occasion, Jacob had a dream in which he saw a ladder reaching from earth to heaven, with angels ascending and descending on it (Gen. 28:10-12). On another occasion, he wrestled with an angel of God, and God changed his name to Israel (32:22-32). In a day when such was tolerated, Jacob had two wives and two concubines, and became the father of 12 sons and one daughter. The 12 sons, in turn, became the heads of the 12 tribes of Israel. One of these sons was Judah, from which tribe Christ came. Genesis 34 records the rape of Jacob’s daughter Dinah and how her brothers “took care” of the perpetrator of the deed.

Families down through the generations have had all kinds of wonderful experiences, known exhilarating happiness, faced heart-rending problems, solved their problems (albeit not always in the most productive way), laughed together, cried together, buried their loved ones, and moved on with life. “One generation passes away, and another generation comes” (Ecc. 1:4).

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A Hope for the Future (continued from page 1)

In fairly recent times, sociologists have identified the various generations of Western culture. We are aware of the Greatest Generation, the Silent Generation, the Baby Boomers (the “Me” generation, the Hippies), the Baby Busters, Generation X (the MTV Generation), Generation Y (the Millennials), and Generation Z (the iGeneration, the New Silent Generation). A Google search will reveal many charts and articles about these various generations: the years in which they were born, the significant occurrences during those years, the leading characteristics of each, how they think, what is of greatest value to them, how to market to them, and a host of other matters. But the “common denominator” is that they all are people made in the image of God and in need of His grace and salvation.

God has always desired that people of all generations should know, love, honor and obey Him. “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all,” or, quite literally, “the whole of man” (Ecc. 12:13). God’s plan in ancient Israel for accomplishing this was: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up” (Deu. 6:5-7). Solomon urged, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it” (Pro. 22:6).

In the New Testament, we read of Timothy, a young man who possessed a genuine faith which had dwelt first in his grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice (2 Tim. 1:5). From childhood he had known the Holy Scriptures which were able to make him wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ (3:15). As an adult, Timothy became a minister of the gospel, having been tutored by Paul. As an evangelist, Timothy was to take the things he had heard from Paul and commit them to faithful men “who will be able to teach others also” (2:2). All of these passages speak of intergenerational ministry at its very best and show God’s simple yet effective way for communicating His truth and righteousness from one generation to the next.

Intergenerational Matters

Among the matters needing great emphasis among the various generations today are the following:

1. Respect for God’s authority as expressed through Christ His Son. Jesus has “all authority . . . in heaven and on earth” (Mat. 28:18). God speaks to mankind today by His Son (Heb. 1:1-2), and we are not to refuse Him who speaks (12:25). Christ declared, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). Christ alone is the head of the church (Col. 1:18).

Every generation must be taught: “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him” (3:17). What

we teach (word) and what we practice (deed) must be by the authority of Christ (in the name of the Lord Jesus) as set forth in the New Testament. Without inculcating this fundamental principle in the hearts and minds of every generation, we wind up with a “lost generation,” a generation with no doctrinal or moral anchor.

2. The power of the gospel. God is all-powerful, and all legitimate powers are derived from God. God, however, has only one power for saving the world from sin and that is the gospel (Rom. 1:16). Nothing originating in the wisdom of man can save man from eternal destruction. “For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God by the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe” (1 Cor. 1:21).

The message to be preached is the gospel (Mark 16:15-16). To the world this message seems to be just so much foolishness, “but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ [is] the power of God and the wisdom of God” (1 Cor. 1:24). Every generation must have the gospel preached to it (Mat. 28:18-20), and every generation of the Lord’s church must be reminded that only the true and pure doctrine of Christ will bring Christians to spiritual maturity (Col. 1:23; 2:6-7).

3. The glory of the church. “Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her . . . that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish” (Eph. 5:25-27). The Lord adds all the saved to the church which He built (Acts 2:47; Mat. 16:18). The church is the aggregate of all those redeemed by the blood of Christ (Acts 20:28) and is the demonstration of “the manifold [multifaceted] wisdom of God” (Eph. 3:8-11). Every generation of God’s people must teach the next generation what the church is as defined by the New Testament, not as it is defined by modern sociology.

4. The beauty of the Christian life. At the heart of the Christian life is a commitment to walk in the steps of Christ (1 Pet. 2:21). Such a “walk” involves a life of devotion to God and service to others. The happiest, most well-adjusted people in the world are those who have learned to serve others. “Whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many” (Mat. 20:26-28). Let every generation of God’s people be taught this truth and practice this life-fulfilling principle!

It is wonderful to see the bouncy, bubbly energy of little children, the excitement and enthusiasm of youth, the devotion and zeal of young adults, and the glow of contentment and assurance on the faces of the aged. Despite problems in the world and in the church, we are blessed with a veritable host of faithful, God-fearing saints who want to do what is right and serve the Lord faithfully.

