



October 18, 2026

The One Thing He Wouldn't Give Up

This may be one of the saddest passages in the New Testament. It should probably scare us half to death.

An earnest man asks Jesus a sincere question about salvation, and then turns his back on the Lord and walks away. Why? How? The answers hit a little too close to home.

And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions (Mark 10:17-22).

You can't help but like this man. He wanted to know what was right. He ran to Jesus, knelt before him, and asked about eternal life. He wasn't indifferent toward God, and he apparently took obedience seriously.

Jesus mentions several commandments that deal with how we treat other people: don't murder, commit adultery, steal, bear false witness, or defraud, and honor your parents.

The man replies, "All these I have kept from my youth."

The text doesn't say he was lying, and Jesus doesn't accuse him of hypocrisy. In fact, Mark includes a tender detail that we shouldn't overlook: "Jesus, looking at him, loved him."

What Jesus said next came from love, not anger. He saw something the man couldn't see, or perhaps something he didn't want to see. Beneath his respectable life and sincere interest in spiritual things was an attachment stronger than his desire to follow Jesus.

"You lack one thing," Jesus told him.

That one thing wasn't another religious duty to add to his list. Jesus was putting his finger on the one part of the man's life he hadn't surrendered. His possessions weren't merely things he owned. They had gained such a grip on his heart that he couldn't let them go, even when Jesus personally invited him to follow.

Jesus didn't give this exact command to everyone he met, so this passage doesn't necessarily mean that every Christian must sell everything. But we shouldn't use that observation to make his words harmless. Jesus still demands first place in every life. Whatever we refuse to surrender has become more important to us than he is.

For this man, it was money. For someone else, it might be a relationship, a career, a comfortable lifestyle, the approval of others, or the determination to remain in control. We can be sincere, morally respectable, and interested in heaven while still keeping one part of our lives off-limits to God.

That's what makes this passage frightening. The man wanted eternal life, but he wanted his possessions more. He walked away sorrowful because he understood exactly what Jesus was asking and decided the price was too high.

Jesus has given everything for us. Following him means placing everything we have, everything we love, and everything we hope to become into his hands.

Nothing we're holding is worth walking away from him. —Chuck

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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

Reggie Arnold	602-4211
Steve Cotney	531-7517
Harold Rhodes	876-9296
Kyle Wadley	792-5922
Chuck Webster	586-5610
Rick Williams	706-5735
Donnie Winningham	222-7635

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MINISTER

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Kyle Wadley

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YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER

Marcus Williams

(615) 710-2319
Marcus@hoovercoc.org

Worship Assignments

Elder to Contact in October for Needs:
Reggie Arnold

Sunday AM and PM

Greeters, AM: Connie Morrison
(Handicap Entrance); Corey & Leah Covington (Back Entrance)

Usher: Drew Spivey

Nursery Attendant: Deebe Taylor

AM Call to Worship & Sermon: Chuck Webster

AM Singing: Kyle Wadley

Scripture Reading: Jim Petruzella

AM Opening Prayer: Matthew Cicero

Communion: Donnie Winningham

Announcements: Rick Williams

AM Closing Prayer: Chad Blackmon

PM Song Leader: Clint Richey

PM Opening Prayer: Jason McKeown

PM Speaker: Chuck Webster

PM Closing Prayer: Rick Williams

Audio/Cameras: Grant Dalton/Rick Williams; **Video:** Mark Lackey; **Security:**

Front Entrance: Daniel Warren; Handicap Entrance: Marc Handley

Contribution Baskets: Campbell Vick, Kai Sugita, Zach Blakemore, Scott Warren, Caleb Winningham, Sam Williams, Jonah White, and Garrett Vick

Bible Reading Plan for October 18-24

- ♦ **Sunday, October 18:** Acts 25-26; Psalm 131
- ♦ **Monday, October 19:** Acts 27-28; Psalm 132
- ♦ **Tuesday, October 20:** Romans 1-2; Psalm 133
- ♦ **Wednesday, October 21:** Romans 3-4; Psalm 134
- ♦ **Thursday, October 22:** Romans 5-6; Psalm 135
- ♦ **Friday, October 23:** Romans 7-8; Psalm 136
- ♦ **Saturday, October 24:** Romans 9-11; Psalm 137

Today

Visitors, welcome to our worship service this morning! We're glad you're here. Please **scan the QR Code** on the next page of the bulletin. We would love to know more about you and where you're from.

