

Serving This Week:

Sunday Morning

Announcements: Brian Horner

Song Leader: Brian Horner

Opening Prayer: Howell Todd

Lord's Supper

Presiding: Ken Grandstaff

Serving: Eric Horne
Howell Todd

Preaching: Brian Horner

Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer: Howell Todd

Preaching: Brian Horner

Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Wednesday Evening

Opening Prayer: Kyle Richardson

Devotional: Brian Horner

Closing Prayer: Howell Todd

Serving Next Sunday:

Lord's Supper: Kyle Richardson

Preaching: Howell Todd

Opening Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Closing Prayer: Kyle Richardson

**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

Singing Night!

Fellowship meal will follow. Bring a friend!

TN Children's Home Food Drive:

- Hamburger Helper
- Instant Potatoes
- Stuffing Mix

Homecoming - May 20

It's almost here! Start inviting your friends. Steve Carter will be the speaker. We will be having an organized pot-luck for lunch.

***"When I am afraid, I put
my trust in you. In God,
whose word I praise, in
God I trust; I shall not be
afraid. What can flesh do
to me?"***

Psalm 56:3-4

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 6, 2012

Sunday Bible Study: 10 AM

Sunday Morning Worship: 11 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 6 PM

Wed Bible Study: 7 PM

Bringing Glory to God

Jesus spoke of those who do good deeds to be praised of men. He spoke of those who pretend to be religious when they make public displays of their worship to God in order to be seen of men. In Matthew (chapter 6 and chapter 23), He spoke of the hypocrisy of ones so engaged.

On the other hand, in Matthew 5, He directs us to engage in good works which are seen of others in order to cause God to be praised. No doubt you recognize that there is no contradiction here.

On the one hand, He is teaching us to not be fakers when it comes to our religious practice – in worship or in acts of charity. And on the other hand, He is directing us to be seeking to bring praise to God by our benevolent acts. So, our personal motivation for what we do makes all the difference to God. He certainly knows our hearts. He knows our motivation. If we receive praise for that which we do, may it be out of the graciousness of those rendering the praise. And, let us urge those who would praise us to defer that praise to God.

Matthew 6:1-7 *"Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words."*

(continued from page 1)...

Matthew 23:5 "They do all their deeds to be seen by others..."

Matthew 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Howell Todd

Sinner's Prayer - from God or from Man?

"Men and brethren, what shall we do?" This question is posed to the apostles in **Acts 2:37** by Jews who were "pricked in their heart."

These Jews realized that they had lost all hope of redemption by participating in the death of the Redeemer. The answer that Peter gives them is the answer by which they must be saved (**Acts 2:38**).

The writer of the book of Acts also emphasizes the importance of the name of that Redeemer in our salvation (**Acts 2:21; 4:12**) and the authority by which many miracles occurred (**Acts 3:6; 16:18**). All that being said, why is it that when many "religious" people are asked about their salvation, they respond similarly to this: "I was saved when I said the Sinner's Prayer and asked Jesus to come into my heart."

I have searched the scriptures thoroughly, and I have not found anywhere the words "Sinner's Prayer" is mentioned - in zero translations! I have also performed a word search on "heart." The Greek word "kardia" is translated heart. It appears 178 times in the NKJV version of the New Testament. Never is it used to ask Jesus to come into a person's heart. So where does the world get this answer?

Some say the origin of the Sinner's Prayer goes back to Protestant Reformation of the early 18th century. Some say its roots are in the Eastern Orthodox traditions. Some say it is a combination of a prayer of repentance and conversion designed to show remorse and a heart-felt desire to follow Christ. Regardless of the origin or the intent, the Sinner's Prayer is not from God. God has given us His plan for salvation in the scriptures (**2 Tim 3:16-17**). He has warned us of following the teachings of men (**Mt 15:9; 2 Tim 4:3-4**). As Peter plainly said in **Acts 5:29**, "We ought to obey God rather than man." A person may be sincere in their prayer, but unless obedience to the scripture is followed, that person's worship is in vain (**Mark 7:7**).

Have you or someone you love obeyed man rather than God. Are you or someone you love obeying a "fable" as in **2 Tim 4:4** or **Titus 1:14**? If so, make your salvation sure by following God's plan.

Randy Duke - Mt. Juliet church of Christ

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)

Things Kid's Say

The Sunday School teacher was describing that when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom she turned into a pillar of salt, when Bobby interrupted. "My mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

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 - Who is called "the friend of God"?

Check back next week for the answer!

Last Week's Trivia:

Q - Name three persons whom Jesus raised from the dead.

A - Daughter of Jairus (Luke 8:49-55); son of a widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17); Lazarus (John 11).

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
Janice Garrett

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

Matthew 5:5

Daily Bible Reading

Day	Scripture
Sunday (Epistles)	2 Corinthians 6-8
Monday (The Law)	Exodus 21-24
Tuesday (History)	2 Samuel 10-14
Wednesday (Psalms)	Psalms 54-56
Thursday (Poetry)	Job 37-38
Friday (Prophecy)	Jeremiah 32-36
Saturday (Gospels)	Luke 1-2