

The Tongue

Have you ever considered your tongue? It is a marvel of God's design. It plays a major role in how you taste your food as well as shaping and guiding that food while it is chewed and swallowed. It plays a significant role in speech as it shapes the air leaving your mouth as words. In fact, many English words would be impossible to pronounce without a tongue.

Tongues can be a great force for good or evil. Proverbs 12: 18 says it very well, "There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing". I am sure we all know people who use their tongue like a sword jabbing, slashing and generally creating a path of verbal and emotional destruction. They either don't think about the impact what they are saying will have, just don't care, or enjoy the fruits of their verbal assault as some like to make others sad. They ignore the wisdom of Colossians 4: 6, "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person." A wise tongue can certainly help bring healing. Jesus says in the beatitudes Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God". I believe that holding onto one's temper and saying the right thing at the right time (or saying nothing) indicates wisdom and maturity. There is a wonderful old saying, "Please be sure your brain is engaged before opening your mouth." Wouldn't the world be a kinder, gentler place if everyone considered the impact of what they are wanting to say? Remember the two tests: 1.) Is it the truth? 2.) Will any good come from saying it? If the answer is no to either, it is probably best left unsaid.

James talks much about the tongue. In James 3: 1-18 he compares the tongue to a small rudder steering a great ship (4) and tells us that although every creature can be tamed, no one can tame the tongue (7 & 8). He offers a strong condemnation to the Christian that fails to bring this unruly member into control. James 1: 26, "If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless". Worthless religion equals a lost soul. Is the freedom of saying whatever you want worth the cost of your soul?

The tongue can be a great instrument for good. We can properly use it to pray and praise God. We use it to teach those who are lost or those who have strayed from the way. We can use it to encourage those who are undergoing the problems that come to us all with our daily living and to comfort those grieving the loss of a loved one or facing the other challenges life sends their way.

The tongue is truly one of God's most versatile creations. How are you using yours? Use it to steer your soul to heaven and to bring others with you.

Vroom, Vroom, Click

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7

Over spring break, I was fortunate to have another helping hand on the farm. I told Kayla when we started dating that I would turn her into a farmhand. I don't think she believed me at the time, but she certainly believes me now.

I asked Kayla to drive the tractor while I opened and closed the gates. The only problem was that Kayla had never driven a tractor before. I explained to her how the clutch and gear shift worked as well as the hydraulic controls and throttle. I explained that to move forward she needed to let off the break first then release the clutch while slowly pressing the accelerator. All in all, she did an amazing job! However, she did kill the tractor a few times.

You see, if the clutch is released before the brake while the tractor is in gear, the tractor will shut off. It is a failsafe in case of accident or emergency. Even so, it is a pain when the tractor dies, especially when it is difficult to restart. Although the tractor died a few times, Kayla was able to feed the cows a bale of hay and our work for the day was accomplished.

Have you ever felt like life is like a tractor that keeps quitting? Have you ever wondered if you'll be in Heaven because you sin even though you are a Christian? John writes that if we are walking in the light then Jesus' blood will cleanse us from all sin. This is not an excuse to sin (Romans 6:1) but rather it is a failsafe if we do sin. Just because the tractor quits does not mean the job is finished.

Joshua Houston

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Ken & Barbara McPeak, Selma Boyd, Odell Grissom, Sue Reeves, Ernestine Taylor, Laura Wiser, 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 Young

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

***MEMBERS**

NHC: Lizzie Bush, Sue Reeves*, Ernestine Taylor*, Jeanie Young(Rehab)

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

SMYRNA: Geri Melton*

WOODBURY: Jeweldean Hall*

TN VETERAN'S HOME: Edna Vance*

Welcome to the family!

We are excited to announce **Rick and Justin Bowman** have placed membership with us. Please add their contact information to your directory.
8076 Newtown Rd
Rockvale, TN 37153
Rick 615-631-9374
Justin 615-556-3212

NEWS & NOTES

- Robert McKnight's visitation team 1 meets today for lunch immediately following classes.
- Rick Acklin's visitation team 2 meets April 15 for lunch immediately following classes.
- Today is the last day to register and pay a \$100 deposit if you plan to attend this year's Nicaragua Mission Trip. The trip is scheduled for June 22-29. If you have any questions, please see Jon Holland.
- Jake and Mallory Wilbanks are hosting a youth devo at their house tonight immediately following pm services. Please bring drinks.
- Please check the table in the foyer for events hosted by local congregations.
- Haden Phifer is collecting donations for the MTSU Student Food Pantry through MTSU's chapter of the Student Center for Public Trust. The deadline for donations has been extended until April 22. Any help is appreciated. Please see the flyer in the foyer for details and a list of items needed.
- 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.

Eugene Windrow is home and doing well following back surgery on Tuesday.

Shirley Bibb is in St Thomas Rutherford recovering from surgery.

Devin Speight, grandson of Ernie & Nancy Colvin, is in Vanderbilt Children's Hospital having tests.

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

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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

April 1, 2018

Sunday	AM worship	298
	Bible classes	192
	PM worship	130
	Contribution	\$8682.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	123
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	14

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 8

Jeff & Karen Milstead

April 15

Robert & Mary Ann McKnight

