

THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Volume 44

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Forest Hill

Church of Christ

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Elders:

Anthony D. Callahan
Warren Davenport
Gregory D. Mangrum
Harold D. Mangrum
Keith B. McAlister

Ministers:

Barry M. Grider,
Pulpit Evangelist
Matthew Jones,
Personal Evangelist
Garrett Olney, 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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Email: fhbiblecourse@gmail.com

PARENTING SEMINAR

Forest Hill Church of Christ
Saturday, September 30

Training boys-Jerry and Lynn Manning

Training girls-Greg and Christa Mangrum

Schedule:

8:30 to 9:00 Meet and Greet

9:00 to 9:30 Introduction

9:45 to 10:30 Moms' class on rearing girls

9:45 to 10:30 Dads' class on rearing girls

10:45 to 11:30 Moms' class on rearing boys

10:45 to 11:30 Dads' class on rearing boys



HOW HEAR WE...?

Ben Wright

The Jews present at the first gospel sermon being preached asked a question of great importance, “How hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?” (Acts 2:8). They wanted to know how the apostles could be speaking in their languages. That a notable miracle had occurred was evident to them.

As we consider the question, “How hear we?”, we need to understand the importance of hearing in the New Testament. The word “hear” is found 130 times in the New Testament. “Hearing” is found 23 times and “heard” 242 times. Obviously, there is a premium placed on hearing in the word of God. Our faith is based on what we hear (Romans 10:17). If we want to have a saving faith, then we must have ears open to the word of God.

It is interesting that our Lord placed a great import on hearing. It was Jesus that said, “He that hath ears to hear, let him hear” (Matthew 11:15). Jesus wanted people to really listen to what was being said and to process it through the mind to comprehend the meaning of His words. Without proper hearing, there cannot be proper comprehension. Think of the words said to each of the congregations addressed in Revelation chapters two and three: “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” A definite premium is placed on good hearing in the New Testament.

Sadly, not all will hear the words of the gospel. Our Lord knew this would be the case when He sent the apostles out to preach. He commanded them that “..whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet” (Matthew 10:14). Hearing here carries the idea of acceptance of the words of the apostles. The importance of hearing in this passage is shown by the consequences attached to not hearing. Those that would not hear would find themselves in a situation less tolerable than those who were destroyed in Sodom and Gomorrah (Matthew 10:15). Again, a definite premium is placed on hearing the word of God.

It was the case at Stephen’s stoning that the ones to whom he was speaking are said to have “stopped their

ears” (Acts 7:57). These people had heard the word being preached and closed their ears to hear no more of it. They would not accept the words spoken by Stephen and rejected themselves.

All of this was prophesied by Isaiah when he was inspired to write: “And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.” (6:9- 10). If proper hearing would take place, the Jews could have understood God’s word in their minds, which would have resulted in conversion and spiritual healing. While we know that some did hear, the vast majority rejected the message and closed their ears to the truth.

There needs to be more like the Thessalonians when it comes to hearing and receiving God’s word. Paul commended them for the way they received the gospel. “For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.” (1 Thessalonians 2:13). These brethren heard God’s word and believed it to be what it claimed, the inspired word of God. This is a wonderful example of a proper hearing taking place.

Proper hearing must take place in order for one to be saved. It is the first step in the process of salvation. If there is no hearing, there can be no believing (Romans 10:17). If there is no belief, there is only damnation awaiting the individual (Mark 16:16). When one’s soul is in the balances, that should solidify in our minds the premium that is placed on hearing God’s word.

There are those today that refuse to hear the word of God. The masses of people walk through life oblivious to their spiritual state. They are content to live life selfishly and for the moment’s pleasure that sin has to offer. That this is true is seen in the growing number of what statisticians call “unchurched” people. This is a demographic that has increased steadily in this decade.

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HEARTS AND HANDS

PRESIDE: Cedric Huff	Jason White
ASSIST: Bob Bergstrom	Warren Davenport
Andrew Knipple	Gene Kuehn
John Pope	C.J. Stafford

TEAM "D" (RANDY ELLIOTT) will receive assignments the week of October 1.

