

ALL WORLDLY THOUGHTS AND CARES

1 Peter 5:7

Casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you

“Help us to remove all worldly thoughts and cares from our minds as we worship you.” Perhaps the only petition I have heard more is “guard, guide, and direct us until we meet again.” Both of those are wonderful and heart-felt sentiments. We hear them often in public prayers.

While removing “all worldly thoughts and cares from our hearts” is a big challenge, it is important. After all, the “care of this world” is one of the things that can choke the word of God when it has been planted (Matthew 13:22 KJV). I do not want to be thinking about last night’s ball game when I am singing “Oh How I Love Jesus.”

Sometimes the difficulty removing cares from our hearts rises above the level of “difficult” to the level of “impossible.” Not all of the cares of this life are trivial. Some of them lay a real burden upon our hearts and the pain does not seem to go away. Two passages of Scripture offer hope and comfort.

One of them says “be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6). The other reminds us of the love of God; “casting all your care upon Him, because He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7).

In asking God to help with the load we carry, remember to thank Him. We need that reminder that we are blessed. Is the load too heavy? Give it to God. He cares for you, He truly does.

--Ron Harper--

How's the Fence?

“Above all else, guard your heart for everything you do flows from it.” Proverbs 4:23

I must admit I'm glad I get asked this question because it implies a few people read these things. Ever since I did my article series on “Lessons from Barbed Wire,” not a week has gone by where someone asks me about the good ole barbed wire fence. So, I thought it would be appropriate to give you an update.

The fence is still intact and strong, but there have been a few times where its purpose was not served or at the least, put to the test. Let me share with you one story.

About two months ago, we were blessed to have a new calf born. However, this calf was approximately double the size he should have been at birth. Just to compare, he was the same size when he was two days old as calves on our farm that were three weeks old...and he was mean as a hornet (still is). We decided to name him Richard. Eventually the day came where Richard and his mother needed to be moved from one field to the other in order to be with the other cows and calves. His mother moved along peacefully. Richard did not.

Just as I was about to get him through the gate, Richard decided to run right through the new barbed wire fence. Thankfully he was not injured but I'm sure he was sore. Fortunately, after approximately 24 hours of searching through the thick brush, thorns, and weeds, we were able to get Richard back with his mother.

But why did Richard run? Why didn't the fence keep him in? A fence is built to serve two purposes: keep something valuable in while keeping dangers out. Richard ran because he was scared. Fear prompts irrational action. No wonder the Lord tells us over and over “Do not fear!”

The fence was well built, but fear caused a breach in security. As we think about guarding our hearts, let us continue to build fences around our souls. Fences which are able to keep Satan out and Jesus in. Let's not let fear but glory in our protection. May God be praised!

Joshua Houston

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Selma Boyd, Ernestine Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Sue Reeves(No Visitors), Odell Grissom, Nora Fann, Louis Wilson, Carolyn Thomas, Kenneth Tucker, Edward Tucker, Lester & Ann Clark, Danny Webb, June Jernigan, Dean Thompson, Laura Wiser, Virgie Leonard, Ruth McDonald, Kay Jennings, Allie Owens, Evelyn Leeman, Charles & Shirley Craig, Carl Robinson, Charles Reeves, Sheila Foster

SHUT INS:

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard, Tommy & Shirley Bibb, Dan Stephens, Melba & Jeanie Young

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

***MEMBERS**

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann*

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

STONES RIVER MANOR: Laura Wiser*, Virgie Leonard*

SMYRNA: Geri Melton*

WOODBURY: Jeweldean Hall*

TN VETERAN'S HOME: Edna Vance*

COMMUNITY CARE OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY: Margaret Davidson*

A **Senior Saints** meal with an Estate Planning Presentation is planned for Saturday, August 26th at 5pm at our church building. Those interested who are 50 or older are invited to join the Senior Saints for this event. The meal will be catered by the Wallace's and the cost will be \$10 per person. Our speakers will be Lee Colvin along with an attorney and a banker. There will be a question and answer opportunity after the presentation. If you plan to attend, please sign the sign-up sheet in the foyer and indicate if you require transportation. Please see Keith Short or Larry Benson if you have any questions.

NEWS & NOTES

- We have received Thank You cards from **Danny Webb** and **Dean Thompson**.
- **Youth/College Fall Retreat** for 6th grade to college Seniors will be September 1st - 3rd at Camp Meribah. **Deadline to sign-up is Sunday, August 20th**. The cost is \$35 per camper. You can pick up a flyer in the foyer or see Joshua Houston for more information.
- **Picture Day** - for all new members who have not had their picture made for the Pictorial Directory and for anyone desiring to update their picture. This will take place in the right front of the auditorium after Bible classes. Please see Rick Corum or Larry Benson if you have any questions.
- **Visitation Team #1** will have their meeting and meal today.
- **Ice Cream Supper** after this evening's service.
- **Men's Breakfast at IHOP** on Tuesday, August 8th at 8am.
- **Young Ladies Seminar** at East Main on September 23rd 9am til 11:30am. Registration begins at 9am. Lunch will be served.
- **Stones River Manor** will be having their annual **Fish Fry picnic** and **Live Auction** on Tuesday, September 26th. All proceeds benefit the Alzheimer's Association. More details of the event are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Salem Creek church of Christ
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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

July 30, 2017

Sunday	AM worship	242
	Bible classes	192
	PM worship	154
	Contribution	\$6,832.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	145
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Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	
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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*

August 6

Bobby & Jackie Sims

August 13

Keith & Margaret Short

