

What's Your Temperature?

Body temperature is one piece of data that health care providers consider part of a patient's "vital signs", often indicating the difference between good and bad health. For example, an

elevated temperature often indicates an infection is present. A thermometer is an important tool that gives doctors/nurses this potential life-saving information. Let's consider 3 characteristics of a thermometer and think about how we might make a spiritual application.

1) A thermometer must be **calibrated to the appropriate standard** (F or C) if it is to be accurate.

If we want to get accurate religious information, we must rely on God's Word as our only standard and guide.

Psa 119:105 "Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." **Prov. 2:6** "For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding." **Psa 119:12** "Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes."

2) **Proper positioning** of the temperature probe is critical to achieving the desired result.

When we place God in the proper position in our lives, we can achieve a much needed and desired result: remission of our sins.

1 John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Avoiding the evil associated with darkness is a must if we are to remain in that "proper position" in God's eyes.

Rom. 13:12 "...let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."

3) **Ignoring the temperature** reading we get can be fatal to our physical health.

If we ignore the warnings contained in the Bible, it could be fatal to the eternal destiny of our souls.

Rom 3:23 "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." **Rom 11:22** "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in *his* goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off."

God wants us all to be saved (2 Pet. 3:9), but it is our responsibility to gauge our own individual "spiritual temperature" (2 Cor. 13:5; Rev. 3:15-16)

What reading is our "spiritual thermometer" giving us?
The Elders

Why Didn't You "Believe" Him?

On so many occasions our Lord challenged His challengers by asking them difficult questions. Many times His questions, though simple enough to answer, could not be answered by them if they would continue to uphold their man-made traditions and doctrines. Sadly, most of them chose to remain quiet instead of facing the truth, answering accordingly and changing their lives as a result. Luke 20 opens with one of these occasions and serves as the basis of this brief study.

Luke 20:1-8 finds Jesus being questioned by the chief priests, scribes and elders. They asked Him, "By what authority doest thou these things?" (Lk. 20:2). Jesus responded by asking them a simple yet profound question: "The baptism of John, was it from heaven or of men?" (Lk. 20:4). This put these men on the horns of a dilemma. If they answered, "from heaven," they would have been bound by what John taught (Lk. 20:5). If they answered, "from men," they were fearful of their prestige before the people (Lk. 20:6). So, they simply replied that they could not determine its origin (Lk. 20:7).

The statement that is made in verse 5 is very interesting in the light of what most of "Christendom" believes. When Jesus asked them about the origin of John's baptism, they surmised (and rightly so) that if they responded "from heaven," Jesus would have asked, "Why then believed ye him not?" Most of the religious world believes that faith alone saves. However, as with this example, the word "believe" so often in Scripture encompasses full and complete obedience. Was Jesus asking these men merely to believe the teachings of John? Or, would He not also have required them to obey the teachings of John regarding baptism? The answer is obvious. When Jesus asked (or would have asked) "Why then believed ye him not?" He would have been requiring them to obey what John said, not merely believe what John taught. Many Biblical examples prove this point. And, the Bible is clear that faith alone does not save (Jas. 2:24). One must not only believe Who Jesus is, he must also do what Jesus said do in order to be saved (Heb. 5:8, 9).

-Eddy

Teens

Winter Area Devotionals:

March 10—Lake Drive 6-7:30

Dates for Teens:

March 3, 2007 Southwest Virginia Bible Bowl

June 17-23, 2007 VCC

July 1-6, 2007 Horizons Senior Week

July 8-13, 2007 Horizons Junior Week

Ten Commandments for Teenagers

1. Don't let your parents down; they brought you up.
 2. Choose our companions with care; many times you become what they are not.
 3. Be master of your habits, or they will master you.
 4. Treasure your time; don't spend it, invest it.
 5. Stand for something or you will fall for nothing.
 6. Select a Christian date who would make a fine Christian mate.
 7. Guard your thoughts by committing them to God—What you THINK, you are.
 8. See what you can do for others; not what they can do for you.
 9. Don't fill up on this world's crumbs; feed you soul on the living bread—Jesus.
 10. Give your all to Christ; He gave His all for you.
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A Great Church...

- ...has a great plan for the future.
- ...has great faith in God and His promises.
- ...believes that prayer is very important.
- ...has a great willingness to work.
- ...has a great spirit of togetherness.

West Side's Older Workers

The next WOW meeting will be Tuesday, March 13 at 10:30 here at the building.

Team Events

New Team events are going on!!! Check here every week for activities your team will be doing!

Team 1 - Tom Duff

Team 1 will be sponsoring the quarterly Fellowship Dinner on March 18 after morning services. Everyone plan on bringing your favorite dish for pot luck.

Team 2 - Bob Garby

Team 2 will have a trash pick-up on May 5.

Mark your calendars.

Team 3 - David Brown

Team 3 will be part of a door knocking and get together on March 10.

Team 4 - Tom Rogers

Team 4 will be having a Spring Get Together on April 1. Mark your calendars.

TEAM LEADERS: This section will be in the bulletin every week. E-mail any events to the office before Friday 8 AM.

TEAM LEADERS: Gospel Meeting Preacher Meals: Team 1—Sunday Fellowship meal; Team 2—Monday evening; Team 3—Tuesday evening; Team 4—Wednesday evening. March 18-21.

