

Serving This Week:

Sunday Morning

Announcements: Brian Horner

Song Leader: Kyle Richardson

Opening Prayer: Howell Todd

Lord's Supper

Presiding: Brian Horner

Serving: Eric Horne

Ken Grandstaff

Preaching: Brian Horner

Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Preaching: Brian Horner

Closing Prayer: Howell Todd

Wednesday Evening

Opening Prayer: Kyle Richardson

Devotional: Brian Horner

Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Serving Next Sunday:

Lord's Supper: Kyle Richardson

Preaching: Howell Todd

Opening Prayer: Howell Todd

Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TN Children's Home Food Drive:

- 100% Bottled Apple Juice

- Canned Potatoes

- Bar Soap

Singing Night:

Potluck afterwards, bring your Friends!

Sign Up!

Spots are still open for cleaning the building and yard work. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

A Little Humor

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."

TEAM MEETINGS

Correspondence - Sunday evenings after worship see Kyle Richardson.

Visitation/Bible Study - For assignments see Brian Horner.

Member Care - Regarding Member needs contact Kyle Richardson.

Flower Request - Please call Lynda Ann Sparkman: 444.0938(h) 587.8187(c)

Bethel church of Christ

2427 Sparta Pike, Lebanon TN 37090

<http://www.bethelcoc.net>

March 4, 2012

Sunday Bible Study: 10 AM

Sunday Morning Worship: 11 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 6 PM

Wed Bible Study: 7 PM

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

You will not here find the definitive answer to the question. You will, however, be challenged to seriously consider this question. It is as relevant today as it has been from the beginning of human existence. Undoubtedly you recall the pronouncement of God to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden in response to their sin. As recorded in Genesis 3:16-19, they were sentenced to a totally different life than they had experienced prior to sin. Pain, sorrow, and suffering were to become a part of their existence – that which they had not before experienced. So, sin is a source of suffering.

Are there other sources or reasons for chronic illness and suffering? Absolutely. When Jesus was asked by his apostles as to who had sinned to bring about the blindness of the man begging at the temple in John 9, Jesus answered that it was not the result of sin. He said that the situation occasioned an opportunity for God's glory to be demonstrated. Jesus then gave sight to a man who had never seen light.

Perhaps you recall various examples in the Bible for suffering and the reasons given. Most recorded examples relate to sin and a prompt by God for repentance. Such was true with Nebuchadnezzar. God caused him to become insane and behave like an animal for his idolatry and pride. See Daniel 4.

I conclude that sin remains today a true source of suffering. Such is true when an alcoholic kills an innocent individual while driving drunk. On the other hand, a young child of godly parents may be stricken with a deadly disease. Despite prayer on their part and countless others, God may choose to allow that child to die from the disease. In this life, we may never know exactly why. Is this an occasion to cause these parents lean ever more upon God, one another, and God's family? Is it an occasion to draw unbelievers to God through the faith which these two demonstrate? Is it an occasion to prompt believers to remember how temporary this life is and how blessed we are to be recipients of a promise of life to come without sickness, pain, suffering, or sorrow?

To all our visitors - Welcome!
We hope you will come back and
worship with us soon!

Please call to inform us of News items
or Prayer Requests that need to be in
the Bulletin:

Kyle Richardson - 495-7106

Dorothy Jean Smith - 444-5437

(continued from page 1)...

In each event of suffering, let us resolve to address any potential issues of sin and then allow for God's glory to be demonstrated with how we respond to the circumstance before us.

Genesis 3:16-19 *To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you." And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

John 9:3 *Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him."*

Howell Todd

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."

Psalm 28:7

Spiritual Inventory

1. Can I give scriptural reason for what I do and teach religiously?
(1 Peter 3:15; 4:11)
2. Do I worship in spirit and in truth?
(John 4:24)
3. Do I wear any religious name that cannot be found in the Bible?
(Acts 11:26; 1 Peter 4:16)
4. Is the church that I'm a member of mentioned in God's word?
(Romans 16:16; Matt 16:18)
5. Have I refused to obey the simple commands of Christ?
(Luke 6:46; Acts 2:38)
6. If claiming to be a Christian, do I engage in worldly practices?
7. Do I absent myself from the worship of the church?
(Acts 20:7; Hebrews 10:25)
8. Am I growing spiritually?
(2 Peter 3:18)
9. Do I truly love my brethren and even my enemies?
(Matthew 5:43-48; 22:37-39)

Johnny Ramsey

"Tell Me The Old, Old Story!"

"Tell me the story of Jesus,
Write on my heart every word.
Tell me the story most precious,
Sweetest that ever was heard."

We must keep the old, old story fresh on our minds, fresh on our hearts and fresh on our lips! Forgetfulness seems to be a human frailty. We all tend to forget things now and then. At college they told us, "Repetition is the best teacher." Could it be that some in the Lord's church are not hearing the truth often enough?

The story of Jesus, His life, teaching, death, burial and resurrection should be fresh and clear in our minds. We need to be mindful of the story of the great awakening in America when brave dedicated preachers from various faiths all came together to lay aside all man-made doctrine contrary to the word of God and restore New Testament Christianity.

Knowledge unshared and unapplied is wasted. The word of God, kept hidden in the minds of mortal man will die with the man. Paul's proclamation in **Romans 1:16** that the proclaimed word of God, the gospel, is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe and obey is a profound statement of faith in God's word to heal man's deepest needs. "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (**Romans 3:23**).

Let us never tire of "the old, old story" and let us strive to work tirelessly to share this wonderful story with a lost world in desperate need of the savior of the world (**Matthew 1:21**).

Mike Suiter – Tipton, OK
Via Bulletin Digest

Remember in Prayer

Shut Ins:

Vallie Andrews
Fannie Bell Warren
Janelle Arrington

Others:

Hollis Cluck
Vickie Wade - cancer
Muril Todd
Karen Hudson - cancer
Christy Garrett
The Bryan Family
Annie and JW Smith
Margie Taylor
Priscilla and Patrick Graves
Jessica Thompson
Dan Smith
Diane Grandstaff and family
William Wells - inoperable condition
Joe Allen
Bonnie Richardson - cancer
Linda Kay Edwards - surgery recovery
Dylan Speck - kidney problems
Haily Speck - melanoma
Edna Forbes
Jackie Wright
Mary L'Heureux

Daily Bible Reading

Day	Scripture
Sunday (<i>Epistles</i>)	1 Corinthians 3-4
Monday (<i>The Law</i>)	Genesis 36-39
Tuesday (<i>History</i>)	Ruth
Wednesday (<i>Psalms</i>)	Psalms 27-29
Thursday (<i>Poetry</i>)	Job 19-20
Friday (<i>Prophecy</i>)	Isaiah 51-55
Saturday (<i>Gospels</i>)	Matthew 26-28

March Birthdays:

10th - Ken Grandstaff

This Week's Bible Trivia:

Q - The earth opened up and swallowed what three men?
Check back next week for the answer!

Last Week's Trivia:

Q - What king was smitten with leprosy because he attempted to burn incense in the temple?
A - Uzziah. 2 Chron. 26:16-21