THE VISITOR

Salem Creek church of Christ

November 29, 2015 Volume 31 Issue 48

RUN

1 Corinthians 6:18

Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

"Fornication" would be a much better translation than "immorality." There are a lot of things that are immoral that do not fit the word used in this passage. The King James Version more accurately uses the word "fornication." This is, perhaps, the greatest advice one can be given in regard to sexual temptation; "flee fornication."

To flee fornication is to run from it. It is like Joseph's approach to Potiphar's wife. "As she spoke to Joseph day after day, he did not listen to her to lie beside or her or to be with her" (Genesis 39:10). This seductive woman was persistent; one day she caught him by his garment and said "lie with me" (Genesis 39:12). Joseph ran and, in the process, maintained his holy commitment to God.

Temptation is strong and opportunities to commit sexual immorality are all around us. The best way to deal with temptation is to avoid it. That means stay away from it. Stay away from pornography. Put distance between yourself and those who would tempt you.

As long as we live in this world we will be tempted. Satan is that persistent. There are times when temptation may surprise us and in those times we have to stand strong but, as a general rule, the best answer to temptation is simple as well as powerful. Stay away from it.

--Ron Harper--

The Plus Sign Matthew 6:24

It was a beautiful fall day. The leaves were a vibrant red, orange, and yellow wave as they gently brushed through the pure mountain air. Daniel and his beautiful girlfriend Jenna had just started a hike of three miles. They were perfect for each other. They both loved the outdoors, traveling, and even the same type of music, just to name a few. It seemed like a match made in Heaven. As they neared the top of the mountain on which they were hiking, the sun began to set giving the scenery a beautiful backdrop for what would happen next. Daniel got down on one knee and spoke four words, "Will you marry me?" Jenna was so excited! Shaking, she boldly yelled, "Yes!! I'll just have to limit my time with other guys to once a week..." Shocked, Daniel questioned, "Wait, what?? No, no, see marriage is just you and I forever. No one else can be part of this." Jenna replied, "I love you and you know that, but you can't ask me to stop seeing other guys." Needless to say, Daniel walked away alone, sad, and heartbroken. His match made in Heaven had crumbled.

It is not by mistake that the relationship God has with his people is symbolized by the marriage. Jesus and his church are bonded together just as a man and woman are in marriage (Revelation 19:8-10). When we join that group, the church, in baptism we also join Christ's body (1 Corinthians 12:27) just as a man and woman become one flesh (Genesis 2:24). That is a sacred, God-given bond that is not to be broken. The only way to get out of this bond as approved by God is when one party cheats on the other (Matthew 19:1-12). As one who is not married, I cannot tell you what I would do if my spouse cheated on me. I can assume that I would be hurt, angry, scared, and distraught to name a few. However, when we commit sin, we are cheating on God! We can't imagine how hurt and heartbroken God must be when we sin against him. Too often, we, like Jenna, want to add something to our marriage with Jesus. I call this a "plus sign faith." Jesus tells us in Matthew 6:24 that no man can serve two masters. Are we cheating on God? If so, what are we adding to our relationship with him that doesn't need to be there?

Joshua Houston

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

<u>SICK</u>

Mary Jo Rogers

TAKING TREATMENTS

Lois Arnold, Carolyn Thomas, Janneil Brown Rosalie Phifer

<u>SHUT INS</u>

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

NEWS & NOTES

We extend sympathy to the family of **Kathryn Short**; she passed away this past Sunday. Her funeral will be held today at Concord United Methodist Church. She was the sister-in-law of Keith Short.

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.

Shut-in boxes – 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 copy is on the counter.



MILITARY

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

The Visitor

November 29, 2015

| Salem Creek church of Christ P.O. Box 332067 Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2067 | SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Currently meeting at Middle Tennessee Christian School |
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| Phone: (615) 893-7532 (615) 893-8212 | 100 E. MTCS Rd. Murfreesboro, TN 37130 |
| Offices located at: 2611 B Salem Creek Drive Murfreesboro, TN 37128 | SundayMorning WorshipBible Classes9:45 amEvening Worship5:30 pm |
| Email: office@salemcreekcoc.org We're on the web! www.mdcoc.net | Wednesday Morning Bible Class 10:00 am Evening Bible Classes 6:30 pm |
| ELDERS MINISTER | FOR THE RECORD |
| B.K. Ham Jim Hatfield Jon Holland ASSOCIATE MINISTER | R November 22, 2015 |
| Andy Mitchell Joshua Houston Randall Phifer Fred Rogers Keith Short | SundayAM worship182Bible classes146PM worship108Contribution\$5,950.51 |
| DEACONSLarry BensonAndy MeltonMichael BowmanBrian MeltonCraig BucknerAlan Pepper | Wednesday PM Bible classes 107 Wednesday AM Ladies Class (Sept-May) |
| Bob Hoover Wendell Wilson | GREETERS 🤵 🧟 |
| To Our Honored Guests | Please be at the door 15 minutes prior to services! |
| 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 konored by your presence! | Dean Thompson Regenia Grissom |