### **GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION**

- Hear the gospel (Romans 10:17)
- Confess faith in Jesus (Romans 10:9-10)
- Believe Jesus is the Christ (John 3:16)
- Be baptized for remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
- Repent from sins (Luke 13:3)
- Live worthy of the calling (Ephesians 4:1)

### **IN NEED OF PRAYERS**

### **Recent Additions:**

**Deborah Moody** continues to struggle with back trouble. **Troy Antle** is recovering from surgery on his finger.

### List:

Our members: Jeff Howerton, Glenn Kimberlin, Paul Atkisson, Arlena, The Tirey family

**Others**: Lenny Shepperson, Jan Hogen, Barabara Matheny, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Rita Pagan, Vina Krassow, Courtney and Aubrey Reeves, John Bennett, Robert and Sarah Brundige, Donald Dawson, Jean Gartland, Gail Stein, Dawn Rutledge, Sandy Childress, Mary Wilson, Doris Baker, Bill Childress, Susie Burton, Fred Dalton, Norma Hurt, Taylor Osterling

WEEKLY READING		<u>LEADERSHIP</u>		<u>SERVICES</u>
Sun:	Ps 83, 1 Kg 15:25-16:34, Ez 46, Ro	ELDERS	<b>DEACONS</b>	<u>Sunday</u>
Mon:	15:1-13 Ps 84, 1 Kg 17, Ez 47:1-12, Ro 15:14-33	Garry Banks David Collins	Troy Antle Richard Brundige	Bible Study: 9:45 AM Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM
Tue:	Ps 85, 1 Kg 18:1-19, Ez 47:13-48:35, R0 16	John Thompson	Neal Erickson Adam Litmer	Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30 PM
Wed:	Ps 86, 1 Kg 18:20-46, Hag 1, Jm 1	EVANGELIST	Bill Morelan	1st Fri. of Month
Thu:	Ps 87, 1 Kg 19, Hag 2, Jm 2:1-13	Adam Litmer	Jim Parsons	Singing: 7:30 PM  3rd Fri. of Month
Fri:	Ps 88, 1 Kg 20, Zec 1:1-17, Jm		Pat Seabolt	Bible Study: 7:00 PM
Sat:	2:14-26 Ps 89, 1 Kg 21, Zec 1:18-2:13, Jam 3:1-12		Matt Thompson	(Ask for location)

### UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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# University Heights Messenger

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# December 2, 2012

### There's A Lesson Here

One of the great mysteries of the human condition is how man is able to use wisdom and good

#### Note

The auditorium class will begin studying the book of Daniel today. Material is in the back if you haven't already gotten it.

judgment in the secular realm, but often fails to do so in the spiritual realm. Man too frequently operates as if the physical and the spiritual are so opposite to one another that what works in the physical world has no place in the spiritual, and the principles that apply to the spiritual could not possibly apply to the physical.

Everyone knows that a house must be built upon a firm foundation or it will not long stand. One who constructs a building upon an inadequate foundation is considered foolish. Jesus called the one who would build his house upon a rock a wise man and the one who would build his house upon the sand a foolish man. (Matthew 7:24-27) Everyone would agree with Jesus that wisdom and good judgment dictate that good construction practices require a rock solid foundation.

However, when it comes to building a spiritual building, man, more often than not, casts wisdom aside and opts for foolishness. Consider the connection Jesus made between building upon a rock and constructing one's spiritual house. "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." (Matthew 7:24) And, further consider the connection Jesus made between foolishly building one's spiritual house upon a shaky, insubstantial foundation: "And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand." (Matthew 7:26)

What is the rock solid foundation upon which a secure, unmovable spiritual house must be built? Let's let the scriptures answer. Isaiah prophesied about this foundation, saying, "Therefore thus says the Lord God, 'Behold, I am

the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: 'Whoever believes will not be in haste.'" (Isaiah 28:16)

The New Testament identifies the cornerstone as Jesus. "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:19-22)

The Apostle Paul stated that he did not build foolishly in his evangelistic work. "For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done." (1 Corinthians 3:9-11) Did you notice his warning? Let each one take care how he builds upon it. How critically important is the correct foundation? "But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed." (Galatians 1:8)

## **The Forgotten Command**

By Robert Turner

It would be trite to say authority and discipline are unpopular in current society. It would be unnecessary to say that this spirit has affected the church. Hundreds of churches have existed for years without exercising corrective discipline in a single case—and not because everyone was faithful. Bring up the subject, and brethren tremble because they see trouble at the door.

Why does church discipline have such a reputation? 1) Brethren have not learned to think objectively—to separate personal feelings from principles—to lose self in the greater cause of Christ. 2) Discipline has been abused, used vindictively (when someone needed to be "told off").

3) It has been neglected so long there is no easy place to start. Brethren await a horrible deed that will shock all—while they are building immunity to shock. Perhaps some churches have acted to "save face" respecting highly publicized events; or a few may have made a "flag" of disfellowshipping, proving "soundness" by something akin to martial law. Yet for many churches, corrective discipline has been neglected.

A comparison of Job 36:10, 2 Timothy 1:7, and 2 Timothy 3:16 in the King James version shows that discipline and a controlled, instructed mind have much in common. Discipline begins as we present the call of the gospel to an alien. He is "called out of darkness" (1 Peter 2:9), is taught to crucify "the old man" in obedience to a "form of doctrine" that he might become "a servant of righteousness" (Romans 6:3-7, 16-18). While not corrective or punitive in the sense of disfellowship, this hedges about and brings into line in a most positive way. If we are careful to explain the cost of discipleship (Luke 16:26-f) and the necessity for giving self unto the Lord, this initial discipline will spare the need for much later correction.

1 John 1:5-7 makes the relation of discipline to fellowship very obvious. "God is light, and in him is not darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in darkness, we lie..." The means of forgiveness, hence of fellowship with God, is provided by Christ; but my forgiveness, my fellowship is contingent upon my walking in the light.

Properly viewed, church discipline is part of the mutual assistance we should expect among Christians in our effort to walk in fellowship with God.

**Sermons:** (AM) Drinking (PM) Solitary devotion **Reading**: (Am) Luke 16:19-31 (PM) Luke 17:1-19