

THE WORD

John 1:1

***In the beginning was the Word, and the word was with God,
and the Word was God.***

There is no doubt that "the Word" is none other than Jesus, the Christ. We are later told that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. . ." (John 1:14). The "Word" became flesh, think about that.

Why did John choose the word "Word" to refer to Jesus? That would be an impossible question to answer in the short confines of a bulletin article. However, there is something for us to ponder.

You can easily spot the similarity with the first chapter of John and the first chapter of the Bible. John's story about Jesus opens with the words "in the beginning." The Bible also opens with those words; "in the beginning" (Genesis 1:1).

John is trying to tell us about the eternal nature of Jesus. He was "in the beginning." He was not only "with God," He "was God." Not only was He there in the beginning, not only was He there when God created all things, He was the one through whom "all things came into being" (John 1:2) So strongly does John believe this that he said "apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being."

The Word is eternal. The Word was there with God and the Word was God. Ponder that the next time you read the words "Then God said, 'let there be light'; and there was light." The Word brought it into existence. It is through the Word that we become His new creation.

--Ron Harper--

Separation

My daughter just left for graduate school in Texas and I find thoughts of separation strong in my mind. What is separation? It is defined as the action of moving or being moved apart. I know that probably all of us experience separation as we travel life's pathway. It may take the form of separation from friends, family, vocations, etc. More importantly, I want to look at separation from God.

Many on this earth are separated from God. This separation takes many forms. Some are separated because they have never heard His word and had the opportunity to accept Him. Still others have heard His word but have rejected it. Finally, many have accepted Him but for various reasons have allowed themselves to be separated from Him.

God tells Christians very directly what to do. Paul's words to Timothy hold true for us as well. 2 Timothy 4:2, "Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction." Our culture increasingly tells us to accept anything that doesn't harm someone else; but, we have an obligation to tell the lost they're lost. God's directive cancels out man's.

Wouldn't it be a wonderful world if all the people on this earth were Christians and had a loving Church family to provide help and encouragement in times of trial? I can't imagine being separated from my Church family. The outpouring of love shown to my daughter as she prepared to leave was overwhelming. Separation from God on this earth means no such support is available.

Separation from God on earth sadly means separation from God for eternity. The fate of the separated is given in 2 Thessalonians 1:9, "And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power." I am going to sum up an eternity in hell as no God, no hope, and forever. If this thought doesn't scare someone who is lost, it should.

Although I miss her, my separation from my daughter is temporary. If not remedied, a separation from God is an unending fatal disease of the soul. Are you separated from God today?

Larry Benson

PRAYER REQUEST:

Shirley Bibb, Opal Jones, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Wayne Mobbs, Marie Fleming, Lorene Maddox, Selma Boyd, Jeanie Young, Oleta Bullard, Mabel Robertson, Janneil Brown, Sue Reeves, Willis Clark, Bob Hoover & family, Lois Arnold, Lukah Story, Kitty Bush

Debbie Corum is in St. Thomas Rutherford hospital. Prayers requested.

TAKING TREATMENTS:

Lois Arnold

SHUT INS:

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

*MEMBERS

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann* Nell Jernigan*

DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA: Jean Nickens*

NHC: Lizzie Bush, Geri Melton*, Sue Reeves*

STONES RIVER MANOR: Margaret Davidson*, Jeweldean Hall*, Virgie Leonard*, Louise McKnight*, Ernestine Taylor*, Laura Wiser*, Lillian Whitworth, Edna Vance*

MILITARY:

Tony Berry

NEWS & NOTES

- Congratulations to **David Dehoff** and **Lindsay Bowman** upon their marriage on July 30. Robert is the son of George and Valerie DeHoff.
- Sympathy is expressed to the family of **Virginia Young**. Her funeral was held on Wednesday, August 3. She was the sister in law of **Martha McCollough**.
- There will be a meeting of all who taught in VBS today at **4:45**.
- A **youth devo** is planned following the evening worship service at the home of **Jeff and Tammy Glidden**
- A **Senior Saints** meal is planned for **Saturday, August 27** at 4 pm at the Bell Buckle Café. Please sign the list in the foyer, if you plan to attend.
- Please notice on the bulletin board in the foyer, several activities hosted by area congregations.

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

Phone: (615) 893-7532

P. O. Box 332067
 Murfreesboro, TN 37133

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

Larry Benson
 Michael Bowman
 Craig Buckner
 Bob Hoover

Andy Melton
 Brian Melton
 Alan Pepper
 Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

July 31, 2016

Sunday	AM worship	212
	Bible classes	154
	PM worship	140
	Contribution	\$5,987.66

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	116
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)

GREETERS

*Please be at the door
 15 minutes prior to services!*



August 7

Jeff & Karen Milstead

August 14

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 as often as you have opportunity!

We were honored by your presence!