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUNG ADULT DEVOTIONAL Saturday, September 23 at the home of Jason and Leah White. This will be the last devotional for the year.

JC ACTIVITY Sunday, September 24 after morning service in the break room of the education building. This will be hosted by Danny and Melinda Braddock.

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, September 24.

LADIES AND MEN'S CLASSES meet each Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. We will meet at Cracker Barrel for breakfast Tuesday, September 26 at 8:45.

PARENTING SEMINAR Saturday, September 30 8:30-11:30 a.m. Child care is provided. Please see bulletin board for sign-up sheet.

TENNESSEE CHILDREN'S HOME FALL FOOD DRIVE is underway and will continue until Sunday, October 8. There is a listing of items needed on the church bulletin board.

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

RECORD, WEEK of September 17, 2017

BIBLE STUDY:	260
A.M. WORSHIP:	305
P.M. WORSHIP:	225
CONTRIBUTON:	\$15,409.00

OUR SICK

Sheila Doll, sister of Sherry Brown, recovering from a stroke in Greers Ferry, AR.

Carol Stover, sister of Helen Sharp, suffering from multiple blood clots in her lungs, Jackson, TN.

ILL AT HOME: Joe Baxter and Wade Braddock

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	

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:

Jim and Sherry Brown in the passing of their daughter, Denise Barnett.

Jim and Sherry Brown and family in the passing of her brother, Ronald Noles.

Jonathan Beard, in the passing of his aunt, Deena Sadler.

Steve and Pat Allmond in the passing of their sister-in-law, Helen Allmond, former Knight Arnold member.

The family of Harold Crowe, former Forest Hill member.

REQUESTED PRAYERS: Jagger House and Lindsay Stafford.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Edwyna and Jim Woody on the birth of a great-grandson, Christopher Brooks Dobbs. Helen Newsom is the great-great-grandmother.

HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF FUND: Donations may be made through Forest Hill Church of Christ. Please earmark your checks for flood relief. Total amount raised is \$6,770.00.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOX!

Last week's solution:
And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness. Genesis 15:5-6

CORNERSTONE
Scriptogram: Each letter in the passage is replaced with another.
 MPX ZT EBMF WOTX KEP LABWPTTNBU BW BZA WONXE SNXEBZX SOKPANUC; (WBA EP NT WONXEWZM XEOX LABINTPF;) OUF MPX ZT QBUTNFPA BUP OUBXEPA XB LABKBVP ZUXB MBKP OUF XB CBBF SBAVT MIH ROF UTSSSRONIHGEE.
 l=p Solution next week. w=f

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There are those that will hear the word but through filters. They filter God's word through their denominational prejudices or the filter of their own consciences. Some have been taught denominational sinfulness and refuse to comprehend God's word because of this filter. Every verse is filtered through their "grace only", "faith only", "once saved, always saved" or other doctrines that they have swallowed. Some allow their consciences to guide them in ways that are not found in scripture. For instance, some believe that if you are simply a "good person" then you will be saved. This is most definitely contradictory to scripture, but some have this filter in their minds and every passage that goes against it is not heard.

The filters need to be removed so proper hearing can take place. One needs to come to God's word with open ears and an open mind. The Thessalonians were commended because they came to believe that what they heard was God's word and they accepted it as such. Everything that is taken in through the ears needs to be filtered through the word of God, not man-made doctrines or consciences. If what is heard is contrary to God's word it needs to be rejected. Sadly, too many are rejecting the truth in favor of what man says.

May we ever be a people that hear the way that Jesus wants us to hear. May we take off the denominational filters and accept the pure word of God. It is God's only power to save mankind (Romans 1:16). How is your hearing?

(Ben Wright is a 1996 graduate of Memphis School of Preaching. He is married to Jincy and they have three children, Brandon, Blake, and Jenna. Ben preaches for the West Walker Church of Christ in Carbon Hill, Alabama. He grew up in the Knight Arnold congregation and his parents, Jerry and Pati Wright, continue to be members at Forest Hill.)

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