

“Blessed Is He That...”

How many of us have attempted to assemble something *without* reading the instructions? Whether it is a bicycle or a complicated device, unfortunately many of us have attempted this, only to become frustrated or angered that the OUTCOME wasn't what we expected (“What do I do with these *extra* parts?”)

Living our lives without reading God's Word for instructions on how to live righteously is kind of like trying to complete a project without reading the instructions: we are doomed to failure!

Rev. 1:3 gives some sound advice about the significance of using God's Word as our guideline in life.

“Blessed is he that...”

A) “Readeth” This is more than “casual” reading; we must pay close attention to its words, truly understand what is written. In Eph. 3:4, Paul says “Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge of the mystery of Christ.” The first century Christian's very life was at risk if he failed to understand the meaning of the revelation written by John.

B) “Hears” We husbands know the difference between listening and hearing, right? I may have HEARD what my wife said, but did I really LISTEN to what she said. We all *know* there is a difference! Jesus noted that it is a wise man who hears His sayings and does them (Matt. 7:24). But some have ears that are “dull of hearing”---they have tuned out God's words, refusing to listen to the gospel's saving message (Acts 25:26,27; Heb. 5:11).

C) “Keeps or Does” The phrase “do as I *say*, not as I *do*” is not one the Lord will be pleased with on the Day of Judgment. Jesus says that, unlike the evil doer, he who “doeth truth” comes towards the light that his deeds might be made known (John 3:20, 21). 3 John v. 11 tells us “...He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.” God requires that we take action on what we have read and heard.

God has made it so simple for mankind to be in position to receive His blessings, yet too many in the world refuse to read God's “instruction manual”, His Word, and follow it so they might obtain eternal life.

How well are we following the “instructions”?

The Elders

West Side Youth



Happy Birthday This Week:

Josh Whitlow—5/8
 Brian Bush—5/9
 Mitch Jearls—5/13
 Caroline Doss—5/15
 Wanda Martin—5/15

Happy Anniversary This Month to:

Willard & Marie Campbell—5/11
 Mike & Judy Durham—5/19
 Bobby & Peggy Paxton—5/25



WOW

WOW is going to “Mayberry”!
 Join us on a bus trip to Mt. Airy, NC. on May 14, 2011. The bus leaves at 9:00 am and the cost of \$25.00 includes the bus and lunch fees. All are welcome on board!! Please sign up by May 11th and give your money to Nancy or Tom.



Ty Stricklin is in Afghanistan .

Angela Halling is currently stationed in Korea.

Katie Halling is now stationed in Norfolk, Va. She is in training with the Navy Search & Rescue unit.

Lcpl Harper, Matthew D.; 1/5 Bravo Co., 1st Plt Unit 40330, FPO-AP 96427-0330 is a Marine from Galax who is now serving in Afghanistan.

MAY ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:

Hormel “real” bacon bits; assorted Ziplocs; Nature Valley granola bars (Honey nut or peanut butter flavor). Give to Jeanny to be shipped over.

GIMME 5 MISSION PROGRAM

Please check the new bulletin board in the foyer for your name if you are participating in this mission program. If you are still participating but cannot find your name, please tell Jeanny so it will be added. Also, if you haven’t started but would like to contribute, we would love to have you be a part of it. See Jeanny and she will tell you how to get started!

Sunday, 5/22—TBS at 7:00

Sunday, 5/29— Graduates Honored at noon
Sunday, 5/29—Young Men Conduct Services

Sunday, 6/12— TBS at 7:00

Sunday, 6/19—6/24—VCC at Camp Christi



TEAMS

New team events will be published as they are planned.

HONOR OUR GRADUATES

The luncheon to honor our graduate(s) is scheduled for May 29th after the morning services. Cameron Brown—High School. The teams schedule for responsibilities is: **Team 1—Drinks & Ice: Team 2—Clean Up: Team 3—Set Up**

Others to receive diplomas/honors: Luke Guard (131 North Broad St., Lexington, TN. 38351 ; Bethany (Durham) Vaughan—Master of Public Administration from Memphis U(260 Second St. Henderson, TN 38340.

PRIMARY TEACHERS’ MEETING .

