

Seek God Earnestly

Psalms 63 speaks of God's power to satisfy a thirsty soul. Verse one reads in part, "O God, Thou art my God, I shall seek Thee earnestly; my soul thirsts for Thee, my flesh yearns for Thee." What does it mean to seek God earnestly? As defined in The Free Dictionary, earnestly means with a purposeful or sincere intent; serious; determined. What does one earnestly seeking God do?

To seek God earnestly means we will desire Him with our whole being. Psalms 63 verse goes as far as remembering God while in bed and during the night watches (through the night). Thinking about God's word and doing what He commands isn't just a Sunday thing. It is rather all the time, always and forever. This starts with daily bible study. Attending all Church services possible and attending Bible classes also have a part. After all, how can we know what His word says if we don't read or listen to it? Knowing what God's word says grounds us against the buffeting winds of the world and helps us resist the allure of religious error that often times entraps the unwary.

Our desire for God will include talking to Him on a regular basis. I say regular instead of daily because I know in my daily walk I need to talk to Him much more often than once a day. When we talk to God we need to remember to thank Him for all the blessings He bestows and not fall into the trap of only asking Him for things we think we need. Now I'm not saying we can't ask God for things but that we need to thank and praise Him as well. There needs to be a balance.

To seek God earnestly means doing what He says. Jesus said it very clearly in John 14:15, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." God has given us many specific commandments that He expects us to follow. That we follow them shows we are serious about a right relationship with Him. Many of our religious neighbors seem to think that close is good enough as long as it is done in a sincere manner. It is a shame they can't go back in time and ask Uzzah about following a good intention when God has commanded otherwise. I think he would say that it results in death. You will remember that he touched the ark of the covenant to keep it from falling when God had said not to touch it and God struck him down (I Chronicles 13: 7 – 10). Who has the right to change God's word? Most certainly no one on this earth. To think that they can is the height of audacity.

Please take time to consider your walk with God. Are you seeking Him earnestly? If not, I urge you to consider what you need to change in your life to reach the heavenly goal.

Larry Benson

Are You Kidding Me?

“This Little Light Of Mine”

Two weeks ago, I was blessed to speak to MTCS’s elementary students in their chapel service. With regards to how it went, let’s just say I fit in just fine with the kindergarteners and first graders. We began by singing a simple song that is very familiar to us all. We held out our index finger and sang, “This little light of mine! I’m gonna let it shine!” And we all meant every single word. (Side-note: You have not lived until you have seen a gym full of children singing praise to God with all their hearts.) Far too often we reject these songs because of their specific audience, but do we all not need to be shining our lights?

Jesus says in Matthew 5:14, “You are the light of the world...” We need to be shining our lights *all around the neighborhood*. Even Jesus said a city set on a hill cannot be hidden. So why is it that we try so hard so often to dim our light in dark places? When people see us, they need to see Jesus as he said, “I am the light of the world,” (John 8:12). For us to shine our light, we must be plugged into the power source. We must be connected with Jesus!

We are so quick to leave our childhood dreams and hopes to pursue the driving forces of our world. It seems then that these forces give us the feeling of being exalted and puffed-up. However, Jesus said, “Whoever humbles himself like this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven.” Perhaps we need to pay more attention to children and how they act. They have a lot to say if we will listen.

My challenge to all of us is to not neglect our inner child in the sense of humility and innocence. Drive up and down the road with your index finger out and boldly proclaim, “This BIG light of mine! I’m gonna let it shine! Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!!”

Joshua Houston

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

SICK

Mary Jo Rogers, Roberta Alsup, Kevin Watson

SURGERY

Ron Bowersock - By-Pass Surgery Wednesday

Janie Harper - Knee Surgery Wednesday

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, Marie Fleming, 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, Mabel Robertson, Janie Harper

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.

The Visitor

NEWS & NOTES

Welcome! New Members

Jeff & Karen Milstead

Stones River Manor is collecting items for their Santa Store. Please donate new items; all donations are to be turned in by December 3rd to the Manor. A list of donation items is on the counter.

Bible Bowl today @ 4 PM

Youth Devo tonight at the church office.

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

In preparation for the **2016 Membership Directory**, please check your information for any corrections or additions. The directory list copy is on the counter.

THANK YOU CARDS

We have received Thank You cards from:

***Mike Jones & family**

***Anthony Maraschiello**

November 15, 2015

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

November 8, 2015

Sunday	AM worship	155
	Bible classes	137
	PM worship	109
	Contribution	\$5,436.65

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	111
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	15

GREETERS

Please be at the door 15
minutes prior to services!



November 15

Dorothy Stroop
Joshua Houston

November 22

Steve & Martha Hill
Keith & Margaret Short

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!