

Family & Friends..... January 26th, 2021

When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder," I'll be there. What a joyful hymn! It was written in 1893 by James M. Black. He wrote all three stanzas in about fifteen minutes, and then put it to music. James became a teacher of singing schools and traveled the countryside where he found great joy in ministering to young people. He met a fourteen year old girl whose father was an alcoholic. He invited her to his Bible class and she accepted. He taught his students to learn Bible verses and had them recite them each week. The young girl attended class faithfully, but one week when he called the roll, she was not there, and of course did not respond. This concerned him. He wished there was a hymn he could have had the young people sing that night that related to this. That evening on his way home he was in deep thought. Arriving at home, he went straight to his desk and penned the words to *"When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder,"* and then put it into music. He was later quoted as saying, *"I never dared to change a word or note after that."* On a sad note, the young girl was not there that night because she was ill and had pneumonia. She died a couple of weeks later, unable to answer another roll call here on earth, but most certainly she was present when her name was called *"Up Yonder."* Thank you, Lord, for everything you bless us with! We love You!

And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

Revelation 20:12

Our heartfelt sympathy to Mitchell Whittington and his family in the loss of his brother, Kenneth. Keep Mitchell and his family in your prayers as they gather in Vicksburg, Mississippi for his memorial service. Remember the Bowman family in the loss of Amy's father, Bill. Jerri Dobbs is now home from her knee replacement surgery. Eva Phillips, Sean Turnage, and Lou Hollo are all recovering from their surgeries. Monica Klingman's mom, Deetta has Covid-19 and asked for prayers. Betty Whittington requests prayers for her daughter, Stephanie. Joe Hott asked us to pray for his nephew, Roger Montgomery, who is suffering with broken ribs and a punctured lung. Continue to remember and pray for George Bowman, Roy Barnica and his dad, Linn, who both have the virus, Bob & Pat Musson, Louise Perry, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president. Pray for a cure for Covid-19.

There will be a baby shower for the Goodwin family on February 21st, details coming later. Mark your calendars.

Items needed for Fair Haven Children's Home: Olive oil, spices, carrots, peaches, green beans, spam, body wash, and freezer bags.

Items needed for our food pantry: Rice, beans, oil, canned vegetables, tuna, cereal, canned fruit and chicken, sugar, Ro-tel, and oatmeal.

Dare to be different – for the Father's sake.
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	
Early Worship	8:15
Bible Class	9:30 AM
Second Worship	10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY	
Ladies' Class	9:45 AM & 7 PM
Bible Class	Live Stream @ 7 PM

Phone: 479/273-2434

www.bellavistachurchofchrist.com

ELDERS

Tracy Bowman.....479-899-3089
Don Butcher.....636-548-0458
Dallas Dobbs479-271-8609

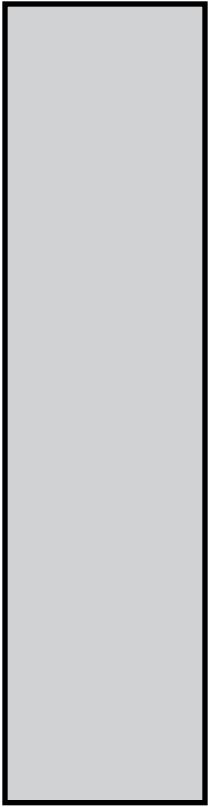
DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Chris Johnson Bryan Busbee Joe Hott
Robert Horton Perry Johnson Harold Phillips Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Mitchell Whittington

MINISTERS

Randall Caselman.....479-855-4447
Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135
Parker Willis.....615-587-3208
Selywn Nel Cape Town, South Africa
Javier & Helmer Rosero..... Bogota, Colombia

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A Servant Mindset

It was Jesus who said: *"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant... I didn't come to be served, but to serve"* (Matthew 20.26 & 28). Servanthood! What does that look like? I think Jesus tells us in Luke chapter twenty-two when a dispute arose among the disciples as to who was the greatest, Jesus answered, *"The one who serves!"*

How did we miss the point? Where did we go wrong?

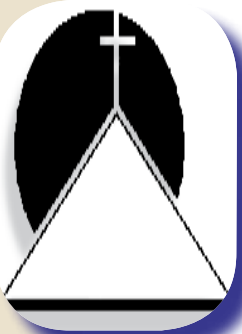
- We find preachers who preach from an attitude of supremacy, from a pulpit rather than from the mourner's bench...
- Elders who see themselves as a Board of Directors instead of Shepherds of the Flock...
- Deacons who don't know enough Bible to know what the word means...
- Teachers who teach from a position rather than humility...
- Ministry leaders who want to delegate rather than lead.
- Perhaps a membership who says, let the paid staff do it, that's what we pay them for.

Indeed! How did we come to this kind of thinking? We must ask ourselves; what is this serving all about? Jesus tells us: *"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant!"* Jesus' Kingdom is not of this world because in His Kingdom greatness is found in serving others.

Let's examine The Mindset of a Servant...

Servants must know who they are. That night in the Upper-room, Jesus served, washed feet. But that footwashing came after these verses: *"Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God"* (John 13.1-3). *"So He got up, took off His outer garment, wrapped a towel around His waist, poured water into a basin, and began to wash His disciples feet" (vs 4).* Jesus knew who He was and what He was here for. Acting on that knowledge, He became a servant, washed feet. Here it is church, those who don't know who they are, are scrambling for titles, positions, thrones. While those who know who they are, are found washing feet, ministering, serving. Here's an interesting question! If our title was taken away today,

MINISTERS



would we still be found doing the same Kingdom work? Perhaps if the answer is no, we may be serving out of an improper motive.