There will be a Primary Teachers’ meeting, May 15, at 4:30 pm. The 2nd & 3rd grade teachers will provide snacks.

TIC-TAC-TOE PUZZLE

I Corinthians 13 _____

But when that which is _____ is come, then that which is _____ shall be _____ away.

BEAVERS’ BABY SHOWER

There will be a baby shower Sunday, June 26, at 4:00 pm to welcome the newest addition to the Beavers family. Charlotte Harrington is hosting and more details will follow. Mark your calendars!!

BEAUTIFUL DAY AT RADFORD

The Ladies’ Day at Radford with Jeanny Gilpin as speaker is May 21 starting at 9:00 am. There is a flyer with carpooling available for us to sign up on as soon as possible.

For Your Information

TUESDAY NIGHT TALENTS

Tuesday Night Talents continues May 10th. Bring your dinner at 6:00 or come at 6:30 pm and join us for the work!

MAY PREACHERS' MEETING

The next preachers' meeting will be Monday, May 9, at the Lake Drive Church at 10:30 am. This will be the last meeting until September.

UPCOMING WEST SIDE EVENTS

May 29—Honor our Graduates

June 19-25—VCC at Camp Christi

July 2-8 is Horizons Junior & Senior week at FHU

July 9-15 is CTS series at FHU

July 30—Vacation Bible School

August 6—Anti Drug Program at ALMS auditorium/Tom House

October 16-19—Gospel Meeting with Steve Hall

November 12—Men's w/s planning breakfast

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

Jennifer and Jeanny will host our **May LNO** on Thursday, **May 12**, at 6:30 at the building. It will be a "revealing" of our Secret Sisters. Please try to be there. See board in the hallway for more details.

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

May 15-18—Gospel Meeting at Cold Harbor Rd. C/C, Mechanicsville, VA

May 15-18—Gospel Meeting at the Floyd c/Christ with various speakers

May 18-22—Truth In Love Lectureship in Pulaski, TN/Eddy as a speaker

May 21—Ladies' Day at Radford with Jeanny Gilpin

May 21—Picnic & Gospel singing at Rocky Mt. Church of Christ

May 22—24—Gospel Meeting at the Rocky Mount Church

May 22-24—Gospel Meeting at the Central C/C in Harrisonburg

May 22-25—Gospel Meeting at Pulaski with Garland Elkins

August 12-18—Polishing the Pulpit

(Flyers are on the board for these events)



WEDDING SHOWER

A Wedding Shower for Ashton Yenawine and Luke Guard is Saturday, May 28th, from 2:30 – 4:30 pm in the West Side fellowship hall. They are registered at Macy's, Bed Bath & Beyond, and Walmart. This party is for both ladies and gents.

Please direct any questions, to Charlotte Harrington, Jeanny Gilpin, or Jennifer Laplante.

Senior Servants

Lynn Anderson

Norma Biller

Betty Buckner

Jim Dorsett

Al Farrow

Walter Jenkins

Martha Keith

Margaret Kratz

Miriam Majors

Jo Musgrove

Grace Myers

Evelyn Scott

Elsie Smith

Ruth Stanton

Evelyn White

EV Wimmer

WJ Wood

KO-S



- Jack Cook is making improvements.
- Wes White will have surgery scheduled soon.
- David Manno, Sandy Garby's uncle, is in critical condition in PA.
- Hazel McFalls is recovering from a recent fall.
- Chasity, friend of Michele Nikkel, had a stillborn birth Thursday.
- Justin Maio's cousin, Keely in KY, is having pregnancy complications.
- Debbie Richey, Neal's mom, is in a Memphis hospital in critical condition.

