

Those Privileged to Serve

SUNDAY AM JANUARY 25, 2015

Announcements.....Jimmy Spivey
Prayer.....Jimmy Spivey
Song LeaderAdam Guthrie
CommunionJeff Hale
ServerEddie Stewart
ServerRick Harrell
ServerChad Smith
Prayer.....Benji Meeks
ScriptureBilly Bowles
LessonDeland Guthrie
Closing PrayerJonathan Wilson
Nursery.....Bonnie Guthrie
Foyer Monitor Billy Bowles
Greeters

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

Song LeaderJimmy Spivey
Prayer.....Matt Stubbs
CommunionJeff Hale
LessonDeland Guthrie
Closing PrayerAdam Guthrie

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 28, 2015

Song LeaderAdam Guthrie
Prayer.....Jonathan Wilson
LessonRick Harrell

Gospel Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel
Romans 1:16 Romans 10:15-17

Believe the Gospel
Mark 16:15-16

Repent of Your Sins
Acts 3:19 Acts 17:30

Confess Christ as the Son of God
Romans 10:9-10

Be Baptized for the Remission of Sins
Acts 2:38 Galatians 3:27

Live Faithful
Revelation 2:10

Study the Word
2 Timothy 2:15

For the Record

Bible study----- 16
Worship
Sunday morning----- 44
Sunday evening----- 25
Contributions----- \$1835
Wednesday evening ----- 24

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January 25, 2015

Family Matters

A Weekly Publication of the St. Augustine Rd. church of Christ

Take Heed

by Kyle Lemon

The Bible is full of warnings and cautions. Adam and Eve were warned against partaking of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The children of Israel were cautioned against forsaking and disobeying God. Jesus issued warnings to his disciples, and the epistles written by Paul, James, Peter, John, and Jude contain warnings for Christians.

The phrase "take heed" expresses a need for caution. It is found 55 times in the King James Version: 29 in the OT and 26 in the NT. 14 of the New Testament uses were spoken by Jesus. This article will examine some of the instances in the NT and make application to our lives.

"Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them" (Mt. 6:1). Jesus warned his disciples against improper motivations. It is important that we notice Jesus is not condemning the good deeds, but rather the attitude of the hypocrites, who only did good deeds in order to receive the praise of men. As Christians, it is not enough to behave correctly: we must do it for the proper reason. If the only reason we live righteously is that men (fellow Christians, friends) expect it, we are doing so to be seen of men. We must be motivated to live in a way that is pleasing to God because we want to please Him. Why do we give our money on the first day of each week? Because men expect it? If it is not given cheerfully out of a love for God and His church, it may help the church, but it does us no good.

"Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees" (Mt. 16:6). The Lord warned his disciples against the leaven, which verse 12 explains to be the doctrine or teaching, of the Pharisees and Sadducees. Great care needs to be taken concerning doctrine. We need to teach the truth at all times, and not be seduced by the doctrines of men (See Mt. 24:4). Paul warned the Galatians that the other gospel to which they had been turned was not another, but rather there were those who were perverting the gospel of Christ. How true this is today! On every

corner, it seems, there is a different perversion of the true gospel. We must defend and proclaim the truth, which is found in God's Word.

"Take heed, and beware of covetousness" (Lk. 12:15). Jesus goes on to say that a man's life does not consist of the abundance of his possessions. We often associate covetousness with greed and stealing, but the idea of covetousness here is more equivalent to materialism: being engrossed with the possessions of this life instead of focusing on laying up for ourselves treasure in Heaven. What is central in our lives? Making money and providing for our families? This certainly is important (II Th. 3:10; I Tm. 5:8), and consumes a good amount of our time, yet it must not be our top priority. Faithful service to God and working in His kingdom needs to be our main focus (Mt. 6:33).

"Take heed lest he fall" (I Co. 10:12). This verse says in full, "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." We must be careful at all times, especially when we feel strong and secure, that we don't slip into some sin. It is often said that Satan strikes when we feel the safest, when we don't think we need to be on guard. Consider that Paul himself, at the end of the previous chapter, spoke about bringing his body into subjection, lest he become a castaway. If the apostle Paul needed to be careful at all times in order to avoid sin, we certainly need to realize that sin is always near and that we must not let our guard down.

"Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief" (Heb. 3:12). Our initial reaction to such a statement may be that it does not apply to us as Christians. After all, we obviously believe in God. Yet Hebrews chapter 3 is clearly addressing Christians (see verse 1). How can Christians become unbelievers? The answer is that the writer is not referring to atheism, but a lack of belief in the word of God, which leads to a departure from God. The example in the preceding verses is that of the children of Israel, who saw the mighty works of God yet did not trust in Him. As Christians, we are partakers of the spiritual blessings found in Christ (Eph. 1:3). We have tasted of the heavenly gift, and the good word of God (Heb. 6:4-5). We must take heed that we do not make shipwreck of our faith (I Tim. 1:19). If we do, we will be just like those children of Israel, who were not allowed to enter into God's rest (Heb. 3:11).

The Bible, and specifically the New Testament, gives us many warnings. If we heed them, they will help us to live this life in a way that is pleasing to God, so that Heaven can be our home when this life is over. Let us take these lessons and apply them to our own lives. Let us take heed to ourselves, and make ourselves the servants God wants us to be.

Announcements

- ❖ Ladies Bible class Tuesday mornings @ 10 am

In our Prayers

Dorothy Meeks, Reggie Wisenbaker, Wanda Deweese, Ruth Starling, Johann Sluss, Ray Norvell, Morris Copeland, Marsha Swain, Charles White, Haden Vinsen, Irene Horne, Wanda Hamm, Addison Johnson, Glenda Hyatt, Bob Myers, Chad & BilliJean Smith, Ray Joiner, Edward Miller, Gary Weller family

Area Meetings

Ridge Ave. Sing – January 30 – 7:00pm (1628 N. Ridge Ave., Tifton)
SCARS – Yes Weekend 2015 – Youth enrichment seminar –Forrest Park –
Details on bulletin board in kitchen hallway

Weekly Bible Verse

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 New King James Version

⁹ For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

Prayer for the Church

¹¹ Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, ¹³ so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.