

GUARDING YOUR LIFE

Proverbs 7:22, 23

Suddenly he follows her as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as one in fetters to the discipline of a fool, until an arrow pierces through his liver, as a bird hastens to the snare, so he does not know that it will cost him his life.

Temptation can be so hard to resist. If you don't believe me, just ask Eve. Or, ask people who have experienced what is described in Proverbs 7:6-23.

He is described as "a young man lacking sense" (v. 7). He is "among the naïve." He made his way to the house of the seductress in the middle of the night. He met up with the woman; she was dressed in a very enticing way. She is a woman of low character. You can imagine what is meant by the words "she does not remain at home" (v. 11).

She entices him with words that would be difficult for any man to resist, at least any foolish man. It was dark outside, who would ever know that he has been to her house. So, he follows her.

The price he paid was not what he expected. He was just like a brute beast going to the slaughter house. Yielding to her temptation would "cost him his life." Whether that is to be taken literally is beside the point. His yielding certainly cost him his spiritual life.

Guard your life. Soldiers in the infantry will tell you that it is wise to set a defensive perimeter before the enemy attacks. Be prepared before temptation arrives. Always avoid it. When it comes, run from it. Never pursue it. It costs more than any wise person is willing to pay. Guard your life.

--Ron Harper--

Heart in Harm's Way

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7

Aaron Watson, a country music artist, sang a song called “In Harm's Way.” The chorus goes like this:

***I didn't know my heart
Was in harm's way
I couldn't see the truth
Till it was in my face
If I'd seen it coming
I could have turned away
I didn't know my heart
Was in harm's way.***

Of course, Aaron intended this song to be about love and loss, but I think the words of the chorus speak true about our own spiritual life. The funny thing about sin is that usually we don't plan on committing sin, especially if we are Christians. When attempting to explain our actions, we say things like, “Well, it just happened,” or, “I don't know why I did those things.”

How do we guard our hearts? I do not wish to give you new suggestions, but to remind you of what you already know in hopes that we all will be willing to put them into practice. First, to guard our hearts, we must pray. It is difficult to become callused to sin when we are in direct communication with God. We tell him our struggles and he is willing to answer our plea. Second, we must read our Bible. The communication process is not a one-way street. God tells us what to do if we will just listen to his words. Last, we must watch our steps. We are commanded to walk in the light, on the straight and narrow road, and as Jesus walked. Keeping an eye on our footsteps will help us guard our hearts. Let's stop sin before it ever starts.

Joshua Houston

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Ken & Barbara McPeak, Hazel Carey, Selma Boyd, Pat Davidson, Nora Fann, Odell Grissom, Sue Reeves, Ernestine Taylor, Carolyn Thomas, Laura Wiser, Nell Jernigan, Narene Davidson, Mary Williams, Shirley Bibb

SHUT INS:

Tommy Bibb, Oleta Bullard, Houston Henry, Dan Stephens, Richard Jones, Wayne Mobbs, Carolyn Thomas, Mabel Robertson, Louis Wilson, Melba & Jeanie Young

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

***MEMBERS**

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann*, Shirley Bibb*

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

STONES RIVER MANOR: Laura Wiser*, Virgie Leonard*, Margaret Davidson*

SMYRNA: Geri Melton*

WOODBURY: Jeweldean Hall*

TN VETERAN'S HOME: Edna Vance*

- There will be a **potluck visitation meal** today for Teams 1 & 2 after Bible classes. All visitors are invited.
- **Parents and students** - You are invited to enjoy lunch at MTCS, meet the Administration, and take a tour of campus. Join them Tuesday, December 5th for the Lunch & Tour! Register on-line: Dec. 5th Lunch & Tour Registration

NEWS & NOTES

- We extend sympathy to the family of **Margaret Jaco**; she was the sister of Charles Craig. Funeral services were held Monday, November 27th at Murfreesboro Funeral Home.
- We extend sympathy to the family of **Mary Brothers Powell**; she was the mother of Sherry Hamlett. Funeral services were held yesterday at Woodfin Chapel. Charles and Sherry have been visiting us at Salem Creek for several weeks now; keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.
- **Gift bags for Shut-Ins** - All ages are welcome to meet at the church building on December 9th at 9am to pack a bag for each shut-in and deliver them. Please see Larry Benson with any questions. Copies of the suggested list of items are on the table in the foyer.
- A **Picture Day** is scheduled for Sunday, December 10th 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.
- In preparation of the **2018 Membership Directory**, please check your information for any corrections or additions. A printed copy of this list is located in the foyer. Also, there are **volunteer opportunities** for the upcoming year, please sign-up on the lists provided in the foyer.

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

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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

November 26, 2017

Sunday	AM worship	217
	Bible classes	142
	PM worship	130
	Contribution	\$6,714.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	132
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Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	18
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When county schools are closed due to inclement weather A.M. Ladies class will be canceled

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*



December 3

Dean Thompson Ashley Hurt

December 10

Bobby & Jackie Sims