

A BETTER WAY**John 4:29*****Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done; this is not the Christ, is it?***

You can almost feel her blush, this stranger she met at a well has told her to call her husband (John 4:16). How would she answer that request? Would she tell him all the details of her life; about the five husbands she had or about the man with whom she was now living? She would tell him as little as necessary; "I have no husband" (John 4:17).

She quickly learned that this stranger already knew every detail. "You have correctly said, 'I have no husband' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly" (John 4:17, 18). Talk about being bold; how many of us would have been that honest with someone?

Here is where we can learn a valuable lesson from our Lord. Jesus was not bold with this woman in order to be condemning or judgmental. He was honest with her in order to show her a better way. His honesty with her led to a question about worship. Jesus seized that opportunity to talk about true worship in spirit and truth. The end result of that conversation was her recognition that He is the Messiah.

How do I deal with people? Do I love people enough to be bold? If I am "bold," what am I trying to accomplish? Am I judgmental and condemning or am I trying to show people that there is a better way? That is the unique message that Christians have; there is a better way. That better way is Jesus.

--Ron Harper--

Spread Thin

Psalm 42

"I...I feel thin, sort of stretched...like butter scraped over too much bread."

—Bilbo Baggins, *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*.

I think we all sometimes feel like the character mentioned above. We feel thin, stretched, weak, helpless, tired, worn, and any other adjective we can think of. We are simply spread thin. Perhaps it is everyday life occurrences like certain work or school demands that seem too outrageous to accomplish. Maybe it is family or health stresses that take a toll on our emotional balance. Another option is our relationship with Jesus may not be what it needs to be. Most often, it is a simple combination of all the above. How can we possibly move on when we are too weak to even get up?

The book of Psalms is so good at getting to the heart of emotions in troubled and joyous souls. In the 42nd psalm, the writer pleads that he would be made full again. We do not know his specific needs, but obviously something was vastly wrong in his life. As we read what he writes in verse 3, it is evident that the author is spread thin. He says, "My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all day long, 'where is your God?'" Have you ever felt like that?

The psalmist notices that tears cannot quench the thirst of heartbreak. In verse 2, he writes, "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; when shall I come and appear before God?" No, tears cannot quench our spiritual thirst, but when we thirst for the living God, we can then be refreshed and replenished. Jesus said that if we drink of the water he gives, we would never thirst again (John 4:14). However, this water is not liquid that flows in a literal sense. It is a deep well that is springing up to eternal life.

Are you feeling thin? Stretched? Worn? Tired? Dry? The solution is to thirst after God, his Son, and his word while being obedient to it. You will be quenched and replenished!

Joshua Houston

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

SICK

Gerald Wiseman

TAKING TREATMENTS

Lois Arnold, Carolyn Thomas, Janneil Brown
Rosalie Phifer

SHUT INS

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta
Bullard

PRAYER REQUEST:

Shirley Bibb, Clyde & Opal Jones, Dan & Lorene
Stephens, Wayne Mobbs, Lorene Maddox,
Imogene Bozeman, Selma Boyd, Larry & Geri
Melton, Betty Shoemaker, Rosalie Phifer, Janneil
Brown, Gerald Wiseman

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

*MEMBERS

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann*, Opal Jones*

DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA: Jean Nickens*

NHC: Sue Reeves*, Lizzie Bush, Geri Melton*

MORNING POINTE: (Brentwood) Betty Shoemaker

STONES RIVER MANOR: Edna Vance*, Virgie
Leonard*, Margaret Davidson*, Jeweldean Hall*,
Laura Wiser*, Lillian Whitworth, Louise McKnight*,
Martha DeVore

THANK YOU CARD

We have received a Thank You card from:

* **Gladys Davidson**

MILITARY

Please keep **Tony Berry** in your prayers, while
he is stationed in California at Camp
Pendleton.

BUILDING FUND

We have received donations to the
Building Fund in memory of **Wilburn Laws**
by the following:

*Salem Creek church of Christ

NEWS & NOTES

Men's Breakfast at IHOP Tuesday,
October 13th at 8 a.m.

MTCS invites you to their *Fall Open
House* on Thursday, October 15th from
6:00-7:30. More information is available
on the counter.

Visitation Team #1 will meet for visitation
meal at MTCS on Sunday, October 18th.
Please sign the list on the counter if you
are planning to attend.

Men's Devo Monday, October 19th at
the home of Jim Hatfield with Andy
Mitchell leading the devo – starting at 7
p.m.

Youth Devo Saturday, October 24th at
the home of Joshua Houston – starting
at 6 p.m.

Trunk or Treat Wednesday, October 28th

Mark your calendars! There will be a
youth/college retreat with Florence
church of Christ on April 1-3, 2016 at
Camp JOY

If you would like to volunteer for the
church library, please see Cindy Phifer
for more information.

Salem Creek church of Christ
P.O. Box 332067
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2067

Phone: (615) 893-7532
(615) 893-8212

Offices located at:
2611 B Salem Creek Drive
Murfreesboro, TN 37128

Email:
office@salemcreekcoc.org

We're on the web!
www.mdcoc.net

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Currently meeting at
 Middle Tennessee Christian School
 100 E. MTCS Rd.
 Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Sunday		
Morning Worship		8:30 am
Bible Classes		9:45 am
Evening Worship		5:30 pm
Wednesday		
Morning Bible Class		10:00 am
Evening Bible Classes		6:30 pm

ELDERS

B.K. Ham
 Jim Hatfield
 Jon Holland
 Andy Mitchell
 Randall Phifer
 Fred Rogers
 Keith Short

MINISTER

Ron Harper

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

DEACONS

Larry Benson	Andy Melton
Michael Bowman	Brian Melton
Craig Buckner	Alan Pepper
Bob Hoover	Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

October 4, 2015

Sunday	AM worship	159
	Bible classes	121
	PM worship	116
	Contribution	\$4,237.10

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	77
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	---

GREETERS

Please be at the door 15
 minutes prior to services!



October 11

Regenia Grissom
 Steve & Martha Hill

October 18

Louise Smithson
 Robert & Mary Ann McKnight

To Our Honored Guests...

We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back to Middle Tennessee Christian School while our new building is under construction.

We were honored by your presence!