

Hoover Church of Christ

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Matthew 6:21

April 17, 2022

Who removed the nails?

One Sunday morning during the Lord's Supper, I was reading about Jesus' burial and a thought came to me: Who removed Jesus' body from the cross? We know from the Gospel accounts that the Jewish leaders had stirred up the crowd to condemn Jesus to die and that Pilate, the Roman governor, had given the orders for his crucifixion. We also know that a squad of Roman soldiers carried out the execution and drove the nails into Jesus' hands and feet. But who removed the nails?

The Romans typically left the bodies on the cross as a symbol of Roman authority and a deterrent to crime. Therefore, it is unlikely that they removed Jesus' body from the cross. The Gospel accounts tell us very little except for the brief comment that a man known as Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate to ask for the body of Jesus. John adds that Nicodemus was also with him. Both of these men had evidently been disciples of Jesus, but had not done so openly. They were members of the Jewish council and this act of kindness may have cost them their position on the council and possibly even in the Jewish community.

Luke identified Joseph as the one who asked Pilate for Jesus' body and then stated very simply: "Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid" (Luke 23:53).

It is unlikely that Joseph and Nicodemus could have done this alone. Artists have depicted the scene with three or four men involved. They may have been assisted by servants, or other unknown followers of Jesus may have helped. Regardless of who was involved, we can only imagine that scene as the lifeless body of Jesus was removed from the cross. The sadness, grief, and disappointment must have been overwhelming as they gently removed his body.

There before them was the body of the one who had been the hope of Israel. This was the one who had reached out to touch and heal the leper and had given sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf. It was Jesus who sat small children in his lap, laughed at the wedding feast in Cana, and dined with Zacchaeus. He had taught his followers to love others. He had treated everyone he met with kindness. And now he was dead.

As the stone was finally pushed into place, it must have seemed so final to that small group of disciples. Yet we know that the story did not end there. On the morning of the third day when the women went to the tomb they found it empty. He was not there. The nails had briefly held Jesus to the cross, but death could not hold him.

We may eventually learn who removed the nails from the cross of Jesus. By then, however, it will not matter because we will have passed from this life to the next where we will live for eternity with that same Jesus who was one day nailed to a cross.

—Phillip Eichman (Irmo, South Carolina)

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Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:00 a.m. Bible Class
10:00 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Worship

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

ELDERS

Carl Logan 979-9874
Jimmy Lyles 616-1109
Paul Williams, Jr. 408-7234
Harold Rhodes 876-9296

MINISTER

Chuck Webster

(205) 586-5610 (cell)
cwebster@hoovercoc.org

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Kyle Wadley

(205) 792-5922 (cell)
kwadley@hoovercoc.org

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER

Darrell Powell

(205) 480-9773 (cell)
dpowell@hoovercoc.org

Worship Assignments Sunday

Elder to Contact in April for Needs:

Harold Rhodes

Sunday AM and PM

Greeters, AM:

Front Lobby: Bill Laughmiller

Handicap Lobby: Nancy Griner

Back Lobby: Jason McKeown

Ushers, AM: Shawn Troughton & Donnie Winningham

Call to Worship: Chuck Webster

Scripture Reading: Ben Vick

Singing, AM: Mark Lackey

Opening Prayer, AM: Tracy Percer

PM: Donnie Winningham

AM Sermon: Chuck Webster

Communion, AM: Quincy Collins

PM: Daniel Warren

Announcements: Jimmy Lyles

Closing Prayer, AM: Drew Spivey

PM: Paul Kirby

Audio/Cameras: Clint Richey

Alternate: David Naylor

Video: Grant Dalton

Security: Steven Gaither

Alternate: Walden Schlundt

Bible Reading Plan for April 17-24

Sunday, April 17: 1 Kings 12-14

Monday, April 18: 1 Kings 15-17

Tuesday, April 19: 1 Kings 18-20

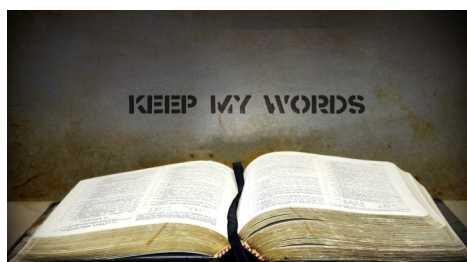
Wednesday, April 20: 1 Kings 21-22

Thursday, April 21: 2 Kings 1-3

Friday, April 22: 2 Kings 4-5

Saturday, April 23: 2 Kings 6-8

Sunday, April 24: 2 Kings 9-11



Today

Visitors, welcome to our worship service this morning—we're thankful you're here. Please fill out a visitor's card that is located in the pew. We would like to know where you're visiting from.

