

Family & Friends..... July 13, 2022

“Just a Little Talk with Jesus.” How sweet are these words! “I once was lost in sin, but Jesus took me in, and then a little light from heaven filled my soul; it bathed my heart in love and wrote my name above, and just a little talk with Jesus made me whole.” Cleavant Derreck wrote this hymn in 1937 during the depression when so many people were suffering. He said he found the answer to our pain, struggles, and depression by having just a little talk with Jesus. God doesn’t withhold his love and concern from those who love Him, but in all things God turns any problem into good to those who love Him (Romans 8:28). We need to focus as Christians on eternity and heaven and not be concerned about worldly things and problems. We just need to have a little talk with Jesus. To God be the Glory!

“And let us not grow weary in well-doing: for in due season we will reap, if we faint not.” – Galatians 6:9

We love our visitors: Matt & Melissa Lakins, Kaitlyn, Caroline, and Claire (Prosper, TX), Dennis & Debbie Lawless (Frisco, TX), Ken & Kim Maxfield (Paris, TX), Janet Moreland (Webb City, MO), Shirley Tucker (Chanute, KS), Eddie & Janice Waters (Casa Grande, AZ), Wilba Thompson (Fairfield Bay), Gary & Karen Oliveira and Sharilu Brown (Centerton), Sandi Koneman (Garfield).

Those on our prayer list: Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Hollie Strickhausen in the loss of her father, Marquis Elliott in the loss of his uncle, and Eddie & Janice Waters in the loss of their daughter-in-law. Please keep these families in your prayers. Pat Musson is at Mercy Hospital in room 601. Don Cope’s sister, Glenda, is struggling with health issues. Continue to remember and pray for Loïselle Tyler, Howard Hurst, Sheila Reese, Mike Lacey, Beth Lemmons, Alison Stephen, Doug Klingman, Bob & Vicky Douthit, Monica Klingman's sister, Penny Huskey, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president.

Items needed for Fair Haven Children’s Home: Canned chicken, picante sauce, trash bags, cereal and Spam. July Food Pantry needs: Salad dressings, ketchup, oil, kids’ snacks, breakfast/granola bars and canned chicken.

In every situation, God listens. 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

ELDERS

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

DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman 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

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

Phone: 479/273-2434

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The Call to Holiness

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.

And Moses said, “I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.” When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!”

And he said, “Here I am.” Then he said, “Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” And he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. (Exodus 3:1-6)

The burning bush is one of most well known scenes in the Old Testament. It must have been quite a sight. As we can see from the narrative, it certainly caught the attention of Moses. What was so special? A bush with a flame inside of it yet is not burned would be quite a sight for any of us. That just doesn’t happen.

Aside from it being an attention getter, it also communicates something extremely important. It represents the Holy God dwelling in the midst of his people. He is holy. His holiness is not dependent on his people, yet he wants to have a close relationship with them. His holiness is absolute and we read over and over in Scripture that when the Holy God comes in contact with the unholy, the unholy is usually destroyed. But, God wants to dwell with and among his people without destroying them. Much of the other text we read from this point all the way through Deuteronomy deals with this issue of how an unholy people must change for their own good so that the Holy One can be with them.

MEMBERS



The burning bush is, in a way, a picture of the main theme of Scripture: God's desire to be with his people. This theme begins in Genesis as God places Adam and Eve in Eden, a place where he can be with them, and ends in Revelation as John illustrates for us the time in which the "dwelling place of God is with man." (Revelation 21:3) Along the way we see all of the actions of God to make this possible. He calls Abraham and makes a covenant with him. God remains faithful to that covenant and rescues the descendants of Abraham from Egypt. He leads, guides, interacts with, and even disciplines his people. He sends his son, Jesus of Nazareth, to show humanity who he is, what he is like, and how much he is willing to give in order to make dwelling with his people a reality.

All along the way, God calls those who would be his people to a different kind of life, a holy life. It is not just so that God can command and demand that humanity behave a certain way. It is not because God has an ego that must be stroked. It is because of his great love and desire for his creation. It is so that we may have life, real life, eternal life, life the way it was designed: living in relationship with him.

That is why the call to a holy life is so important. It is so that we can dwell with him without harm. That is also why the call to holiness is so urgent and intense. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says, "If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members that that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell." (Matthew 5:29-30) God's call to holiness is urgent because he wants a close relationship with us, and the only way that happens without damage to us is that we become holy.

