

Christian Light

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus told the multitude that, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14). I am reminded of an example I saw many years ago while stationed in Germany. Where I lived was surrounded by hills and there was a small city on one of those hills always clearly visible but especially so on a sunny day when in the late afternoon the sun gleamed off its windows. Truly its position on the hill made its presence clear to anyone looking.

Jesus went on to say in Matthew 5:16, "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." If one is living for Christ doing the things He expects, they will be a shining Christian light. I am not saying that one needs to be trying to call attention to how they live and work for Christ. In fact, if one is working so that they receive the acclaim of men, they have already received their reward (Matthew 6:2). I am saying that proper Christian living will give one a Christian light that the world will be able to distinctly see.

Some work Christians do is by its nature more visible than other work. Whether you are involved with more visible programs such as mission/outreach, or send a card/make a call to one in need of encouragement, all work for Him is important. We are all naturally better at doing some things than others. There may also be limitations from health or circumstance. Remember, the good work you do makes a difference. God knows what we can and cannot do. I believe He doesn't expect the impossible from us; but, He does expect us to do what we can. Perhaps you think you are not the best at doing something. Maybe you're right but if there is a need, God expects you to try and do the best you can.

All of us know or have known Christians whose lives were lived so that they cast a bright Christian light. They served as an encouragement to other Christians and a beacon of love and hope to the lost. How bright is your Christian light shining today?

Larry Benson

The End.

"When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, 'It is finished,' and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit." John 19:30

It seems strange to begin an article with the words "the end." To end something means to cease, stop, halt, or conclude. This has a connotation of definite ceasing never to have an origin again. However, most endings as we know them are only the beginning of something else—perhaps even something greater. For example, take the ending of slavery in America. While I understand those years after the Emancipation Proclamation (1863) was instituted, racism and persecution still ran rampant in the United States; the end of slavery was the beginning for equal rights for all men. Something had to end for something else to begin.

I often think about the cross of Golgotha and what it represents as opposed to what it really was in its day. This wooden tool in the days of Jesus was nothing more than a modern day electric chair or lethal injection. The cross was a cruel murder weapon used to kill the vilest criminals of the day. Yes, the Jews and Romans alike saw Jesus as a vile criminal. These two simple pieces of wood, in the days of Jesus, represented pain, torture, and justice, and conveyed a message of "don't do what he did or this will happen to you." Today, the cross is very different. While we do not worship the cross, it is still a symbol of hope, peace, joy, and new life.

I often think about Jesus on that cross. Even as I write this article, I cannot help but become teary-eyed. The pain and sorrow he went through just so we can have hope is unfathomable to me. (I suppose that's why he did it and I didn't...) When Jesus spoke the words "it is finished," what did he really mean? He meant simply that his work on Earth was done. He could say, "the end." This, however, was not the end. He rose and lives forever to this day. Jesus has no end or beginning (John 1:1). So when it comes time in our lives to say "it is finished," will we be ready for a new beginning?

Joshua Houston

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, the Hoover family, Lois Arnold, Nora Fann, Louise Smithson, Louise McKnight, Peggy Gilbert, Bessie Bowman, Melody Carpenter, Willis Clark, Shirley Tenpenny, Chris Martin, Pam Jackson

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*, Lois Arnold*(No visitors)

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

MILITARY:

Tony Berry

We have received donations to the Food Box Program and to the Scholarship Fund in memory of **Bob Hoover** by the following:

***Steve & Martha Hill**

***Brian & Melaine Melton**

***Friends & Co-workers of Pam Hoover**

***Terry & Twila Stroop**

***Jeffrey & Allyson Zemer**

***Marvin & Francille Whitworth**

***Donald & Frances McDonald**

NEWS & NOTES

- **Youth Devo** – tonight at the home of Andy & Lisa Mitchell.
- The **Senior Saints** meal is on **Saturday, September 10th** at 4 pm at the Bell Buckle Café.
- If you are interested in playing in a **golf outing** on September 30th and October 1st please sign the list in the foyer. Questions? – see Pancake McKnight or Keith Short.
- **Tennessee Children's Home** fall food and supply drive has begun, printed list of items needed are in the foyer. See Mike Bowman if you have any questions.
- Christmas boxes for students at the **Nicaragua Christian School** are available in the foyer along with a printed list of items and instructions. All completed boxes are due on October 1st.

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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
Larry Benson
Michael Bowman
Craig Buckner
Joe Byars

Rick Corum
Andy Melton
Brian Melton
Alan Pepper
Wendell Wilson

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!

FOR THE RECORD

August 28, 2016

Sunday	AM worship	235
	Bible classes	150
	PM worship	145
	Contribution	\$6,386.55

Wednesday **PM Bible classes** **140**

Wednesday **AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)**

GREETERS

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



September 4

Drew & Amanda Mitchell

September 11

Robert & Mary Ann McKnight