Adult Bible Classes, 9:00am: There are new teaching teams in the Auditorium and in the Library. **Auditorium:** Merv Prince and Jerry Culbertson, "Where We Got the Bible & Truth"; **Library:** Chuck Webster, Joel Abbott, and Wes Blankenship, "Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table."

The Tanzania Class meets in Room 11 at 9:00am.

This evening at 5:00pm: Chuck will teach a Bible class in the auditorium.

Family News and Events

Young at Heart, Friday, April 22.

Faith in Action, Sunday, May 1: The Faith in Action project is to support The WellHouse which provides residential, therapeutic programs to female victims of human trafficking who have been sexually exploited, offering medical, spiritual, mental, and emotional care. Women and girls of all ages, and mothers with their children, regardless of race, color, creed, or religion, as survivors in pain are welcomed and can be assured they will find love and acceptance at The WellHouse. (Link for more information: <https://www.the-wellhouse.org/our-story>). After our devotional, Holly Bunn, the Chief Development Officer at The WellHouse, will be speaking downstairs about their efforts to provide help and support to trafficked victims as well as prevention awareness. Due to the sensitive nature of trafficking, parents may not want young children to hear the talk. However, I (Melody Warbington) have heard speakers from The WellHouse twice in the last couple of years, and I encourage everyone, especially parents and older teens, to attend. We will be

(Family News & Events Cont.)

collecting items to help with their everyday needs via SignUpGenius. Monetary donations or donations to purchase items on their "wish list" through Amazon are also linked at the end of the sign-up list. We will have encouragement cards available to write notes and scriptures for Holly to take back to the residents. For the younger children, we will have cards and paper for them to write notes and draw and color pictures to send to the residents. SignUpGenius follows and will be linked on the Jewels FB page. [Faith in Action - The Well House.](#)

If anyone is interested in going to Guyana for missions work this July, please see Mike Clelland by April 23.

Our adult Wednesday Bible class, "**Words to Know: 12 Important Words in Scripture,**" will resume on April 20—the word is "Covenant," and the teacher is Bill Rayburn.

American Red Cross Needs Your Help!

Please see Marla Troughton if you can help with the **American Red Cross Blood Drive** at Hoover CoC on June 26.

Youth

Save the Date for VBS: Vacation Bible School at Hoover will be on **Thursday-Saturday, June 16-18**. Details will be coming soon.

Words of Gratitude

Thanks to all for the thoughts, prayers, cards, calls, and visits following Brenda's surgery and recovery that is continuing.

Brenda and Wade Warren

To the Hoover Church,

Thank you for the contribution made to Childhaven in memory of Richard. It means so much to know that you remembered him in this way and that it will help a child.

In Christian Love,
Sherry Stevens

Carelines

Edward Curry will have knee replacement surgery on his right knee on Monday, April 25.

Heather Spivey had sinus surgery Tuesday, and the surgery went well.

Chris Hethcox, Markie Jones' dad, has had complications from a previous procedure and had surgery this past Friday.

Tiffany Roberts' mom is having neurological problems and is seeing a UAB neurologist on Monday.

Sheryl Jackson is recovering from surgery.

Jeanne Anderson is undergoing chemotherapy; please pray that these treatments will be effective.

Hope Handley is receiving treatments for her illness; please continue to pray for her wellbeing.

Brenda Warren is recovering from knee replacement surgery and is doing well.

Doyal Newsom will be having tests soon—please pray for good results.

Sarah Washington is recovering from surgery and is feeling better. She will have another operation on June 23.

Jan Holt, Giana Kidwell's friend, has recurrent breast cancer and will have surgery on April 28.

Charlie Pflueger, Tom Kidwell's dad, is suffering with health issues.

Richard Lawson, Alyssa Long's dad, is battling stage 4 kidney cancer and is recovering from a heart attack.

Caroline McNeill, Tom and Giana Kidwell's sister-in-law's sister, is recovering from cancer surgery.