(continued on page 4)

LORD'S TABLE

PRESIDE:	Kalon Brown	Greg Mangrum
ASSIST:	Trey Callihan	Eddie Graham
	Cedric Huff	Isaac McLaurin
	Jason White	Jack Woods

PRAYERS

A.M. OPENING:	Robert Berch
A.M. CLOSING:	Andrew Knipple
P.M. OPENING:	Dan Dawson
P.M. CLOSING:	John Connell

If you are unable to lead prayer or serve at the Lord's table, please contact Cedric Huff or Paul Connell.

RECORD, WEEK of October 16, 2016

BIBLE STUDY:	205
A.M. WORSHIP:	280
P.M. WORSHIP:	190
CONTRIBUTON:	\$15,108

OUR SICK

Allan Hart, Methodist Hospital Germantown, room 308W.

Alecia Ingram, St. Francis Hospital.

Lynn Blair, evangelist, has been diagnosed with metastatic cancer and has no insurance. Contributions to his medical expense may be sent to: Kirbyville Church of Christ, 101 East Harris St, Kirbyville, TX 75956. Please mark Attn: elders for Lynn Blair.

HOMEBOUND

Bessie Berry	Albert & Ruth House
Ann Castleman	Clarine Justice
Virginia Ditto	Ryan McCullar
Hazel Eskew	Helen Palazola
Tommy & Nell Herndon	Jerry & Betty Robbins
Anita Hopper	James Terry

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:

MSOP graduate, Jeff Stacy and wife Meghan, in the passing of their infant daughter, Juniper Wren.

MSOP graduate and former FH associate, Matt Martin and wife Lauren, following a miscarriage. Lauren is the sister of Lesleigh Albritton.

BAPTIZED:

Bryn Chambers, 4930 Macon Rd, Memphis, TN 38122, (901)361-2854.

Sam & Jonathan Rickles, sons of Greg & Fritz Rickles.

KIRBY PINES Retirement Community worship service each fourth Sunday 8:00-8:45 a.m., conducted by Forest Hill. Our next service will be Sunday, October 23.

LEGACY ESTATES worship service each Sunday afternoon 3:00 p.m. conducted by Forest Hill.

INFORMATION LINE: 901-531-8849

HEARTS & HANDS

TEAM "B" (Warren Davenport) will meet Thursday, October 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Warren & Lisa Davenport. The food will be provided.

TEAM "D" (Randy Elliott) will meet Sunday, October 30 after the morning service in the fellowship hall for a covered dish luncheon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LADIES' and MEN'S CLASSES meet each Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. Men's Class will not meet Tuesday, October 25. We will meet for breakfast at Cracker Barrel, Tuesday, Nov. 1 at 8:45.

MONEY MANAGEMENT (9 Week Course) each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the education building.

LADIES EVENING BIBLE STUDY Tuesday, October 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

FALL FAMILY NIGHT Friday, October 21, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Join us for chili cook-off, costume contest, prizes and fun for the whole family. If you can help supply soups, snack foods or desserts, please see Julie Berch.

BABY SHOWER honoring Melissa Brown, Sunday, October 23 after the morning service. Gift cards suggested or you may contribute to the money tree. Also, they are registered at Walmart.

LADIES DAY at Forest Hill Saturday, November 12. Speaker: Lori Boyd of Murfreesboro, TN. Join us for breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Our program will conclude by 12:00 noon.

CHILDREN'S CLOTHES CLOSET needs your help. We have names of 17 children needing fall and winter clothing. If you can help by providing gently worn clothes, please see Marsha Beliew.

Last week's solution:

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Numbers 6:24-26

CORNERSTONE

Unscramble the letters in each word below to reveal the passage of scripture.

NDA EW RLEEDCA UTON YUO LGDA TSNIIGD, WOH TTHA EHT SRPOMIE WIHHC WSA MEDA UTON EHT TSRHFEA, OGD THHA ULLLIFFED EHT SMEA UTON SU TRIHE RNLIHEDC, NI TTHA EH THHA SRIEDA PU USSJE NIGAA; SA TI SI SOLA WTTRNIE NI EHT SONEDC SPMLA, UTOH TRA YM NOS, TSIH YDA VHEA I TTONGEEB EEHT,

Solution next week

A Hope for the Future (continued from page 2)

Through the local church's Bible classes, worship assemblies and a wide variety of special events, the spiritual needs of all ages can be addressed. Through vacation Bible schools, Bible camps, youth rallies and conferences where the Word of God is honored and faithfully taught, the needs of young people are met.

Through such programs as Polishing the Pulpit (highlighted in the June 2016 issue of *Gospel Advocate*), the interests of children, teens and adults (including parents, preachers, teachers, elders and deacons) are addressed in relevant and biblical ways. Seminars that address a multiplicity of challenges and needs faced by adults of all ages (including "senior saints") in a fast-paced and ever-changing world are being effectively used in many places. These kinds of activities, when rooted deeply in the Scriptures, enable us to see before us a glorious hope for the future!

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 15:13).

(from *Gospel Advocate*, October 2016)

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