

PRINCIPLES

What is a principle? The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines principle as: "A moral rule or belief that helps you know what is right and wrong and that influences your actions". It comes from the Latin words principium meaning beginning and princeps meaning initiator. The first recorded usage is in the 14th century. It is a word used much in our world (ironically often by politicians or referring to them).

Principles are very important in our daily lives as they largely govern how we interact with others. Parents who properly raise their children start teaching them life principles from day one. Children who are well taught are much more likely to demonstrate those principles when they become adults. Unfortunately our jails and prisons are full of people who either weren't taught good principles or were taught corrupted principles.

Where should we look to find moral rules to live by? I am sure it comes as no surprise that I am going to say the Bible. God through the Bible has set forth what is right and wrong for His children. This is very important because if you don't define what is right it is much more difficult to define what is wrong. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments (not the ten suggestions) to clearly state His expectations. God' principles for living/standards are set forth many places. Here are two. James 1:5, "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him." From the Old Testament Psalms 119: 105, "Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path." Some of the "modern" situations we find ourselves in may not be exactly the same as they were in Bible times; but, they all have comparable Biblical situations.

In my opinion, a lot of our problems today come from people looking for answers in the wrong places. I will never understand why some people value the principles set forth by fallible man above those of an infallible God. After all, who knows principles better than the God who created them? Don't be misled. If principles set forth by man conflict with those of God, go with God's principles every time and you won't be sorry.

I Resign

To my Salem Creek family,

Over the past few weeks, I have struggled with the decision to formally announce my resignation. If the truth were to be told, I would tell of just how much I love and enjoy doing the very things from which I am resigning. I have given this a lot of thought, but with the help of God and of course my brothers and sisters in Christ, I feel like this resignation will be a blessing to all, not just me. I strongly feel that it is the right thing to do.

The reason for my resignation is simple: I do not wish to remain where I currently am. If I were to remain in such a position, I would not be able to grow and prosper as a child of God. This resignation is to take place effective immediately. However, for this to happen, I will need support from each of you as fellow disciples and friends.

One thing I have yet to mention is what I am resigning from. Today, I, and hopefully all of you reading this, have chosen to resign from a life filled with earthly desires and sin. Today, I resign from a way of thinking that dictates I do everything on my own without leaning on God or others. I resign from shame and guilt and move to a position of love and security. Today, I, and hopefully you as well, resign from sin.

To resign simply means to quit, leave, or walk out. Isn't it time we all said, "I quit" to guilt and timidity? My fellow brothers and sisters, I encourage you to join me in being, as Paul puts it, "freed from sin and slaves to righteousness," (Rom 6:18). Let's be brave enough to stand up to the Devil (our former boss) and resign from evil and live in full service to Jesus Christ and God the Father.

In Christian love,
Joshua Houston

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Selma Boyd, Ernestine Taylor, Sue Reeves, Odell Grissom, Nora Fann, Louis Wilson, Kenneth Tucker, Edward Tucker, Lester & Ann Clark, June Jernigan, Dean Thompson, Laura Wiser, Virgie Leonard, Ruth McDonald, Kay Jennings, Allie Owens, Evelyn Leeman, Charles & Shirley Craig, Louise Smithson, Carl Robinson, Sandy Foster, Clinton Swafford

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 menu includes your choice of Baked Chicken or Sliced Ham, White Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Cornbread, Salad and Dessert. 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.

***Deadline to sign-up is today – pay \$10 night of meal.**

NEWS & NOTES

- **Congratulations** to Drew and Amanda Mitchell upon the birth of a new baby boy on Tuesday, August 15th. He has been named **James Owen**. Proud grandparents Andy and Lisa Mitchell and proud Uncle Clay!!
- **Visitation Team #2** will have a short meeting today after Bible classes.
- **Youth/College Fall Retreat** for 6th grade to college Seniors will be September 1st - 3rd at Camp Meribah. **Deadline to sign-up is today and pay Wednesday, August 30th.** The cost is \$35 per camper. You can pick up a flyer in the foyer or see Joshua Houston for more information.
- **Wednesday morning Ladies class** will resume on September 6th.
- **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.
- If you would like to attend **RUSH** on **September 29th – October 1st** please see Joshua Houston, there will not be a sign-up sheet for this event.

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

August 13, 2017

Sunday	AM worship	248
	Bible classes	170
	PM worship	143
	Contribution	\$7,056.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	148
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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 20

Thomas & Connie Davis

August 27

Ken & Barbara McPeak