All adults are welcome on Sunday mornings to enjoy studying in one of the following classes: **Chuck Webster** is teaching the Auditorium class, and his topic is **"Bible Texts We'd Rather Skip,"** a study of difficult, troubling, and often misunderstood passages of Scripture. **Drew Spivey and Jason McKeown** are teaching in the Library, and their topic is **"Practicing the Way."** **Donnie Winningham** is teaching the Young Professionals on the book of **Romans**. On Wednesday nights at 7:00, our Hoover Series, **"Questions Asked OF God,"** will meet in the Auditorium.

Members and guests, join us after our worship service this morning for our **third Sunday congregational meal** in the fellowship hall downstairs.

The AHEPA 3 devotional is at 3:30 p.m. **Brent Reaves** will present the lesson.

This evening at 5:00, we will meet in the auditorium for a Bible lesson presented by **Chuck Webster**.

News and Events

Join us for a **Young at Heart Outing** on **Saturday, October 24**, to the **Catfish House in Millbrook, AL**. We plan to take the church bus, but seating is limited. Please let **Jean Coker** know if you plan to ride the bus or drive separately so she can give the restaurant an accurate head count. The bus will leave the church building at 4:00 p.m., and the plan is to meet at the restaurant at 6:00.

Join us for a **Baby Shower for Olivia Montgomery** on Sunday, October 25, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. She is registered at <https://my.babylister.com/etjvbixqu>.

(News & Events Cont.)

The Agape Pecan Sale has begun for the holiday season. You can contact Jean Coker at **205-527-6360** or jmcoker-au86@gmail.com. There are also order forms on the back rail in the auditorium. All orders must be in by October 31.

The Ladies' Bible Class meets weekly on Mondays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class is studying **The Commandments of the Lord: From Sinai to Sunday**. **Denia Petruzella and Leah Covington** are teaching the class.

Youth

- ♦ **TONIGHT!** Area-wide devotional at the Riverchase Church of Christ. The bus will leave the building at 4:30 p.m.
- ♦ **Wednesday, October 21:** F.A.M. Group Meetings.
- ♦ **Saturday, October 24:** Bonfire Devotional from 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- ♦ **Sunday, October 25:** Youth-led worship at the Childersburg Church of Christ from 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- ♦ **Friday-Sunday, October 30-November 1:** Fall Retreat at Hargis Christian Camp with some added Halloween fun!

Happy Anniversary

Dakotah & Kendyll Weeks	October 23
Jim & Christy Reece	October 24
Jonn & Camille Rock	October 24

Happy Birthday

Josiah Schlundt	October 18
Mary Thomas	October 21
Sam Williams	October 22
Felicia Arnold	October 23
Lucy McKeown	October 24
Thomas Smith	October 24

Carelines

Moranda Garrett, Jayne Ivy's friend, is having surgery on Tuesday, October 20, to remove a tumor on her pituitary gland. Also, please pray for **Jayvion**, Moranda's two-year-old son, who may need a feeding tube inserted into his stomach, and her sixteen-year-old son, **Phortune**, who is facing some difficult challenges in his life.

Keith Hills, Melinda Richardson's brother-in-law, is suffering with cancer. As you pray for Keith, please also remember his wife, Janice, and their daughter, Alexis.

Kellie Covington, Corey Covington's sister, is recovering from a lumpectomy and is waiting on the results of the biopsy.

