

## Is Our Service to God What It Should Be?

There is much recorded in God's word about service and after realizing how much God and Christ have blessed us, should not we want to really serve as we should? As commanded, even with all the service we can render, we can never repay God and Christ for all of our blessings. We must first be in the right relationship with God for our service to be beneficial to us by obeying the Gospel (Mk 16:16, Acts 2:38, Acts 8:27), which adds us to the family of God (Acts 2:47).

We must also put God and Christ first in our lives by living dedicated lives to the best of our abilities (Matt. 6:33). Keep in mind we are speaking of our spiritual service which we have said before we can never repay.

We must have love for the souls of all people and want them to obey the truth by our teaching and example (Matt. 28:19,20).

We must always be willing to help those who are less fortunate than we (James 2:15,16).

We must support the work of the church with our time and finances which God has blessed most of us with (I Cor. 16:1,2).

Let us realize that true happiness comes by serving God while on this earth, and we can hear the words in judgment of enter thou into the joy of thy Lord (Matt.25:23). When we do the right service to God as he commands we will hear the above from God.

- the Elders

## "I Will...Because"

In His final effort to save Judah from Babylon, God sent His great prophet Jeremiah to preach to His people. Although they did not heed the words of this great man, his sentiments echo through the centuries in dire warning to all who refuse to turn to the Creator of the universe. One of the numerous magnificent lessons delivered by Jeremiah finds him breaking a potter's vessel at the instruction of God and comparing it to broken Judah (Jer. 19:1, 2, 10). In this chapter it is of great interest to note the statements by God that involve the phrase "I will," and to note the corresponding reasoning denoted by the word "because."

Through His spokesman God said, "*I will* bring evil upon this place" (Jer. 19:3); "*I will* make void the counsel of Judah" (Jer. 19:7); "*I will* cause them to fall by the sword" (Jer. 19:7); "their carcasses *will I* give to be meat for the fowls" (Jer. 19:7); "*I will* make this city desolate" (Jer. 19:8); "*I will* cause them to eat the flesh of their sons...their daughters...his friend" (Jer. 19:9); "Even so *will I* make this people and this city as one breaketh a potter's vessel" (Jer. 19:11); "*I will* bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it" (Jer. 19:15).

God was not going to do all of this on a whim or for some haphazard reason. Nor was He going to bring all of this upon them without any due consideration of them or without any time allotted for them to change. They had failed to heed the warning that was ever before them in the example of the destruction of their sister Israel some 100 years before this time (Jeremiah began his prophetic work about 95 years after the fall of Israel and continued for some 41 years). God was not only telling them what would become of them, He was also spelling out the reasons for it. He said, "*Because* they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods" (Jer. 19:4). He concluded His words to them on this occasion by saying, "*because* they have hardened their necks, that they might not hear my words" (Jer. 19:15).

As we look at the moral decay around us, could not these same somber words be uttered against our own country? The fact of the matter is, they do pertain to our society, and to every society. Just as Judah failed to heed the warnings and plunged headlong into destruction, our great nation is swiftly carving out its course to total rejection of God and His divine precepts. Can judgment against such a people be too far away? "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God" (Ps. 9:17).

-Eddy

## **Teens**

### *July Dates to Remember*

July 29—Young men conduct services

### *August Dates to Remember*

August 4—VBS

August 11—Summer Youth Devo—Lake Drive

August 12—College Sendoff

August 23—Teen Bible Study

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### **Bring them to Jesus**

Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman said that the New Testament records tell of forty people, each suffering from some disease, who were healed by Jesus. Of this number, thirty-four were either brought to Jesus by friends, or He was taken to them. In only six cases out of forty did the sufferers find the way to Jesus without assistance. Of the vast number of people who find their way to Jesus today, most of them reach Him because the friends of Jesus are concerned about the welfare of their souls.

### **Think About It...**

Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.

To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart.

Anger is only one letter short of danger.

You can't turn back the clock but you can wind it up again.

To ease another's heartache is to forget your own.

Efficiency: Doing the thing right.  
Effectiveness: Doing the right thing.

In the midst of a generation screaming for answers, Christians are stuttering.— Howard Hendricks

## **WOW (West Sides Older Workers)**

Next meeting will be on August 14 at 10:30 here at the building. Madolia will be serving Shrimp Creole for Lunch!!

August 26—WOW lunch at Harbor Inn after morning services.

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### **Team Events**

**Teams 1 & 4**— Will be having a pounding for the Cooks and Whites on August 19. Sign up for finger foods and drinks.

**Team 3**— Will be in charge of setting up and cleaning up for the fellowship meal that will be on Sept. 9. It will be West Side's 40th Anniversary/Homecoming.

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### **Directory Updates**

Jack, Lori, Amanda and Sarah Cook (Team 1)  
1024 Starmount Avenue  
Roanoke, VA 24019 Phone: 362-0971

Jeremy & Jessica White (Team 4)  
3816 Sunscape Drive #405  
Roanoke, VA 24018

Josh, Lori, Austin & Emma Whitlow  
1304 Coronado Drive  
Salem, VA 24153 Phone: 389-1022

Sandra Wood  
E-Mail: camillion2@gmail.com

## SICK

**Evelyn White** is at LGH in room 412. She continues to improve with her rehab. She will be moving to Richfield on Monday.

