

MY KINGDOM

John 18:36

My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.

“Are you the king of the Jews?” That was Pilate’s question to Jesus. He had heard the accusation against Jesus; He claimed to be a king (John 19:12). In his own mind he had every reason to be concerned. He was Caesar’s representative, anyone who claimed to be a king was considered an insurrectionist.

Jesus put his concerns to rest by speaking about the nature of His kingdom. “My kingdom is not of this world.” His kingdom is spiritual in nature. He does not rule over any geographical territory. He reigns in the hearts and lives of those who follow Him by faith.

When Jesus spoke to Pilate, He revealed an important but often overlooked truth. His kingdom is not advanced by carnal means. If His kingdom were of this world, His followers would have fought to prevent Him from being executed.

I pray that we do not lose sight of that truth. The primary concern of Christians ought to be kingdom business. As interested as some may be in politics, it is not kingdom business. The kingdom of heaven, by its very nature, cannot be advanced through a political agenda. In all of my years of preaching I have never endorsed any political candidate. I have no intention of changing that. The King of kings said “My kingdom is not of this world.”

--Ron Harper--

Things I Wish...Parents Knew

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Proverbs 22:6

Parenting. I know some of you must be thinking, "You don't have kids! How can you tell us what to do??" Well, first, I'm not trying to tell anyone what to do. We must look at the Bible and see what God wants us to do. Second, I am also not a young lady but I wrote an article addressing them three weeks ago. That being said, here are some things I (and the Lord) wish parents knew.

- 1) You have to let go. As a son, I can understand the desire to be let go from the grasp of my parents. I cannot, however, understand how hard it must be to lose the dependency once held in infancy to something like a driver's license or a spouse or even a youth outing. Parenting is a series of letting go. As we train our children to respect God and do his will, we must trust them to take responsibility for themselves. We do a great disservice to our children when we refuse to let them live their own lives. There is a time to be an example and teach, but there is also a time to let them take what they have learned and put it into practice.
- 2) Your child is special. We have to be careful here because we only desire to build our children up, not the pedestal they stand on. So often, we try to exalt our children as "better than sliced bread" because we have pride in them. It is okay to be proud of your child, but we cannot teach the child to exceed humility. That being said, yes, your child is special. He or she is special to you, me, the church, and the Lord. David says in Psalm 139:14 that he was "fearfully and wonderfully made." We cannot let our children forget this, especially in a society that gains pleasure from degrading other people.
- 3) You are responsible for teaching your child. I love all of our kids! I would throw myself in front of a train if it meant saving one of them. However, learning about God begins in the home. When your child messes up, and they will, you cannot blame the ministers, youth program, society, TV, or friends of the child. Ultimately, the child made the wrong choice and it is up to you to teach your child why it was wrong and what he or she should do to be right.

Parenting is a series of two very difficult things: letting go and wise instruction. No parent is perfect except God our Father. He lets us go by allowing us free will every single day. He created us special by making us in a way that is unique to everyone else. He took the responsibility to teach us his will through his word. We must use God as our example and train our children in the way they should go.

Grace and peace,
Joshua Houston

PRAYER REQUEST:

Shirley Bibb, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Wayne Mobbs, Marie Fleming, Lorene Maddox, Selma Boyd, Oleta Bullard, Mabel Robertson, Janneil Brown, Sue Reeves, Lois Arnold, Nora Fann, Louise Smithson, Louise McKnight, Peggy Gilbert, Bessie Bowman, Narene Davidson, Naoma Woodcock

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*

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

MILITARY:

Tony Berry

A **bridal Shower** in honor of **Jessica Jordan**, bride elect of John Wright, will be held today from 2-4 at the church building. Jessica is registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond and Target. John is the son of Russ and Bonnie Wright.



The Visitor

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

***Laura Wiser**

***Joyce Pulse**

***Ron & Betty Bowersock**

***Mark & June Jernigan**

NEWS & NOTES

- **WELCOME!** Ernie & Nancy Colvin
- **Youth Sunday** – Tonight our evening service will be conducted by our young men.
- Salem Creek will be hosting the first month of **Bible Bowl competition at MTCS on Monday, September 26th**. If you would like to bring homemade cookies please bring them today or bring them to the building during office hours tomorrow.
- 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 Robert McKnight or Keith Short.
- Supplies for the **Tennessee Children's Home and Christmas boxes** need to be here at the building on Friday, September 30th. Also, start bringing in items for the **Weekend Food Bags**.
- **Gospel Meeting** – October 2-5th at Allisona church of Christ. Speakers: John & Joshua Houston. More information posted on bulletin board in the foyer.
- **Teachers Appreciation Dinner** Saturday, October 8th, 6 pm, at the church building. If you plan to attend please sign the sign-up sheet in the foyer.
 - ***check out the bulletin board for activities and weekly updates.**

September 25, 2016

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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 Rick Corum
 Larry Benson Andy Melton
 Michael Bowman Brian Melton
 Craig Buckner Alan Pepper
 Joe Byars Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

September 18, 2016

Sunday	AM worship	225
	Bible classes	159
	PM worship	131
	Contribution	\$6,056.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	136
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	14

When county schools are closed due to inclement weather A.M. ladies class will be cancelled

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
 15 minutes prior to services!*



September 25

Regenia Grissom Dean Thompson

October 2

Andy & Lisa Mitchell