Karen Shepherd, Virgie Banks' daughter, is recovering from back surgery.

Jill Evans, Lynn McKeown's daughter and Jason McKeown's sister, has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Richard Lawson, Alyssa Long's dad, is continuing cancer treatments. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

Scarlette Smith, JoAnn McDonald's daughter, has completed her last chemo treatment for ovarian cancer. The family appreciates the prayers from our congregation.

Kim Green, Karen Sugita's sister, is now at Pine Hills Rehab and Wellness Center at 200 N. Pine Hill Road, Birmingham, AL 35217. Cards are appreciated.

Remember our church family: Greg Nobles, Mollye Melton, Bob and Joy Brooks, Gail Powell, Sondra Moss, Jean Prince, Sharon McCraw, Linda Graham, Betty Crawford, Celestine Hicks, Diann Tippins, and Tyler Tippins.

Remember our family and friends: Willard Worthington (Virgie Banks' brother), Russ Stringer (Nancy Griner's son-in-law), Doug Williams (Landyn Williams' dad), Doug & Cathy Abbott (Joel Abbott's parents), Betty Shackelford (Chè Abbott's mother), Rex Anderson (former member of Hoover), and Kathy Culbertson (former member of Hoover).



Religious Involvement and Children

A large study of more than 16,000 children found an association between parents' religious involvement and several positive behavioral and social outcomes in their children.

The first study to examine the impact of religion on the development of young children was authored by John Bartkowski, a sociologist with Mississippi State University. Bartkowski's team questioned the parents and teachers of more than 16,000 children, asking the adults to rate the children—most of them age six—on self-control, frequency of poor or unhappy behavior, and their ability to respect and work with peers. The results were compared to the parents' rate of attendance at church services, how frequently they talked about faith with their child, and whether or not there was arguing over religion in the home. The researchers also found an important qualification: when religion became a source of conflict between parents, some of those positive effects were diminished.

The children of parents who regularly attended church services and talked with them about religion were rated by both parents and teachers as showing better behavior, self-control skills, and social skills than children from non-religious families. Children whose parents both attended church regularly were rated as having the best behavior and being the most well-adjusted.

"Let the little children come to Me."
—Mark 10:14

Attendance and Offering October 11, 2026

Attendance

Bible Study: 184

AM Worship: 258

PM Worship: 141 (This includes our Knit Together Groups)

Wednesday: Fall Fest!

Contribution: \$11,265.79

Weekly Budget: \$15,380.77

Weekly Average: \$15,970.79

Contribution to Date: \$654,802.36

Hoover Supported Works

- *Childhaven, Cullman, AL*
- *Churches of Christ Disaster Relief*
- *Clothing Closet*
- *Food Pantry*
- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*

Mission Trips

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

Oversight

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

Visitors and members, please scan the QR Code below to log your attendance.



<p style="text-align: center;">Help My Unbelief (Mark 9:14-29)</p> <p>Don't let the _____ of Jesus's followers turn you away from Jesus.</p> <p>You can ask Jesus for help with the _____ you actually have.</p> <p>Your hope rests on the strength of Jesus rather than the strength of your _____.</p> <p>However long you've followed Jesus, you still need to _____.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GriefShare Class</p> <p>So many people in the world have experienced significant losses in their lives, so we're thankful to be able to offer this GriefShare Ministry. It is organized around a thirteen-week small-group program where participants meet together for around two hours each week and watch professionally designed videos featuring professional grief counselors and also people who are grieving. These presentations are coupled with discussions that are designed to internalize what participants learn in the videos. The class is now in session and will continue on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.</p> <p>We have additional information for GriefShare Sessions offered on other days and times in the Birmingham area. Please see Harold or Donna Rhodes if you have any questions regarding GriefShare. You can also find additional information at https://www.griefshare.org/.</p>
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<p>Place Postage</p>
