

## Serving This Week:

### Sunday Morning

**Announcements:** William Glover

**Song Leader:** Kyle Richardson

**Opening Prayer:** Dan Higgins

**Scripture Reading:** Howell Todd

**Lord's Supper:**

**Presiding:** Mel Hebert

**Serving:** Aaron Hebert

Ken Grandstaff

**Preaching:** Howell Todd

**Closing Prayer:** Ken Grandstaff

### Sunday Evening

**Opening Prayer:** Dan Higgins

**Preaching:** Singing Night

**Closing Prayer:** Ken Grandstaff

### Wednesday Evening

**Opening Prayer:** Mel Hebert

**Devotional:** Howell Todd

**Closing Prayer:** Dan Higgins

### Serving Next Sunday:

**Pres. Lord's Supper:** Howell Todd

**Preaching:** Mel Hebert

**Opening Prayer:** William Glover

**Closing Prayer:** Dan Higgins

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tonight is Singing Night followed by our Potluck Meal. Everyone come and have a good time!

Did you hear the good news? Dallas Garrett was baptized into the Lord on Wed night!

Tonight following worship will be a brief meeting about VBS.

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

### GROW TEAM MEETINGS

**Correspondence** - Sunday evenings after worship *see Kyle Richardson.*

**Visitation/Bible Study** - For assignments see *Brian Horner.*

**Member Care** - Regarding Member needs contact *Mel Hebert: 443-7779.*

**Flower Request** - Please call *Danise Fisher: 237-3239*

## Bethel Church of Christ

2427 Sparta Pike, Lebanon TN 37090

<http://www.bethelcoc.net>

August 2, 2009

Sunday Bible Study: 10 AM

Sunday Morning Worship: 11 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 6 PM

Wed Bible Study: 7 PM

### From Lying in the Gate to Leaping in the Temple

Although we have come a long way in medicine, we still have difficulty dealing with lameness. Our world is full of crutches, braces, and wheelchairs. Amazingly, two thousand years ago, in the days of the apostles, the lame were healed instantly and completely. At least three times in the book of Acts, we see the lame rise and walk. (Acts 2:6-8; 8:7; 14:8-10). Our focus in this lesson will be on the lame man healed at the gate called Beautiful (Acts 3:1-11& 4:16-17). Acts 3:6-8 *"Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And He took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God."*

**He Was Helpless.** The text reveals that the lame man had been lame from his mother's womb (3:2), was without strength in his feet and ankles (3:7), was carried and laid daily at the gate (3:2), and was forced to beg for alms because he could not work (3:2). Wouldn't you agree that this man's condition was rather helpless? Imagine how hard it must have been for this man to have depended upon family and friends to bring him to the temple gate every day so that he could beg strangers for help (Acts 3:4). Like this lame man, all of us spiritually were at one time "without strength" because of our sins (Romans 5:6). The word translated as strength means "feeble, impotent, sick, weak." However, unlike the lame man, we were not this way from the womb (Ezekiel 18:20, Matthew 18:3; 19:16, Revelation 21:27).

**He Was Hopeful.** When the lame man saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked alms of them (Acts 3:3). It seems clear that

(continued from page 1)

he did not really expect much at first. No doubt, many passed by him without giving him any assistance (Luke 1:25-37). It was not until Peter and John spoke to him and told him to look on them that *“he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something from them”* (Acts 3:4-5) The word translated as “expecting” (3:5) means “to anticipate in thought, hope, or fear.” Likely, the lame man's heart sank just a little when Peter told him that he didn't have any silver or gold (Acts 3:6). However, he would not remain disappointed. He was about to receive something far greater.

He was about to receive the freedom to earn his own gold and silver. He was about to have that which money couldn't buy – health. Perhaps, at one point in our lives, our greatest hope was for gold and silver (a nice house, car, clothes, financial security, etc). However, as Christians, we have learned to hope for much more. We have been blessed with spiritual freedom and health (1 Peter 1:18-19). We have the hope of eternal life (Colossians 1:5, 23; Titus 1:2, 1 Peter 3:15).

**He Was Happy.** When his feet and ankles received strength, the lame man leaped up, stood, walked, and entered into the temple with more of the same (3:7-8). There was no hiding this man's joy (Acts 3:9). Do you remember the old, “Oh, what a feeling,” car commercials where someone would leap off the ground in celebration? Evidently, this is what the lame man felt like when he was healed. Interestingly, Isaiah spoke of the day when the lame would leap as a hart (Isiah 35:6). Although we have just as much of a reason to rejoice spiritually speaking, many of us do not. We act like we are still lame. Our attitude should be that of David, when he wrote, *“For by thee I have run through a troop: by my God have I leaped over a wall”* (2 Samuel 22:30, also found in Psalm 18:29). Like the lame man, men today can go from lying in the gate to leaping in the temple. Their sins can be taken away and they can rejoice in their salvation.

Wade Webster

***“Live with man as if God saw you, and talk to God as if men were listening.”***



***Remember  
in Prayer***

**Shut Ins:**

- Vallie Andrews
- Fannie Bell Warren
- Janelle Arrington

**Others:**

- Bradley & Betty Glover
- Hollis Cluck
- The Pfaffs - Missionaries
- Diane Chopay
- Vickie Wade
- Craig Cook
- Judy Higgins
- Muril Todd
- Karen Hudson - cancer
- Diane G.'s mother - asthma
- Charles Grisham
- Christy Garrett
- Bonnie Richardson - cancer
- The Entire Bryan Family

**August Birthdays**

- 14 - Evelyn Graham
- 26 - Mel Hebert

**August Anniversaries**

- 31 - Bob & Danise Fisher

**Daily Bible Reading**

DAY	MORN.	EVE.
Sunday	ES 3-4	PR 12
Monday	ES 5-7	PR 13
Tuesday	ES 8-10	PR 14
Wednesday	Job 1-2	PR 15
Thursday	Job 3-4	PR 16
Friday	Job 5-6	PR 17
Saturday	Job 7-8	PR 18

**This Week's Bible Trivia:**

Q - What disciples did Jesus nickname "Sons of Thunder"?  
Check back next week for the answer!

**Last Week's Trivia:**

Q - Who said he would chastise his people with scorpions for whips?  
A - Rehoboam. (1 Kings 12:13, 14)