

GOD'S REPORT CARD

I was going into Patterson Park Recreational Facility to walk and overheard two teenagers talking about getting their report cards. I thought, if God gave out report cards, what would be graded?

I think the first graded section would be "Baptized Believer". In this category there could be only two possible grades. One either is a baptized believer (A) or not (F). Mark 16:16, "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned." I fear a lot of really good people who have failed to do this will be lost. I am grateful that God has the final judgement.

The next grade would possibly be "Loves God". John 14:21, "He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me, shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will disclose Myself to him." John in this inspired writing plainly tells us clearly that we show our love for God by obeying His commandments. Indeed loving God is the foundation of our lives as Christians. This foundation will enable us to stand and endure as the waves of worldly trials and temptations break against it.

"Active Christian" could be a graded area. Some people act like they believe that being baptized is all they have to do to be acceptable to God. James very clearly tells us this is not true. James 2:19 & 20 reads "You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless." In the King James Version instead of useless, the word dead is used. If we are diligently trying to live as Christians, we are going to be active. There are many ways we can work for God. All of us are blessed with some talent(s) and God expects us to use them. You may not be the very best at anything; but, your efforts will make a difference even if it is but one soul that you touch.

These three areas could be broken down in more detail on a report card. It would be nice if these and other areas were evaluated on a report card from God. That kind of report card would help us see better where we need to work harder. The Bible itself gives us what God expects and what to do if we are truly concerned with being the best Christian possible. God's school of life is based on pass/fail. Pass and spend eternity with God or fail and spend it in eternal torment. How will you graduate this world? Be honest. Failure brings terrible consequences.

Larry Benson

A Woman's Touch

“Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.” Titus 2:3-5

If you go on YouTube and search “Church of Christ Sermons,” the first videos that pop up are those that discuss the use of instrumental music in worship, communion on a weekly basis, and women’s roles in the church. These “hot button” topics get several views every day, mostly from people who view the church in a negative way. Viewers comment on the videos saying things like, “Your church is sexist!” and “How dare you put down women!”

In an attempt to respond to this misinformation, let me say firmly that the Lord as well as the Lord’s church is not sexist. Women do indeed have leadership responsibilities within the church that God gives directly in scripture. Take the verse above for example. One leadership obligation given directly to women is the responsibility to influence and instruct our young ladies. Leadership in one word is INFLUENCE. Paul instructs the older women to teach the younger women to be good wives, good mothers, and most of all, good people.

There is certainly a difference between fulfilling a leadership position of authority and having a leadership responsibility. Formal positions of leadership in the Lord’s church are given to the men of the congregation (1 Timothy 2:9-15; 1 Corinthians 14:34-35). This is not sexist but rather is given based on the God-given hierarchy of leadership due to the sin of Adam and Eve.

We all have the obligation to influence others. To influence is to lead. I want to encourage our young ladies to follow older women. I also want to encourage our older women to take our young ladies under your wings and teach them how to be a woman of God.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Ken & Barbara McPeak, Selma Boyd, Odell Grissom, Sue Reeves, Ernestine Taylor, Laura Wisner, Nell Jernigan, Narene Davidson, Shirley Bibb, Gladys Davidson, Glenda Stiles, Theresa Mears (Glenda Stile's sister)

BATTLING CANCER:

Carolyn Thomas
Vance Benson
Cal Seccombe-friend of Glovers
Tonya Pearson-friend of Glovers

SHUT INS:

Tommy & Shirley Bibb, Oleta Bullard, Houston Henry, Dan Stephens, Richard Jones, Wayne Mobbs, Carolyn Thomas, Mabel Robertson, Louis Wilson, Melba & Jeanie Young

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

***MEMBERS**

NHC: Lizzie Bush, Sue Reeves*, Ernestine Taylor*

STONES RIVER MANOR: Laura Wisner*, Virgie Leonard*, Margaret Davidson*, Lillian Whitworth

SMYRNA: Geri Melton*

WOODBURY: Jeweldean Hall*

TN VETERAN'S HOME: Edna Vance*

Shirley Bibb had surgery for colon cancer on Thursday at St. Thomas Rutherford. Her doctor thought the surgery was successful. She will be there a few more days.

Eugene Windrow is scheduled to have back surgery on April 3 at Williamson Medical Center.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Mary Williams. She passed away on Tuesday and her funeral was held on Friday at the Woodbury Funeral Home.

NEWS & NOTES

- Ron and David Harper are working together in Gospel Meetings over the next two weeks in New Zealand. Please keep them and Janie in prayers as they work to grow the Kingdom there.
- Bible Bowl is April 2 at 7 pm at MTCS.
- Ladies' morning Bible Class resumes this Wednesday, April 4.
- Robert McKnight's visitation team 1 meets on April 8 for lunch immediately following classes.
- A youth devo is planned for April 8 at Jake and Mallory Wilbanks' house immediately following pm services. Please bring drinks.
- Please check the table in the foyer for events hosted by local congregations.
- The Dorcas Class for Jr. High and High school girls begins Wednesday evening, April 4. This class will meet in room 107 and will be taught by Francille Whitworth, Gayle Glover and Lisa Pickard.
- A basket shower is being given for Madison Wisdom, daughter of Alan and Agnes Pepper. She is having a boy. They are mostly in need of diapers and wipes and could use Walmart or Target gift cards. The basket is located in the foyer. The last day for this shower is April 15.
- A handgun carry permit class is tentatively being planned for May 5. Please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer.
- Jeanie Young fell and broke her ankle. She had surgery at St. Thomas Rutherford on Wednesday and is planning to go to rehab for therapy.

Salem Creek church of Christ
2525 Salem Creek Drive
Murfreesboro, TN 37128

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P.O. Box 332067
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2067

Email: office@salemcreekcoc.org

We're on the web!
www.salemcreekcoc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday

Morning Worship	9:00 am
Bible Classes	10:15 am
Evening Worship	5:30 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Morning Bible Class (Sept-May)	10:00 am
Evening Bible Classes	6:30 pm

ELDERS

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

MINISTER

Ron Harper

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

DEACONS

Rick Acklin	Rick Corum
Larry Benson	Andy Melton
Michael Bowman	Brian Melton
Craig Buckner	Alan Pepper
Joe Byars	Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

March 25, 2018

Sunday	AM worship	240
	Bible classes	175
	PM worship	149
	Contribution	\$7640.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	105
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Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	
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When county schools are closed due to inclement weather A.M. Ladies class will be canceled

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 as often as you have opportunity!

We were honored by your presence!

GREETERS

*Please be at the door
30 minutes prior to service*

April 1

Jim & Gayle Glover

April 8

Jeff & Karen Milstead