The good news is that he hasn't left us on our own to do that. He has given us his one and only son so that we can be justified. He has given the Holy Spirit to those who are baptized into Christ so that we can be transformed, sanctified and holy. All he asks is that we follow a little closer, trust a little deeper, and cooperate with him in this journey called holiness. After all, Jesus came so that we might have life, and life to the full (John 10:10).

-JEFF GRISHAM

Holding God to Be Hallowed

The disciples of Jesus came asking, "Teach us to pray." The first petition in the Lord's Prayer is "Hallowed be Thy Name." When we pray this line, we are recognizing God as: Deity. Holy, Holy, Holy. Yahweh. I Am who I Am. God. Jehovah. Lord. Creator. Sovereign. You see, God is like an iceberg; these titles, attributes, and descriptions, only describe the tip of God's nature. What do you suppose would happen if we really, really, held the name of God to be Hallowed? Wouldn't it lead us into a closer, more intimate, walk with Him, and the development of more holiness in ourselves? Indeed!

God is to be Hallowed in our nation. In our post-modern culture, the United States is becoming anti-Christian. The America that was once concerned with religion, Christian faith and practice, is fading into selfish humanism. Our history books are being rewritten to say that we were never, nor are we now, a Judao-Christian nation. Disturbing! There are social, political, and theological forces at work in our country that few, if any, of us can even begin to understand.

Like it or not, we've all been touched by Satan's influence. For instance, if you and I were asked to re-write the Constitution of the United States, what ten laws would we select to be the basis of all others? Would we begin with the demand that the Name of God be respected? Him first? No substitutes? Would we demand that His Name not be verbally violated? His day be celebrated? Would coveting, sexual purity, honoring parents, be among our top ten laws? We must admit that we too have conformed, been squeezed, into to post-modern thinking, living. God has the answer to our wayward behavior: *"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land"* (2 Chronicles 7.14).

Hallowed in our churches. If the church doesn't hold God's Name Hallowed, who will? Who will indeed? God works through His people. The Church must be distinctively different from the world or it is not the church. Have we forgotten our basic Greek? *Ecclesia* is "called out" Called out for a specific purpose. Peter said, *"to be a peculiar people showing forth the promises of God."* There's no other organization on earth commissioned to hold His Name Hallowed. We do it by being a church family faithful to The Book. His Will, His Word, must be

held as the highest authority, and never replaced with personal feelings, political correctness, human reasoning, tradition or experience. Amen?

Hallowed in self. Existentialism holds that there is no authority higher than self and our own personal preferences. Humanism teaches that truth is "personal" and "relative." Relativism allows for my truth and your truth, but no absolute truth. During the time of the Judges the nation of Israel was in disarray. They lost their political confederacy. Were in a state of spiritual bankruptcy. It was Israel's Dark Ages. Scripture gives us the reason: "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes." Here it is, we must place the preferences of God before our own. He must be given His rightful place in our personal ethics, in our marriages, our homes, at work, in our entertainment choices. Awe, respect, reverence for God is personal. Faith is personal. Salvation is personal. Sometimes I see brethren become overly concerned with the actions of others. They get upset at family, preachers, Elders, fellow Christians, working companions, when the focus first, foremost, and forever should be on self. The question becomes: Is God Hallowed in MY Life?

I call you to pray daily that God's Name be regarded as Holy in our nation, our churches and above all in ourselves. Let us fall on our knees and petition; "Hallowed Be Thy Name."

-RANDALL CASELMAN

From *Lifelines* 12/13/17

SUNDAY SERVANTS: 7/17/22		
First Service		
Welcome, Prayer & Scripture	Roger Arnold	Song Leader
Greeters	Chris Johnson, Gary McCool	Communion Scripture & Prayer
		Anthony Christiano
		Joe Hott
		Randall Hunt
		Patsy McCool, Shannon Hubanks
Second Service		
Welcome, Prayer & Scripture	Jerry Orr	Song Leader
Greeters	Jack Johnson, Chris Johnson	Communion Scripture & Prayer
		Mitchell Whittington
		Don Butcher
		Bryan Busbee
July Worship Coordinators		
Worship Coordinator	Mike York	Streaming Coordinator
Audio Coordinator	Jim Caylor	Video Coordinator
		Aaron Bagwell