

Family & Friends..... June 22, 2022

Have you ever heard the expression, “Don’t make a mountain out of a molehill?” When I hear anyone talk about moles they are always stressed about their yard. There should be something good you could say about them. Moles are often mistaken for rodents, but they are not related to mice or rats. They construct deep, permanent tunnels for nesting. They dig holes in yards and mess up nicely manicured lawns. This aerates the yard, makes the soil richer, and helps with plant growth. Their diet includes spiders, earthworms, and lawn pests such as slugs and grubs. Moles have high energy, so they eat just about 24/7. They are almost always blind but are adapted to darkness and compensate with their keen senses of smell, hearing and touch. They are often blamed for eating bulbs and the fleshy roots of ornamentals, but chipmunks, mice, and voles are likely to be your culprits. If you rake out the mounds and ridges where your holes are and smooth them out, your lawn should recover on its own. Try putting some coffee grounds in the holes, they do not like the smell. Thank you, Lord, for your creation. It is amazing! To God be the Glory!

Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. (Philippians 4:5)

We always welcome our visitors: Andy & Delora Crawford (Overland Park, KS), Penny Huskey (Hindsville), Craig & Patti Bertschy (Hiwasse), DeEtta Davis(Fayetteville), Jon & Chelsea Reeves and PJ and Savannah, Reese & Jessica Crawford, and Greg Woodruff (Bentonville), Judith Carmical (Rogers), Addie & Alivia Bockholt, Sean & Laurel McCullar and Lilah Kate, Joyce Parks, and Barb Hedrick (BV), and Corbin Mabry.

Those on our prayer list: Debbie Helms’ mother has been placed in hospice care. Pray for Nathanael and Jessica Green in the recent loss of his sister. Also pray for their niece, Genesis and her son Micah as they look for a place to stay in the area. Pray for friends of Cammy Jo McCain: Beth Lemmons who has stage 4 bone cancer and Alison Stephen who has breast cancer. Jerry Snyder had hip surgery last Wednesday, and Mike Lacey had surgery on Tuesday. The Winslows’ daughter, Audrey had her back surgery postponed, she needs our continued prayers. Continue to remember Bob and Pat Musson, Mike Martin, Nina Verkler, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president.

Children’s Home List: Picante sauce, Pop Tarts, black-eyed peas, juice, kid’s shampoo. Food Pantry List: Relish, ketchup, baked beans, fruit cups, marshmallows, applesauce, and all types of pasta.

Do everything for the glory of God. Love you, stay safe!

Karen

**Bella Vista
Church of Christ**

Highway 71 and County Road 40
989 NW McNelly Road
Bentonville, AR 72712

Return Service Requested

LORD’S DAY	8:15 AM
Early Worship	9:30 AM
Bible Class (Livestreamed)	10:30 AM
Worship (Livestreamed)	
WEDNESDAY	9:45 AM
Ladies’ Class	7:00 PM
Bible Classes (Livestreamed)	

Phone: 479/273-2434

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ELDERS

Tracy Bowman.....479-899-3089
Don Butcher.....636-548-0458
Dallas Dobbs.....479-640-49439
Pery Johnson.....913-707-8379
Ray Reiss.....903-908-0203

DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Chris Johnson Bryan Busbee Joe Hott
Randall Hunt Harold Phillips Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Mitchell Whittington

MINISTERS

Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135
Parker Willis.....615-587-3208
Cory Spruiell.....501-941-4525
Javier & Helmer Rosero.....Bogota, Colombia

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WITNESSES

Wanted: Wisdom

Wisdom is defined as, “the quality or state of being wise; knowledge of what is true or right coupled with just judgment as to action; sagacity, discernment, or insight.”

It is something that we all seek. As we see in its definition, it is not only knowledge, but is also knowing what to do with, or how to apply the knowledge that we have. Wisdom is what leads to having a good life. Yet that term, “good life,” needs to be defined.

What constitutes a good life? If we were to ask that question to a crowd of people, we would probably get several folks shouting out responses. The answers we would likely receive might possibly be as varied as the people to whom the question is posed. We may hear things like financial security, or having good health, or a fulfilling career, or pursuing and achieving personal happiness and satisfaction. Some might say that the good life consists of being a part of a close and loving family while others might think of the good life as one of being single and free to do what they please. In other words, there are many different views of what makes up the “good life,” yet they can’t all be correct. Surely there must be an objective definition. Surely there must be someone who could define for us what constitutes a “good life.”

What if we were to let the One who designed life define “good” for us? What if we were to let God, the author and originator of life, tell us what constitutes a “good life” from his unique perspective?

The good news is that he has defined it for us. From the beginning, God has told humanity what life is supposed to look like. In the early chapters of Genesis, we see God place Adam and Eve in the garden. The instructions seemed simple enough. He gave them work to do: keep and cultivate the garden,



be fruitful and multiply, and work with him to bring everything under his rule. It was to be a life characterized by two things that get repeated over and over in Scripture: love God with all that they did, and love one another. They did fine for a while, until another definition was presented to them and they chose to base their lives on the definition of the good life given to them by the serpent (Genesis 3).

