

Serving This Week:

Sunday Morning

Announcements: Howell Todd

Song Leader: Brian Horner

Opening Prayer: Kyle Richardson

Lord's Supper

Presiding: Howell Todd

Serving: Eric Horne
Austin Horne

Preaching: Steve Carter

Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Preaching: Steve Carter

Closing Prayer: Austin Horne

Wednesday Evening

Opening Prayer: Kyle Richardson

Devotional: Brian Horner

Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Serving Next Sunday:

Lord's Supper: Ken Grandstaff

Preaching: Howell Todd

Opening Prayer: Howell Todd

Closing Prayer: Austin Horne

**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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to all our visitors for coming today!

Fellowship meal: following services. Stay and help us eat!

Evening Services:

Will be held this afternoon after the meal. We hope you will worship again with us.

TN Children's Home Food Drive:

- Pop Tarts
- Toilet Paper
- Sugar (granulated)
- Cereal (sweetened)

(these are the last items. We will print a complete list next week so you can bring anything you missed)

"Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!"

Psalm 57:5

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>

May 20, 2012

Sunday Bible Study: 10 AM

Sunday Morning Worship: 11 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 6 PM

Wed Bible Study: 7 PM

Do You Feel Saved?

Are you saved? How do you know you are saved? "I know I am saved because I feel it in my heart," many often say. But are the feelings of your heart the proper standard to determine your salvation? We do not use this standard in other matters. No one says of his bank statement, "I know it is right because I feel it in my heart," while they ignore to properly add and subtract from their balance. No carpenter says, "I know the board is 10 feet long because I feel it in my heart" -- he checks the board with the proper standard, the measuring tape! But, when it comes to a matter far more important than bank balances and board lengths -- salvation -- many are willing to trust their eternal welfare to their feelings.

Can you trust the feelings of your heart to tell you whether or not you are saved? The Bible says "No!" *"He who trusts in his own heart is a fool" (Prov. 28:26), for "the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps" (Jer. 10:23). "There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" (Prov. 14:12).* Feelings are subjective, they change from person to person and even within the same person. Truth is objective, it remains fixed and does not change, regardless of the person or the year.

The way you feel about salvation does not change God's truth concerning it, just as the way you feel about math, does not change the truth of it. Whether or not you are saved is an objective fact, not subject to the whims of how you feel from moment to moment. So how can they know they are saved? The Scripture says, *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding" (Prov. 3:5).*

You do not have to rely upon your own faulty and deceptive feelings concerning your salvation. The Lord has given *"the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation" (2 Tim. 3:15).* The knowledge and confidence of salvation can only come from the objective standard of God's Word. God will judge you by His Word, not by how you feel. Jesus proclaimed, *"the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48).* What is your salvation based upon? Many people feel in their heart they are saved because they have "simply believed" in

(continued from page 1)...

Jesus. While salvation certainly requires faith in Jesus, faith alone does not and cannot save according to God's Word. James wrote, "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only" (Jas. 2:24). Other people have prayed and "asked Jesus to come into their heart" and now they feel they are saved. But nowhere does the Bible teach one must simply pray to Jesus in order to be saved. God's Word teaches to be saved you must: **hear** the gospel (Rom. 10:17); **believe** Jesus is the Son of God (Mk. 16:16); **repent** of your sins (Acts 2:38); **confess** Jesus (Rom. 10:9; Acts 8:36-38) and be **baptized** for the remission of your sins (Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16). Those who obey God's Word do not have to guess whether or not they are saved based upon the feelings of their heart. They know they are saved because their salvation is based on the unchanging Truth of God's Word.

Wayne Greeson

is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things." (Phil 4:8)

We must never give in to the destructive thoughts that drain our energy and defeat our spirits. Notice the statement in the preceding verse. It says we can choose what we think about "Think about such things!": Do what you can for yourself but never fail to trust God to do his part.

Our goal is to live contentedly with what we have; to live worthy, not wealthy; to learn to be at peace with ourselves and others. That will allow us to interact with others in godly ways and live in good conscience. When we pillow our heads at night we can rest in blessed peace.

Keeping God at the center can do this for us.

James Hinkle
Walnut St. church of Christ, Dickson, TN

Having a Center

If God is really at the center of our lives, there will be a focus that is on the positive. We can stop the negative thoughts and move toward thoughts of God. He is in control and all's right with the world. We can never know what the future holds, but we can know Him who holds the future.

As we focus on God, we can keep the thoughts off the discordant notes of life, God is love and his love does not change like a shifting shadow. (James 1:17) Our thoughts are on God and we are strengthened as we mediate on things that emanate from him.

Thoughts of love, forgiveness, unselfishness, helpfulness, kindness, meekness, purity, and victory are ever before us. "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear the Word

(Rom 10:17)

Believe in Jesus

(John 8:24)

Repent of your sins

(Luke 13:3)

Confess faith in Christ

(Rom 10:10)

Be **Baptized** for forgiveness of sins

(Acts 2:38)

Live **Faithfully**

(1 Cor. 15:58)

A Smile

A smile is such a funny thing,
It wrinkles up your face,
And when it's gone you have to find
Its secret hiding place.
But far more wonderful it is
To see what smiles can do;
You smile at one, he smiles at you
And so one smile makes two.
And since a smile can do so much
By cheering hearts of care,
Let's all just keep on smiling,
Till smiles go everywhere!

Bulletin Digest

May Birthdays

16 - Sam Forbes

31 - Kyle Richardson

May Anniversaries

10 - Sam and Edna Forbes

15 - Ken and Diane Grandstaff

This Week's Bible Trivia:

Q - How many times did Abraham lie about his wife?
Check back next week for the answer!

Last Week's Trivia:

Q - Who is called "the friend of God"?
A - Abraham. James 2:23

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 Richardson
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
Janice Garrett
Carol Goins - Mary H.'s sister

**"Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall receive
mercy."**

Matthew 5:7

Daily Bible Reading

Day	Scripture
Sunday (Epistles)	2 Corinthians 11-13
Monday (The Law)	Exodus 29-32
Tuesday (History)	2 Samuel 20-24
Wednesday (Psalms)	Psalms 60-62
Thursday (Poetry)	Job 41-42
Friday (Prophecy)	Jeremiah 42-26
Saturday (Gospels)	Luke 5-6