Servants are willing to place others before self. God is a Servant; placing others, all others, before Himself: *"God so loved the world that He sent His One and Only Son."*

"God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" John 3.16 & Romans 5.8). Paul made this point in Philippians, when before speaking of Jesus' coming into our world, he wrote: *"In humility consider others better than ourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interest, but to the interest of others"* (Philippians 2.3-4). All others? That night, in the Upper-room, Jesus washed the feet of those



who would betray Him and deny Him. Truth is, He washed my feet and yours, amen? Servanthood includes our looking to the needs of others, considering them to be better than ourselves. We can't deny that "loving service" is the heart of Christianity: *"As often as you do it to the least of these, you've done it to Me"...* *"Fulfill the Law of Christ by carrying each other's burdens"* (Matthew 25.45 & Galatians 6.2).

Servants don't keep score. Any score cards in your pocket or mine? I wonder what excuse the Twelve used at the Last Supper? You know they saw the washbasin, pitcher, towel. They knew feet needed to be washed. Were they saying: "I did it last time, let someone else wash feet tonight?" Can we hear James and John say, "Mother told us not to, because she had asked for a throne, not a towel?" Listen, aren't we glad that God doesn't work off a score card when it comes to being patient with us, forgiving us, saving us, in spite of our sin failures?



Let me share a story from my hospital chaplaincy days. I was paged to the room of a family who wanted someone from their church to come pray for their family member, in this case a father who was dying. They had called the preacher. His reply was "I don't really remember this man, so I'll not be coming." In tears they sobbed; "chaplain, can you help us?" I told them I would try...

- I called two different churches in their faith system, and was told by one, that the preacher and visitation team were busy that day.
- The other said "our records indicate that this man was baptized, confirmed, and anointed several years ago so he ought to be alright. Chaplain, please pass this word on to the family for us?"

All of us agree that there is something wrong, seriously wrong with this scenario. But before we're too hard on these three responses, we must examine our own excuses for not washing the feet of those God places before us.

- We must never be "too busy..."
- Not found saying, "But I have a tee time..."
- Not "I've gotta watch the Razorbacks play..."
- Not "I don't want to fight the traffic."

Listen, at some point in our spiritual maturity, it's necessary for each of us to grow past being a recipient of the work of the church to start being a participant in it. An attitude of *"being served"* rather than *"serving"* is a sure sign of immaturity.

Church, whatever the excuse might be, let us pass it through the gate of; "What Would Jesus Do?" Can I say this and you not become upset with me? If we think that's an improper question, perhaps it only becomes another excuse. Amen? When it comes to having the heart of a servant, we must take the admonition of Paul, *"Let the mind of Christ Jesus be in you."*

—RANDALL CASELMAN

Let God Have His Way

Green Beans are left-handed! A Michigan farmer planted ten acres of green beans. Not knowing the difference between pole-beans and bunch-beans, she planted the pole variety. This meant that her laborers must stake each plant with a tent-like pole. They did, but their pole was much too short. A County Agent told the farmer she needed to replace the short pole structures with one 5 to 7 feet tall.

That done, the farmer was horrified to discover that in a few days every plant had wilted and was falling off the pole. In desperation a pole-bean expert was hired to see if he could find the reason for the loss. After checking both plants and soil, the expert found no clue as to why the beans were dying. More experts were called with no better results.

Then one day the farmer attended a meeting in which the speaker

explained something novel about pole-beans; "Green Beans are left-handed and morning glories are right-handed. Beans wrap from left-to-right while Morning Glories wrap from right-to-left!"

Immediately the farmer stood up shouting, "You've answered my question! I now know the problem no one else could explain." "What was that" the speaker asked. After relating details of her loss; the farmer said, "and now I know why. My workers are all right-handed and naturally rewound the beans on the new poles from right-to-left instead of from left-to-right."

Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Thou art the Potter,
I am the clay.
Mold me and make me
After Thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded
and still.



Scripture is replete with the idea that God leads us in paths of righteousness...

Proverbs 3.5-6 — *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.*

Psalms 24.4-5 — *Show me Your ways, O Lord, teach me Your paths; guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my Saviour, and my hope is in You.*

Psalms 118.105 — *Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my pathway.*

John 14.6 — *I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No-one comes to the Father except through Me.*

1 John 1.7 — *If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.*

—RANDALL

SUNDAY SERVANTS: 1/31/20

EARLY SERVICE (8:15 AM)

Song Leader..... Sammy McCain Prayer & ScriptureChad Dobbs
Communion Scripture & Prayer Randall Hunt Greeters/Handouts.....Keith Hubanks & David Saunders

SECOND SERVICE (10:30 AM)

Song Leader.....Lee McCain Prayer & ScriptureTracy Bowman
Communion Scripture & Prayer Tom Verkler Greeters/Handouts.....Bob Spaw & Don Cole

January Coordinators

Worship Coordinator..... Harold Phillips Streaming CoordinatorElijah Johnson
Audio Coordinator..... Homer Makinson Video Coordinator Chris Johnson