We wonder at how they could be so dense. How could they miss what was right in front of them and, as a result, be exiled from the place where they were with God? Yet, sadly, that problem continues on today. God has told us what constitutes the “good life.” And in case we missed what he told us, he showed us what that life looks like in the person of Jesus. Wisdom, which which leads to the good life, is available.

Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: “How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you. (Proverbs 1:20-23)

It’s not that God has hidden wisdom from us; it is that we have to learn to listen for it. The problem that we have is that there are many voices shouting and claiming to be the way of wisdom. Solomon says that she calls out “at the head of noisy streets.” We walk among those streets every single day. And every single day we are confronted with a cacophony of voices telling us that they have the answers that we all seek. We hear the voices of politicians telling us that they can take care of all the problems. We hear the voices of others telling us that if we would only follow them, we could have status and power and wealth, all of which they claim leads to the good life. We hear the voices that tell us that what we need to do to find fulfillment is to just be true to whatever feelings that we may have at the moment, and that being true to ourselves is the road to the good life. All the while, true Wisdom calls out to us.

The key is learning to listen for it. Maybe we should think about turning off some of the other voices for a while, or at the very least evaluating them based on the wisdom that comes from God. It might do us all some good to spend more time listening to Jesus, the wisdom of God personified, and to take serious his promise to give us life.

He still calls. Will we listen?

-JEFF GRISHAM

Update from Ukraine

To the Ephesians Paul wrote, *“I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation (understanding), so that you may know Him better”* (Ephesians 1:17). Zophar, a friend of Job, asked the question, *“Can you by searching find out God?”* (Job 11:7) The answer is “yes!” He then asked in the same breath, *“Can you find out the Almighty unto perfection?”* The answer to that second question is obviously “no, of course not!” In Paul’s doxology of God he wrote, *“How unsearchable are His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out!”* (Romans 11:33) But, having said that, it is God’s fervent desire *“that men would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us. For in Him we live and move and have our being”* (Acts 17:27-28).

In order to find the answers to Zophar’s questions and others like it, our God must not only be a God who exists, but also a God who has spoken. Through the Bible, and creation for that matter, God has spoken! “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge” (Psalm 19:1-2). How beautiful! The heavens speak to us and impart knowledge of God. Though not verbal, it is still speech, a language.

Our idea of God and our idea of man in relation to God form the basic determinative concepts of all life. It should be our insatiable desire and aim to “know Him better.” To that end let us look briefly at three great attributes of God.

God is omnipotent. God has all power! Limitless Power! *“In the beginning,”* the genesis, *“God created the heavens and the earth”* (Genesis 1:1). The divine record of creation reveals that over and over again *“God said... And it was so.”* He simply spoke and the worlds and all therein just came into existence. What power! The Hebrews writer wrote, *“By faith we understand that the universe was formed by God’s command”* (Hebrews 11:3). Not only did He create all things, but He is now *“sustaining all things by His powerful word”* (Hebrews 1:3). On a more personal note, He exercises his limitless power in us. Paul shares with us this wonderful promise, *“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us”* (Ephesians 3:20). Fantastic! God is omnipotent!

God is omniscient. He has all knowledge. God knows everything about us; He knows us better than we know ourselves.

“You know me... You perceive my thoughts from afar... You are familiar with all my ways... Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O Lord... Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain... How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!” (Psalm 139: 1-6, 17) God is infinite; He has no bounds; He is without limit.

God is omnipresent. God is everywhere. *“Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me; your hand will hold me fast. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,’ even the darkness will not be dark to you”* (Psalm 139: 7-12). Enough said?

Perhaps the best definition of God was given by John when he simply said, *“God is love”* (I John 4: 8, 16). Now, that is not an attribute, but the very essence of God. After all these centuries no better definition could be given of God than “God is love.”

We were created by God and for God. There is a vacuum in a person’s life that is God-shaped and can be filled only by God. C. S. Lewis, in *The Joyful Christian*, wrote, *“Theology means ‘the science of God,’ and I think any man who wants to think about God at all would like to have the clearest and most accurate ideas about Him which are available.”* The Bible and all the universe speak to us of God! Are you listening?

Isn’t it possible for all of us to know God better? Is this your aim and desire?

-CHARLES CASH

From *Lifelines* 12/13/17

SUNDAY SERVANTS: 6/26/22

First Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture	Aaron Sloan	Song Leader	Lee McCain
Greeters	Joe Hott, Terry Roberts	Communion Scripture & Prayer	Harold Phillips
	Closing Prayer.....		Ray Reiss
	Nursery Workers		Bobette York, Angie Christiano

Second Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture.....	Cory Roberts	Song Leader	Mike Martin
Greeters	Howard Hurst, Don Cope	Communion Scripture & Prayer	Chad Dobbs
	Closing Prayer.....		Jack Johnson
Nursery Workers.....	Jamie Fulgham, Nan Cope	Van Driver	Mark/Wilma Bagwell

June Worship Coordinators

Worship Coordinator	Mike Lunsford	Streaming Coordinator	Elijah Johnson
Audio Coordinator	Homer Makinson	Video Coordinator	Chris Johnson