Continue in prayer:

Ruth & Glenn Hartman, Shannon VanRavestein, Debbie Richey, Hazel Maness, Don Pettit, Annette Shrader, Willard Campbell, Clarence Angelotti, Vicky Rogers, Dale Janosik, Renee' Galloway (LTF), James Paul, Jack Cook family, Paul Faw, Herb Baker, Sandra Wood, Deena Maio, Roger Powell, Jim Faughn

Announcements: Fred Altizer

Song Leader (AM): Paul Mays

Opening Prayer (AM)

5/1 Squeaky Valentine
5/8 Danny Guard
5/15 Charles Gwaltney
5/22 Tom Richardson
5/29 Jeremy White

Preside at Communion: Don Pettit

Serve Table

Bradford Durham, Greg Edwards
Mitch Jearls, Jerry Anderson

Closing Prayer:

5/1 David Brown
5/8 Josh Whitlow
5/15 Herb Baker
5/22 James Cooke
5/29 Gene Benefield

Song Leader (PM): Sam Valentine

Opening Prayer (PM)

5/1 Ethan Rogers
5/8 Don Pettit
5/15 Mark Brooks
5/22 Mike Durham
5/29 Charles Maness

Scripture Reader: Jimmy Harrington

Closing Prayer (PM)

5/1 Marc Laplante
5/8 Glenn Hartman
5/15 Wes White
5/22 Jason Oldham
5/29 Glenn Gabbard

Serve Table (PM)

Cameron Brown, Dylan Tyler

Song Leader (Wed): Bob Garby

Prayer (Wed)

5/4 Ron White
5/11 Paul Mays
5/18 Jim Harrington
5/25 Roger Mays

Open/Close Bldg: Jerry Anderson

Greeters: Barry Whites, Garby

Nursery Attend: Sandra Altizer (am)
Gloria White (pm)

Ushers: Curtis Oakes, John Black

Handouts: Chandler, Andrew

Prepare communion: Shirley Baker
Mitzi Pettit

Baptismal Garments: Sondra Tyler

Cards/Pencils: Austin W., Connor J.

Last week's attendance 5/1—5/4/11

Bible Class— 1 57 Worship Service—173
Sunday Eve.— 125, Mon.—149; Tues.-142
Wednesday Eve.—1

Contribution—\$16,828

May 8, 2011 Number 3172

After years of pursuing the most wanted man in the world, a 40-man U.S. Navy SEALs team, in a covert operation, found and killed Usama bin Laden Sunday afternoon (May 1) in Abbottabad, Pakistan. Since that announcement to the world speculation and conspiracy theories abound, and the rightness and wrongness of every aspect of the situation have been bantered about, and likely will be for some time to come.

One of the questionable matters regarding this story is the quick burial at sea of the body of bin Laden. The decision to do so was made because: 1) it was said that no country really wanted his remains; 2) it was feared that a gravesite on land might serve as a rallying point of al Qaeda operatives; and, 3) the conformity to Islamic law that the burial take place within 24 hours. In response to the burial at sea, Ahmad Sakr, president of the Foundation of Islamic Knowledge and director of the Islamic Education Center in Walnut, California, said, the bottom line is "we should not insult the body of any person when he is dead." Ironic, isn't it, coming from a religion that has brutalized American soldiers, dragged their burned bodies through the streets, and hanged them in public view?

In an interview with Sean Hannity (May 3), Senator Lindsey Graham (R- SC) made the statement that in his opinion we should have "held the body, the ultimate evidence" in order to be able to prove to the world that "we got him." Politics aside, think for a moment about the significance of this statement as it relates to our Lord. Since bin Laden has been buried at sea, many in the Muslim world will maintain that since there is no body, there is no proof of his death (regardless of any other evidence that is available to the contrary). Consider this fact in regards to our Lord's death, burial and resurrection. These matters being crucial to Christianity (I Cor. 15:1-4), and His resurrection being the ultimate proof of His Deity and the truthfulness of all He said (Rom. 1:4), where is His body? As Bible believers, we know that it was raised from the dead that it should see no corruption (Acts 13:37). On or after the great day of Pentecost, the enemies of the Lord could have quelled the Christian movement instantly by simply presenting the body of Jesus. Any follower who suffered persecution could have not only ended the brutality against him personally, but could also have extinguished Christianity forever by merely presenting the body. However, no one ever did- not His enemies, not those suffered for His Cause. As Mr. Graham pointed out about the body of bin Laden, the body of Jesus would indeed have been "the ultimate evidence" that He was/is still dead. But, our Lord lives! There is no body to be found and no tomb that is filled. We serve a risen Savior, and the absence of a body and the emptiness of the tomb prove it!

-Eddy