

Everything Going Your Way?

Sometimes people greet you with the question, "is everything going your way?" If we look at things in our life, most of us to answer truthfully would probably have to say no. Everyone probably has periods of time where they are on the mountain top; but, I don't know of anyone who always stays on the mountain top. I do know a few people who appear to enjoy living in the valley. If you ask them if everything is going their way, be prepared for a long explanation of why the answer is no. I am reminded of the lady that died and someone commenting that she had enjoyed poor health for many years.

Let's consider this from a Christian view point. We know God has promised His children that they will undergo trials and tribulation. Why? It helps us grow spiritually. When we lean on other Christians for support during one of life's valley moments, both parties grow and become closer members of God's family. Though difficult when we are going through them, we end up being stronger than before and better prepared for our next opportunity to grow. James 1:12, "Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him."

Another consideration is God's love for us. Love is a frequent topic in our world. I submit to you that even the strongest love on earth is but a pale shadow of God's love for us. He knows our needs in a way that is impossible for any human to know. He knows our limits and will not allow us to be burdened more than we are capable of withstanding (I Corinthians 10:13), even though we may sometimes wonder just how much more we can take. He loved us before we were born knowing our need and sent Jesus to this earth so that we might have the opportunity to spend eternity with Him. He has given us prayer so that we may talk with Him about anything at any time. Knowing there is strength in numbers, He gave us the Church that we might have a like-minded family. Everything going your way? No and that's a good thing. In addition to the thoughts above, if everything always went our way, we would not appreciate it. God knows what He is doing. Is anyone surprised?

The Dog and the Salesman

Colossians 1:11

It was a warm summer day in July when the feed salesman made his rounds into the new territory he was assigned. As he drove down the dusty dirt road, he couldn't believe that he was in such a place. In an angry jolt, he walked from his brand new Cadillac to the door of a farmer's house. He had taken about two steps when he heard a snarl come from under the porch. Before the salesman knew it, he was being chased by the biggest, nastiest, meanest Rottweiler dog he had ever seen. The dog ran after the salesman as fast as lightning. He barked, he snarled, and just when he got within inches of the salesman—he turned a backflip and went back under the porch. When the farmer heard the commotion, he quickly came to aid the terrified salesman. The farmer asked,

“Sir, are you ok?!”

“Yeah, just a little shaken up. I thought I was about to die! But why didn't he attack me? Why did he run back to the porch?”

“Well,” said the farmer, “I took his chain off yesterday and he hasn't realized it yet.”

How many of us find ourselves in the same situation as the dog. We have been set free from sin and yet sadly, we run back under our porch thinking we are restricted and held back.

I recently heard a beautiful song with the lyrics, “My chains are gone! I've been set free!” If we have been added to the church and thus forgiven of our sins, we have been set free by the blood of the lamb! Jesus does not serve as a fence to restrain but as a guardrail to protect. Paul tells us in Romans 6 that we are slaves of sin or slaves of God. If God then is for us, who can be against us? We must never run under the porch knowing our chain to sin has been broken.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

SICK

Ron Bowersock, Mary Jo Rogers, Melba Young

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, Ron Bowersock, Mary Jo Rogers, Melba Young, Nancy Hatton, Oleta Bullard

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

MILITARY

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

NEWS & NOTES

Seniors – Salem Creek will hold its annual **Senior Banquet** on Friday, November 13th at Barfield Park Wilderness Center. Please sign-up if you plan to attend and include if transportation is needed. *Sunday, November 8th will be the last day to sign-up as we have to give a count to the caterer.

Shut-in boxes – A sign-up list for our shut-ins and a suggested gift list is on the back counter. Please prepare and deliver your box by December 19th. If unable to deliver your box, please contact Larry Benson.

THANK YOU CARDS

We have received a Thank You cards from:

*Louis Wilson

*Hugh & Rosalie Phifer

*Mrs. Frances Laws & family

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 25, 2015

Sunday	AM worship	168
	Bible classes	133
	PM worship	127
	Contribution	\$5,713.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	134
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	15

GREETERS

Please be at the door 15
 minutes prior to services!



November 1

Dean Thompson
 Regenia Grissom

November 8

B. K. & Jan Ham
 Jim & Pat Davidson

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!