

Covington Family News

January 26, 2025



How to Bring up Children

The rearing of children is probably the most difficult task on the face of this earth. All of us desperately want our children to turn out right. I certainly do not claim to have all the answers. As a matter of fact, the older I get the less I know. However, I want to make some suggestions in this article that I hope will help all of us in bringing up our children.

1. Make home the brightest and most attractive place on earth. When children grow up in a good, happy atmosphere they have a very good chance of becoming good, happy individuals.
2. Spend time with your children. Many children are literally being starved for affection because their mama and daddy do not take time for them. Many children know their baby sitters better than their own parents. Our children need us! They will soon be gone and then we will have all the time we need.
3. Make your children responsible for a limited number of duties at home. This will teach the responsibility and the importance of work.
4. Impress upon your children's minds that making character is more important than making money. Paul said, "... Provide things honest in the sight of all men" (Romans 12:17). We must teach our children the importance of integrity.
5. Realize the importance of example. The power of example is the greatest influence we have on our children. If you want your children to be like Christ, then live like Christ before them.

As parents, our task is difficult, but certainly it is not impossible. With God's help we can properly rear our children. It takes a lot of prayer, wisdom and effort.

via Bulletin Digest

Ken Tyler
via Broadway church of Christ
Campbellsville, KY



*Serving Our Community
for the Glory of God*

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J.J. Brown
Benny Collins
Brad Evins
Brandon Matlock
Alan Otts
Craig Robinson
David Stewart
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Terry Wall
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SERVING THIS WEEK 1/26/25 AM Worship Service

Announcements Ken Bringle Jr.
Song Leader: Beau Phillips
Sermon: Jeff Phillips

Presiding Over the Lord's Table:

Head: Breck Beasley
Chris Huggins, Hadley Mason, Ron Teems, Caleb Smith,
Eason Robinson, Wesley Fowler, Chris Maness, Clint Stacks

Opening Prayer: Jerry Gatlin
Closing Prayer: Hadley Mason

Nursery Worker: Mandy Billings

January Food Committee Leader: Debbie Otts

Attendance Card Collectors: (1/26)

Jaxton Carter, Nolan Carter, Ethan Matlock

January Door Greeters:

Main Lobby Entrance: Alan & Debbie Otts
Auditorium Entrance: Brad & Becky Evins

PM Worship Service

Song Leader: Beau Phillips
Opening Prayer: Jimmy McMahan
Closing Prayer: Neil Bringle
Sermon Jeff Phillips

PROOF OF OUR LOVE

Sunday Bible Classes	148
Worship AM	202
PM	124
Wednesday Bible Study	144

VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Cathy Hammons Southaven, MS
Landon Evans
Bri Gay
Charis Cartwright

Covington Church of Christ

1690 Highway 51 South – PO Box 9
Covington, TN 38019

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

Bible Classes 9:00AM
Worship 10:00AM & 5:30PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes 7:00 PM

Mike’s Message

Communication, The Love Food

Some popular marriage enrichment books are developed on the basis of a storehouse of love. The idea is that love must be fed regularly or it will starve and die. Since love is an emotional need, we can only go a short time without it. If we do not feed the love for our spouse, they will likely look for the nourishment from someone else. The inspired apostle Paul writes, “Husbands love your wives . . .” (Eph. 5:25, 28); and he instructs “young women to love their husbands” (Titus 2:4). Love in marriage is commanded for the husband and wife. Love in marriage is a selfless offering of oneself for another (cf. 1 Cor. 13). It is the giving and receiving of self. Likewise, the very meaning of the word “communication” involves giving and receiving i.e., sharing. Therefore, by its very nature, love demands effective communication. Effective communication requires the husband and wife to share themselves—their thoughts, ideas, desires, and needs. How can one know the needs, thoughts and desires of the other without sharing? When a couple learns to share, their love for one another grows. Communication is the food that nourishes love in a marriage. The idea of “two becoming one flesh” (Gen. 2:24b) also involves communication. Sharing the purpose for our lives is essential in “becoming one flesh.” Solomon and his bride were not reluctant to share their feelings for one another, and their love flourished (see Song of Solomon). Effective communication requires the desire for understanding. James writes, “But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger” (James 1:19). True understanding involves empathy—seeing it from your mate’s perspective. Understanding one another is more about listening than talking. Solomon asserts, “He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him” (Prov. 18:13). For love to grow, we must learn to listen and understand. I am convinced that all failed marriages lose the love because of a failure to communicate effectively. Studies have shown that couples who communicate effectively stay “in love.” Therefore, communication is vital to building and sustaining love in a marriage. How are you doing in your marriage? Has the love grown cold? Try sharing your thoughts and feelings. Try listening with a strong desire to understand. You might be surprised at how your love for one another grows.