A **BIG** thanks to the following Winter Quarter Primary Bible teachers! Your hard work is much appreciated.

Karen Munsey, Sandy Garby, Jean Argaright, Annett Shrader, Lisa Valentine, Cha Guard, and Michelle Earnhart.

Six year old Angie and her four year old brother, Joel, were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church" "Why? Whose going to stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men sanding at the door? They're hushers.P"

SICK

Teresa Sartain will be having cataract surgery on Feb 27.

Sandy Garby will be having surgery on March 12.

Dan Hudgins is now under Hospice Care.

Betty Jenkins will be returning to UVA on Monday.

Fred Campbell, brother of **Willard Campbell**, will be undergoing chemo treatments for liver cancer.

Rick Foley, brother of **Jeff Foley**, is in rehab.

Remember the following in prayers: **Oliver Majors, Sam McNeil, Effie Wimmer, Luetta Gregroy.**



Happy Birthday this week to:

Dan Hudgins—2/20

Willard Campbell—2/20

Caroline Harrington—2/23

Leah Durham—2/23

Norris Gearhart—2/23

Mary Anderson—2/24

Happy Anniversary to:

Don & Mitzi Pettit—2/18



JANUARY/FEBRUARY ITEMS FOR STAFFORDS: Pepperoni and Crystal Light (assorted fruit flavors). Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!!

We need your help!! Please do not move or play with the classroom materials in the toddler classroom (the classroom to the left of the men's restroom). Thank you!



Our family wants to sincerely thank you for the tremendous out-pouring of prayers, cards, phone calls, personal words of support and character reference letters that were sent through the recent situation. We don't really know how to express how much this meant to all of us. Please continue to pray for us as we may encounter a civil suit. We truly love all of you.

Danny, Cha, Caleb & Luke

MAKING MARRIAGE MORE MEANINGFUL

There is a sign up sheet on the board for this event. We realize it isn't until the end of April. But plans are already in the works and we need to know how many West Siders will be here for workbooks, kits, décor, and food. Invitations have been sent out to area congregations. Please sign up today!

ALSO there will be a meeting for all who are involved in preparing for this event this afternoon at 5:00 in the auditorium.

AFRICA DINNER & SLIDE SHOW

The Africa Dinner and Slide show will be tonight after services.

WEST SIDE OFFICE

The office will be closed this coming Friday, 2/23. All bulletin announcements must be in the office by 8:00AM on Thursday.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN MARRIAGE RETREAT

The Marriage Retreat in Gatlinburg will be February 21-24. A few couples will be going down from here. It's not too late to sign up. See info on the board in the hallway.

QUARTERLY FELLOWSHIP POT LUCK

The quarterly Fellowship Meal has been changed to March 18 after morning services. Team 1 has set-up and clean up responsibilities.

CORRECTIONS

Give all corrections for the new directory to Michelle Earnhart or JoAnn by Feb 21. Please use the form in the back of the new directories. New corrected directories will be finished by the end of the month hopefully.

CALENDAR UPDATES

If you have **any** event within the months of March and April, please let the office know by this Thursday at 8:00AM.

BIBLE BOWL

The annual Youth Bible Bowl will be on March 3 at 9:00 AM

WEDDING SHOWER

There will be a wedding shower for Erin Leddy (future Mrs. Andy Duran) on Sunday, March 25 at 4:00 here at the building. They are registered at Target, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Kohl's, and Walmart. See Jeanny if you have questions.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Dan Hudgins will be 86 years old on Tuesday.

February 2007**Announcements** Wayne Dixon**Song Leader (AM)** Jeff Durham**Opening Prayer (AM)**

2/4 Eric Earnhart

2/11 Charlie Gwaltney

2/18 A.C. Janney

2/25 Fred Altizer

Preside at Communion Eddy Gilpin**Serve Table**

B. Martin G. Benefield

L. Guard A. House

Closing Prayer

2/4 Tom Richardson

2/11 Mark Brooks

2/18 Charlie Puckett

2/25 Gary Sartain

Song Leader (PM) Paul Mays**Opening Prayer (PM)**

2/4 George Mellon

2/11 Roger Mays

2/18 Bob Garby

2/25 Murphy Scott

Scripture Reader Garrett Durham**Closing Prayer (PM)**

2/4 Claude Crowe

2/11 Crawford Keith

2/18 Glen Hartman

2/25 Walter Jenkins

Serve Table (PM) D. Guard D. Brown**Song Leader (Wed)** David Brown**Prayer (Wed)**

2/7 Jim Cooke

2/14 Ethan Rogers

2/21 Paul Faw

2/28 Jim Harrington

Door Man Mike Durham**Greeters** J. & R. Bush McFalls**Nursery Attend** Dee House Judy Durham**Ushers** Greg Edwards Richards Simms**Handouts** Tom & Weston Rogers
Ed Argabright & Dylan Tyler**Alternates** Curtis Oaks**Prepare comm.** S. Neighbors S. Altizer**Last weeks attendance** 2/11 & 14/07

Bible Class—142 Worship Service—181

Eve. Worship—131 Wed. Service—115

Contribution—\$5645