**Evelyn Scott** has been suffering with an eye infection.

Nicolas James, cousin of **Adam House**, had a rib removed. He is in Memphis.

Donnie Mountcastle, **Susan Mountcastle's** husband is in the VA Hosp. with a blood clot in his leg. He is improving and hopes to be home soon.

Dorothy Mason, **Bonnie Mellon's** mother, suffered a stroke and is in the hosp. in Ark. Bonnie is with her.

Dovethia Spach, **Jim Dorsett's** sister in Winston-Salem, NC, is gravely ill with lung cancer.

Remember the following in prayer: **Luetta Gregory, Larry Phillips, Betty Jenkins, Effie Wimmer, Marge Goodhart, Julia Reed.**

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### Happy Birthday this week to:

*Kristie Jearls—8/2  
Rebecca Durham—8/3  
Sandra Altizer—8/4*

*Happy Anniversary to:  
Tom & Susan Duff—8/1*

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## JULY & AUGUST ITEMS FOR STAFFORDS:

Sugar free puddings and Dentyne Fire/spicy cinnamon gum. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!

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**Library News:** Help is needed in the Library.

If you are interested in helping to get books, videos, tracts, and magazines in order; please see Michelle. Call 312-5139 or e-mail at [earnie13@yahoo.com](mailto:earnie13@yahoo.com).

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Today is the very last day to sign up any youths that will be attending VBS.

## YOUTH SERVICES

Our young men will be conducting the services tonight.

## EDP MEETING

The EDP meeting will be next Sunday at 4 in the large classroom.

## WEDDING RECEPTION

The wedding reception for Willard and Marie Campbell has been rescheduled for August 5 after evening services.

## WEST SIDE SUMMER SERIES

West Side Summer Series will be "in-house" this year. Several men of our own congregation will be presenting lessons on Wednesday evenings this summer. This week will be Tom Duff.

## PRIMARY BIBLE CLASS TEACHERS

Please try to have all class materials list that need to be purchased (\$ + tax & shipping) to Danny by August 5.

## TURN, TURN, TURN

There will be a planning meeting on August 12 at 4:30.

## COLLEGE SENDOFF

The college send off will be on August 12 after evening services.

## POUNDING

There's going to be a pounding for our new families on August 19 after evening services. Boxes for the Cook family and the White family are located in the foyer! Sign up for finger foods and drinks. See Tom Duff or Tom Rogers for details.

## RETURN

Eddy & Jeanny should return tomorrow!

**August 2007**

<b>Announcements</b>	David Brown	
<b>Song Leader (AM)</b>	Jeff Durham	
<b>Opening Prayer (AM)</b>		
<b>8/5</b>	Roger Mays	
<b>8/12</b>	Mike Durham	
<b>8/19</b>	Charles Maness	
<b>8/26</b>	Jerry Anderson	
<b>Preside at Communion</b>	Squeaky Valentine	
<b>Serve Table</b>	Herb Baker	Bob Garby
	Richard Simms	Mark Brooks
<b>Closing Prayer</b>		
<b>8/5</b>	Grat Tucker	
<b>8/12</b>	Luke Guard	
<b>8/19</b>	Mitch Jearls	
<b>8/26</b>	Norris Gearhart	
<b>Song Leader (PM)</b>	Paul Mays	
<b>Opening Prayer (PM)</b>		
<b>8/5</b>	Wayne Dixon	
<b>8/12</b>	Danny Guard	
<b>8/19</b>	Fred Altizer	
<b>8/26</b>	Charlie Gwaltney	
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Preston Duff	
<b>Closing Prayer (PM)</b>		
<b>8/5</b>	Mike Durham	
<b>8/12</b>	Barry White	
<b>8/19</b>	Bobby Martin	
<b>8/26</b>	David Brown	
<b>Serve Table (PM)</b>	Jim Harrington	Ethan Rogers
<b>Song Leader (Wed)</b>	Adam House	
<b>Prayer (Wed)</b>		
<b>8/1</b>	Tom Richardson	
<b>8/8</b>	Grat Tucker	
<b>8/15</b>	Glenn Hartman	
<b>8/22</b>	John Black	
<b>8/29</b>	Sam Valentine	

<b>Open/Close Bldg</b>	Don Pettit	
<b>Greeters</b>	Duffs	Keiths
<b>Nursery Attend</b>	Gloria White	Shirley Baker
<b>Ushers</b>	Bobby Martin	Curtis Oakes
<b>Handouts</b>	Bob Garby	David McFalls
<b>Alternates</b>	Mike Durham	
<b>Prepare comm.</b>	Madolia Rosette	Kim Brown
<b>Cards &amp; Pencils</b>	Andrew Gibson	Nathan Pelfrey

**Last weeks attendance** 7/22&25/07  
 Bible Class— 179      Worship Service—165  
 Eve. Worship— 134      Wed. Service—142  
 Contribution—\$6781