



THE MESSENGER

JUNE 21, 2020

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting
TBD

Weekly Bible Studies
All temporarily being conducted via Zoom. Check our “friends” page on Facebook for more information.

Times of Service
Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM
Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM
(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

First Friday of Month
Singing
7:30 PM

Address and Contact

University Heights Church of Christ
445 Columbia Ave., Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-6257
www.uheightschurch.com

WEAKNESS: AN OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

We noted that human weakness is universal. Just as I can despise the weaknesses of others, and even come to despise others for their weaknesses, so, too, I can despise my own weaknesses, and even come to despise myself for having them. Since personal weaknesses have been part of the human condition since soon after creation, one might expect that we have become adept at dealing with them, but that does not seem to be the case. Often, the means by which we choose to live with our weaknesses have little to no chance of actually making us better people, not to mention better Christians.

For instance, weakness is commonly perceived to be shameful. Is it shameful to have weaknesses? Consider that question in light of a newborn infant whose only strength may be its ferocious cry for attention. Is an infant despised for its weaknesses? No. Its total dependency elicits loving care and sacrificial actions by those nearby. But somewhere in the growth process, weakness becomes a shameful thing. How? I believe weakness being a shameful thing does not occur naturally, rather, it is learned in many ways as one grows into adulthood. Granted, giving into our weaknesses can result in our doing shameful things, but being weak in one or more ways does not automatically make us objects of shame.

Since we have weaknesses and know how troublesome they can be, what ought we to do about them? Some weaknesses can be overcome. Thus, a weakness is an opportunity for personal growth. A tried and true growth technique is to set achievable goals, and, as each goal is reached, self-confidence is increased, higher goals are set, and the cycle keeps building until the weakness is conquered.

Other weaknesses persist and are much more difficult to be perceived as opportunities. How can they be when they drag me down so much, when I look into a mirror and see just my deficient self, when I continue to make excuses for myself because it is the easy thing to do? What do I do with such weaknesses as these?

Members Needing Our Prayers

Mary Weatherholt, Bennie Poynter, Jill Harrison, Joyce Bolton, Karen Spivey, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson, Whitney Crouch

Others Needing Prayers

Jason Shepherd, Chassey Seabolt, Terry Daniels, Mary Laclair, Rachel White, Karen Litmer, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Keia Burton, Robert Brundige, Valerie and Barry Boyd, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Cindi's niece, Dana, and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Mark (Carol's son), Victoria Poynter, Ron Harmon

To Our Guests

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

Type in our name on Facebook, YouTube, or our website if you'd like to watch or just listen to our sermons.

One often hears such questions answered with, "Give it to God; turn it over to God." And therein lies the opportunity. Our weaknesses are opportunities to experience the strength of God. Don't ask me how it works because I don't know. I doubt the Apostle Paul knew, but here is what he did know about it: (regarding his thorn in the flesh) *Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians 12:8-10).*

David wrote, in Psalm 18:2, *The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.* Note that David is not asking to be the rock, or the fortress, or his own deliverer. He is acknowledging that God is these things, and his weaknesses provide the opportunity for him to so acknowledge. John Thompson

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Bill Morelan	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	