

# University Heights Messenger

Volume 5--Number 42

October 20, 2013

## GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

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

## IN NEED OF PRAYERS

### List:

**Leroy Weatherholt** had surgery to remove a tumor from his lung this past Friday morning. Expect an update today. **Valarie Boyd** (Rhonda's sister) is receiving treatment for a recent car accident. She is also dealing with radiation for breast cancer and two blockages in her heart. **Barry Boyd** (Rhonda's brother) is being treated for several ailments, including severe leg and back pain. Surgery is scheduled for a future date.

**Our members:** Jeff Howerton, Paul Atkisson, Lindsay Morgan, Jim Parsons, Louis Harrod

**Others:** Jan Hogen, Barabara Matheny, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Rita Pagan, Vina Krassow, John Bennett, Robert and Sarah Brundige, Donald Dawson, Gail Stein, Sandy Childress, Doris Baker, Bill Childress, Susie Burton, Fred Dalton, Norma Hurt, Vernon Johnson, Lavon Speer, Jacob Profit, Robin Miller, Lisa Tudor, Maureen Sheldon

<u>WEEKLY READING</u>		<u>LEADERSHIP</u>		<u>SERVICES</u>
<b>Mon</b>	Isaiah 23-25, 1 Corinthians 3	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>DEACONS</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
<b>Tue</b>	Isaiah 26-29, 1 Corinthians 4, Psalm 65	Garry Banks	Troy Antle	Bible Study: 9:45 AM
<b>Wed</b>	Isaiah 30-32, 1 Corinthians 5	David Collins	Richard Brundige	Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM
<b>Thu</b>	Isaiah 33-35, 1 Corinthians 6	John Thompson	Matt Thompson	<u>Wednesday</u>
<b>Fri</b>	2 Chronicles 28, 2 Kings 17, 1 Corinthians 7, Psalm 66	<u>EVANGELIST</u>	Adam Litmer	Bible Study: 7:30 PM
		Adam Litmer	Bill Morelan	<u>1st Fri. of Month</u>
			Jim Parsons	Singing: 7:30 PM
			Pat Seabolt	<u>3rd Fri. of Month</u>
			Adam Daniels	Bible Study: 7:00 PM
			Jamie Powell	(Finished for the time being)

### **With God there is No Risk**

Risk is defined as exposure to the possibility of injury or loss. If you have money to invest, an investment counselor will want to know how much risk are you willing to tolerate. Investments with the most risk, that is, investments in which you have the greatest chance of losing your money, will produce a higher rate of return if they do not fail.

Risk is part of most every aspect of our lives. Most everything we do or say or think has some potential with regard to injury or loss, particularly loss. Within any human relationship there is risk involved. Take the marital relationship, for instance. Such close intimacy requires maximum trust, and marriages break up because one or both parties in the relationship break that trust resulting in divorce. Friendships dissolve and companionship is lost. One co-worker becomes envious of another and creates dissension in the work place. Even Christians frequently fail in their relationships to one another. Such must have been happening in the churches of Galatia, because Paul wrote, *“For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. (Galatians 5:14-15)*

If people would be true to their word; if they would deal honestly with one another; if they would spend less time thinking about themselves and more time thinking of others; if they would give greater diligence to choosing a marriage partner, etc. etc., then much of the risk involved in human relationships would be eliminated.

But there is one relationship that has zero risk for mankind, and that is one's relationship with Almighty God. God is faithful; God is trustworthy; God never lies; God has never failed to fulfill a promise, and He never will; God can be counted on in all circumstances and at all times. Consider the following scriptures:

*“Know therefore that the Lord your **God is God, the faithful God** who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.” (Deuteronomy 7:9)*

### **NOTE**

The class on preparing sermons/short talks begins today at 5. The material is in the back. All men are encouraged to attend.

## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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“**God is faithful**, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” (1 Corinthians 1:9)

“No temptation has overtaken you that **is not common to man**. **God is faithful**, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.” (1 Corinthians 10:13)

“But Christ **is faithful** over **God's** house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.” (Hebrews 3:6) Notice in this passage that God is not the one who breaks trust in the relationship. We continue to be “God’s house **if we hold fast**, that is if we do not fail to fulfill our part of the relationship. What a magnificent blessing, to know that God will never fail us!

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;  
His mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.”  
(Lamentations 3:22-23)

The Elders

### “Let Us Make”

In Genesis 1:26 we read, “Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’”

In Genesis 11:3-4 we read, “And they said to one another, ‘Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.’ And they had brick for stone and bitumen for mortar. Then they said, ‘Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.’”

After God made man He blessed him and told him to “*be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it*” (1:28). This command was repeated to Noah and his sons after the land dried enough for them to leave the ark (Genesis 9:1). One reason God created man was for him to fill the entire earth and subdue it.

By Genesis 11 we see man deciding that he did not like God’s command and choosing to do the exact opposite of what God had said. God told man to fill the earth and subdue it. Man responded that he did not want to be dispersed across the whole earth but would rather make a name for himself. God said go. Man said, “Not only will I not go, I am going to build a great city and dwell there.” God said fill the earth.

Man said, “Not only will I not fill the earth, I’m going to build a massive tower that reaches up into the heavens.” God said subdue the earth. Man said, “Not only will I not subdue the earth, I will locate in a single place and make a great name for myself in the process.” When God said, “Let us make,” He did so for the purpose of creating man and blessing him tremendously. When men said, “Let us make,” he did so in rebellion against God with a selfish arrogance and a desire to become great.

God says many things today and receives a similar response from men, often even His own people. God says, “*Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ*” (Galatians 6:2). Man says, “No. He got himself into this mess and he can get himself out.” God says, “*Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger*” (Galatians 4:26). Man says, “No. He upset me in the past and I’ll hold a grudge against him for years to come.” God says, “*Be kind to one another, tenderhearted...*” (Galatians 4:32). Man says, “No. I don’t have time for the needs and feelings of others.” God says, “*Consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together...*” (Hebrews 10:24-25). Man says, “No. There are times when I’d just rather do other things.” God says, “*Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men*” (Colossians 3:23). Man says, “No. I don’t like the person employing me so I’ll show him by doing lazy, shoddy work.” God says, “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly...*” (Colossians 3:16a). Man says, “No. I’d rather fill my heart with the things of the world.”

We each offer our own “Let us make” statements every day of our lives. Through our thoughts and actions we say, “Let us make ourselves according to the desires and wishes of God, conforming more to the example of His Son”, or “Come, let us make ourselves more like the world we inhabit. Let its values and passions become our own.” This is part of the process of working out our own salvation with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12). Or...not.

Man has the liberty to tell God “no” during this life. If that’s his choice then God will answer in kind when that man pleads for Heaven (Romans 2:6-8). But God made man specifically to bless and save him. Let us make ourselves the kind of people in whom our God delights (Psalm 1:1-3). AL

**Sermons:** (AM) The First Temptation of Christ (Luke 4:1-4)  
(PM) Faithful Zeal

**Reading:** (AM) Proverbs 17:15-28  
(PM) Proverbs 18:1-12