

Serving This Week:

Sunday Morning

Announcements: Brian Horner
Song Leader: Kyle Richardson
Opening Prayer: Howell Todd
Lord's Supper
Presiding: Ken Grandstaff
Serving: Eric Horne
Howell Todd
Preaching: Brian Horner
Closing Prayer: Dan Smith

Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer: Dan Smith
Preaching: Brian Horner
Closing Prayer: Howell Todd

Wednesday Evening

Opening Prayer: Brian Horner
Devotional: Brian Horner
Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

Serving Next Sunday:

Lord's Supper: Kyle Richardson
Preaching: Howell Todd
Opening Prayer: Dan Smith
Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

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

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)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday Night Singing:

Oct 26 - 7:00 PM. Mark your
calendars! Food sign-up sheets
are in the back.

Men's Business Meeting

After worship this evening.

Pantry Restock:

Canned Meat - Fish
Spagetti Sauce

*"Charm is deceitful, and
beauty is vain, but a woman
who fears the LORD is to be
praised."*

Proverbs 31:30

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)

Bethel church of Christ

2427 Sparta Pike, Lebanon TN 37090

<http://www.bethelcoc.net>

October 21, 2012

Sunday Bible Study: 10 AM
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 6 PM
Wed Bible Study: 7 PM

God's Pattern

Patterns are an important part of our lives in many ways. When a contractor builds a house, he follows a pattern known as a blueprint. When a mother sews a dress for her daughter, she follows a pattern.

In each case there is a standard pattern to be followed to achieve the desired results. The pattern must be followed or the end product will not be faithful to the original and the results could be disastrous. The house not built to pattern may leak or worse, it may collapse; the dress not made by the pattern may look more like a clown outfit.

Many people who have the common sense to recognize the need to faithfully follow patterns in their everyday lives, fail to recognize the most important pattern of all the Bible. God has always provided a pattern for His people to serve as a guide to worship and service acceptable to Him.

In the Old Testament, God led the children of Israel out of the slavery of Egypt to Mt. Sinai. There God called Moses up the mountain and gave him a pattern of laws and a pattern for a place of worship. As God gave Moses this pattern, He also gave a warning: "*According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so ye shall make it*" (Ex. 25:9). And He repeated this warning: "*And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shown thee in the mount*" (Ex. 25:40).

Following God's pattern, the Jews constructed the tabernacle and all the articles for worship to be placed within and without: the brazen altar, the laver, the golden candlestick, the table of shewbread, the altar of incense and the ark of the covenant.

Not all the Jews heeded God's warning to follow his pattern. Two priests determined to disregard God's pattern of worship and follow their own worship. Nadab and Abihu "*offered strange incense before the Lord, which he commanded them not*" (Lev. 10:1). The consequences of violating God's divine order were immediate, "*And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord*" (Lev. 10:2). God's punishment of these two men was for our benefit to teach us to treat His

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pattern with respect.

When David became king he planned the build a permanent place of worship in Jerusalem. While David was not allowed by the Lord to build the temple, David did make all the plans and preparations for the construction of the temple which he passed on to his son, Solomon, to complete. As David commissioned Solomon to build the temple he explained, "All this the Lord made me understand in writing by His hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern" (1 Chron. 28:19). David urged Solomon to follow God's pattern in the commands of his Law as well as building His temple.

Despite God's warnings again the Jews failed to respect and keep God's pattern. Towards the end of his life Solomon drifted away from God. Following Solomon under the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, more Jewish kings were unfaithful to the Lord. Because of the apostasy of the Jews, God allowed them to be taken into captivity and the temple to be destroyed.

While in captivity in Babylon, God sent a special vision of the temple to the prophet Ezekiel. In the vision Ezekiel saw a man with a measuring rod measuring God's temple and all the articles in it. Why? What was the meaning of the vision? "Thou son of man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern" (Ezk. 43:10).

Just as God gave the Jews a pattern through Moses and David, He has given us a pattern of work and worship. The Old Testament, the tabernacle and the temple were only "a copy and a shadow of heavenly things" that are now provided for us by Christ under the New Testament.

The pattern Christians have to follow is complete and sufficient. It is complete as it has "given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness" (2 Pet. 1:3). It is sufficient as it "is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

As God warned the Jews not to violate or tamper with His pattern, He warns us also.

We must obey God's pattern. It is necessary to obey "that form (pattern) of doctrine which was first delivered to you" (Rom. 6:17). To fail to obey His pattern leads to sin and death (Rom. 6:18-23).

We must walk by God's pattern. The apostles, led by the Holy Spirit are an "ensample" or pattern for us to learn from, imitate and walk after (Phil. 3:17; 2 Thes. 3:9).

We must keep God's pattern. "Hold fast the form (pattern) of sound words, which thou hast heard of me" (2 Tim. 1:13).

We must make all things by God's pattern. As Moses was warned to follow the pattern of God in all things, so God warns us in the New Testament "for See, sayeth He, that thou make all things according to the pattern" (Heb. 8:5).

Will you heed the warning?

Wayne Greeson

Who's Special?

What makes someone special? Modern culture says that it is some deformity or handicap. The reality is -- of course -- that being deformed or handicapped makes one no more special than a loaf of bread is special because it has become molded. In defiance of political correctness, let us consider what actually makes one special. It is how valuable one is or how valued one is. All of humanity is special in the eyes of God. He made each one of us in His image. He sent His Son to show us how much He loves us -- how special we are to Him. Sometimes we feel worthless and useless. Let us never forget how special each one of us is in God's eyes -- how valuable we are to God. And let us be lifted up in remembering songs with lyrics such as "I'll live for Him who died for me..." When we are discouraged, let us pray for strength and give a brother- or sister-in-Christ a chance to help us bear our burdens. Let us also remember the victorious words penned by the Apostle Paul, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

Howell Todd

Work for the Lord. The pay isn't much, but His retirement plan is out of this world...

Remember in Prayer

Shut Ins:

Vallie Andrews
Fannie Bell Warren
Janelle Arrington
William Wells

Others:

Hollis Cluck
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
Joe Allen
Linda Kay Edwards - surgery recovery
Dylan Speck - kidney problems
Haily Speck - melanoma
Edna Forbes
Janice Garrett
Carol Goins - Mary L.'s sister
Lila Kirk

Please call to inform us of News items or Prayer Requests: Kyle Richardson (495-7106) Dorothy Jean Smith (444-5437)

Daily Bible Reading

Day	Scripture
Sunday (Epistles)	Hebrews 11-13
Monday (The Law)	Deuteronomy 1-3
Tuesday (History)	2 Chronicles 21-24
Wednesday (Psalms)	Psalms 120-121
Thursday (Poetry)	Proverbs 31
Friday (Prophecy)	Nahum
Saturday (Gospels)	Acts 7-8

October Birthdays:

3 - Bryana Morris
18 - Dan Smith