Remember our shut-ins: Lynne Nichols, Nancy Williams, and Joyce Baker.

Remember our church family: Edward Curry, Dick Smith, Linda Crow, and Gail Powell.

Remember our families and friends: Chris Plummer (Tom & Giana Kidwell's niece's husband), Doug Abbott (Joel Abbott's dad), Patrick Nichols (Lynne Nichols' son), Charlie Davis (Leah Covington's dad), Lisa Cupp (George Cupp's wife and friend of the Kidwells), Maggie (Gary Bradley's granddaughter), Austin Wentz (Bill & Brenda Rayburn's friends' grandson), and Dean Kendrick (Markie Jones' grandmother).

Happy Birthday

Jim Petruzella	April 19
Tiffany McKeown	April 21
Merv Prince	April 21
Bill Laughmiller	April 23
Anita Williams	April 23

Are You "On the List?"

The Social Register contains the names and addresses of 25,000 of America's most prominent families along with their club memberships, college affiliations, and other facts. It provides information about art, travel, collecting, philanthropy, and other subjects of interest to the well-heeled. It is published annually in November, updated in May, costs \$125, and is sold only to the 25,000 families who are members.

Did you receive a subscription invitation to the Social Register this year? No? Not to worry. Truth be told, there is another book that is far more important: the Lamb's Book of life (Philippians 4:3; Revelation 21:27).

It is fine to be honored on earth for prominence or importance, but the bigger question is whether or not our names are written in God's book in heaven. Jesus asked, "What profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul" (Matthew 16:26)?

Entrance into New Jerusalem will be only for those whose names are found in God's Book. John foresaw the scene: "I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things that were written in the books" (Revelation 20:12).

The applause of prominence on earth will one day be drowned out by the applause of heaven; "Then each one's praise will come from God" (1 Corinthians 4:5).

—Adapted from Turning Point Daily Devotional

Attendance and Offering

April 10, 2022

Attendance:

Bible Study: 148

AM Worship: 230

PM Worship: 118

Wednesday: 126

Contribution: \$14,280.52

Weekly Budget: \$15,050.00

Weekly Average: \$15,324.48

Contribution to Date: \$228,823.24

Hoover Supported Works

- *Childhaven, Cullman, AL*
- *Rainbow Omega, Eastaboga, AL*
- *Churches of Christ Disaster Relief*
- *George Funk, Gospel Chariot Missions, South Africa*
- *Cy Walker, Guyana*
- *Clothing Closet*
- *Food Pantry*
- *Guyana*
- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*

Mission Trips

- *Guyana*
- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*
- *Peru*

Oversight

- *Christ Happy Childhaven, Philippines*
- *Tanzania Missions*

2 Timothy 3:16

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. . ."

What the empty tomb means (1 Corinthians 15)

It means _____

It means _____

It means _____

GriefShare Ministry

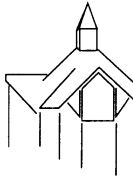
So many people within our church family have experienced significant losses in their lives, so we're thankful to be able to offer a **GriefShare Ministry**. This will be a learning, sharing, and supportive small group ministry that will be open to members of our congregation. It is organized around a thirteen-week schedule where participants meet together for around two hours each week and watch professionally-designed videos featuring encouragement from professional grief counselors and also sharing from people who are grieving. These presentations are coupled with discussions that are designed to internalize what participants learn in the videos. If you think this ministry might help you process your loss, please reach out to Harold Rhodes, Kyle Wadley, or Chuck Webster for more information, or you can visit <https://www.griefshare.org/>. **This group meets each Sunday from 2:00-4:00pm.** Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sunday Evenings

In addition to our classes and worship on Sunday mornings and classes on Wednesday evenings, we're looking forward to providing many opportunities on Sunday evenings over the course of 2022. Here's what we have planned:

- **First Sunday of each month:** Faith in Action (opportunity to serve our community in some way; Bible study in the church auditorium will also be provided)
- **Second Sunday:** Pray and sing and read Scripture together in the auditorium
- **Third Sunday:** Learn in a Bible class in the auditorium
- **Fourth Sunday:** Spend time at home with friends and/or family (worship opportunity provided in the auditorium as well)
- **Fifth Sunday:** Sing together in the auditorium

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Place
Postage