–Mike Rogers

Prayer List



- Paulette Watkins—Encompass Health-Austin Peay
- Ken Bringle Sr—Recovering from surgery
- Susie Wyatt—Recovering from surgery
- Alan Otts
- Larry WhaleyII—Home
- Judy Merritt
- Robert Brownlee
- Jeff Cooper—Friend of Susan Mason
- Stan McDivitt—Cousin of Susan Mason
- John Oliver Wall—Recovering from surgery
- Israel, Wildfire Victims, Storm Victims, Our Country, Our Missionaries, LaVerne Baxter, Heath Billings, Debra Brownlee’s granddaughter, Gloria Brownlee, Captain Mike Shipley, Larry Coughlan, Kenneth Coulston, Jason Elliott, Hattie Fields, Malissa Garner, Jackie Gatlin, Kay Gatlin, Pat Gatlin, Kyle Hanks, K.C. Haynes, Ruth Heath, Coy Hendrix, Vicki Mayfield, Phyllis McLillie, Kathy McMahan, Gigi Miller, Robin Montgomery, Larry Newman, Sandy Newman, Sophie Nolan, Randy Rhoads, Bonita Rogers, Donna Sonwineski, Anthony Stacks, David South, Melvin Wall, Fran Westmoreland, Delores Whaley
- NURSING HOME:** Covington Care: Shirley Laxton, Cynthia Wilson
- MILITARY:** Killian Bridgeman, Logan Bridgeman, Major Creel, Bradley Evins, Dayana Fendley, Danny Fields, Tanner Mason, Richie Newbill, Chris Nowak, Jeddiah Phillips, Jacob Sampson, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart

Begin each day with a simple prayer to let
God know you’re glad he’s there.
Praise Him for the things He’s done
As He unveils the morning sun.
Rise and shine; get out of bed.
And thank Him for the day ahead.
Wear a smile, don’t look depressed;
Show the world that you’ve been blessed.
Stand straight and tall, don’t be afraid
For this is the day the Lord has made!

Clay Harrison
via The Lebanon Letter

Theme For 2025:
A Common Love

Calendar of Events

JANUARY EVENTS

27—Monday Night for the Master, Group 4
28—Ladies Bible Class, 10AM
29—Devotional/Worship in song
We will be making Oreo Balls again this year for the Chocolate Tour. We will need lots of help to make the 2000 treats. All of the information and the recipe are on the church Facebook page. Please see David or Heather Keith with any questions or to sign up to make some treats. Thanks to everyone for helping!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



March 2-5—Gospel Meeting; Speaker: Todd Clipard
June 1-4—VBS

AREA EVENT

February 5-9—Great Smoky Mountain Marriage Retreat; register at www.smokymountainmarriage.com

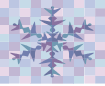
BIRTHDAYS JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 1



- 26—Libby Click
- 27—August Charnock
- 28—Mary Beasley

SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Donnie Benjamin & family in the death of his cousin, *Kathy Austin*.



*“Though your sins are like scarlet,
They shall be as white as snow. . .”*
Isaiah 1:18

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE JAN.26-FEB. 1

- January 26—Ex. 26-28
- January 27—Ex. 29-31
- January 28—Ex. 32-34
- January 29—Ex. 35-37
- January 30—Ex. 38-40
- January 31—Leviticus 1-3
- February 1—Lev. 4-6

The Carpenter’s Apprentice

What would you say if someone came up to you and asked why you always seem so happy? “Your life may be the only sermon someone ever hears,” has been stated in many different ways and is a sermon I have heard many times over the years by many different preachers. The sermons are rooted in the old adage, “A picture is worth a thousand words,” meaning, of course, what people see is often better than what we tell them. Often coupled with scriptures like 1 Corinthians 12 that talk about all who are in Christ are parts of one body and we can’t all be the same part. The passage paints a great picture as Paul asks the church at Corinth, “If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be” (1 Corinthians 12:17)? He highlights the necessity and blessing of our different talents and abilities in the proper function of the body of Christ. Too often though, I think Christians walk away from these lessons justifying and excusing their lack of participation in the work of the church. Too often we hide behind, “I’m not that part of the body” or “that is not my gift.” That type of thinking says we are ignoring or forgetting how Paul ends chapter 12 saying, “earnestly desire the greater gifts and I will show you a better way” (1 Corinthians 12:31). Jesus came to seek and save the lost and “not to be served, but to serve” (Mark 10:45). If our desire is to be like Him, we must be about the Father’s business as well. After all, we are the body of which Hhe is the head (Ephesians 1:22-23), so no matter what part we are, we are still doing our part to spread His word with the skills we have. To say we have no skills is no excuse either, the parable of the talents in Matthew 25 shows us God wants us to do something with what we have. He expects it (Matthew 25:24-27). No matter what part we are, we should be happy to be a part of Christ. So back to the original question, what would you say? Maybe I should have started with, “Would anyone ever come up and ask you why you were so happy? If the answer is no, my next question would have to be something along the lines of, “Well, what sermon are you preaching with this life of yours that may be the only sermon someone ever hears?” As Christians, we should clearly be seen as joyful because we know “this world is not our home.” A better place has been or is being prepared for us. Nothing can take that away. We used to sing this song, “I’m happy today, Oh yes, I’m happy today, In Jesus Christ I’m happy today. Because He’s taken all my sins away and that’s why I’m happy today!” By the way, what a great answer to the question we started with.

-jeff