

# Covington Family News

## April 27, 2025

### PLEASING GOD

Our highest aim in life should be that of “*pleasing God.*” How do we do this? The answer is by FAITH. Read carefully **Hebrews 11:6**, “*And without FAITH it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must BELIEVE that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.*”

Faith is more than intellectual consent that God exists. It is truly believing in God, trusting him fully and then obeying his commands. Note both words “faith” and “believe” occur in our passage, one being a noun the other verb.

What does FAITH do? How does BELIEVING act?

**FAITH** is a life-style, “*But my righteous one shall live by FAITH, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him*” (**Heb. 10:38**). Both Enoch and Noah “*walked with God*” (**Genesis 5:24; 6:9**). A way of life.

**FAITH** obeys God. It is impossible to claim to have a saving faith without carefully obeying God. A FAITH that does not obey is no faith at all. “*For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also FAITH apart from works is dead*” (**James 2:26**). “*By FAITH Abraham obeyed God when called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going*” (**Hebrews 11:8**).

**FAITH** makes right decisions, even choosing suffering over treasures. “*By FAITH Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of a Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin*” (**Hebrews 11:24, 25**).

Finally, like Abraham our FAITH will be counted as righteousness (**Romans 4:22**). How wonderful to please God by living and walking FAITH!

via Bulletin Digest

Clinton Storm  
Merced church of Christ  
Merced, OK



### SHEPHERDS

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### DEACONS

Ken Bringle Jr.  
Neil Bringle  
J.J. Brown  
Benny Collins  
Brad Evins  
Brandon Matlock  
Alan Otts  
Craig Robinson  
David Stewart  
Robert Trimm  
Terry Wall  
Jon McCain

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### SERVING THIS WEEK 4/27/25 AM Worship Service

**Announcements** Ken Bringle Jr.  
**Song Leader:** Neil Bringle  
**Sermon** Mike Rogers

### Presiding Over the Lord’s Table:

Head: LeRoy Finto  
Donnie Benjamin, Zach Higgins, Ken Mason, Landon Bringle, Craig Robinson, Myles Benjamin, Brad Evins, Gordon Cartwright

**Opening Prayer:** Hadley Mason  
**Closing Prayer:** Alan Otts

**Nursery Worker:** Sydney Trimm

**Attendance Card Collectors:** 4/27)

Tyler Bringle, Dayton Maness, Beau Glidewell

### April Door Greeters:

Main Lobby Entrance: Alan & Debbie Otts  
Auditorium Entrance: Michael & Susie Wyatt

### PM Worship Service

**Song Leader:** Neil Bringle  
**Opening Prayer:** Jimmy McMahan  
**Closing Prayer:** Jerry Gatlin  
**Mission Report** Jeff Phillips

Sunday Bible Classes	101
Worship AM	231
PM	107
Wednesday Bible Study	125

### VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Marcia Murray	Covington, TN
Debbie Beasley	Covington, TN
Austin & Kensleigh Phillips	Alamo, TN
Cindy Randle	Antioch, TN
Frank Kirkpatrick family	Henning, TN
Charlotte Griffin	
Andrew, Whiteney & Ty Connor	
Sara Honeycutt	

**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

Grace By Faith

Earned salvation is the essence of every religion on earth except Christianity. All other religions strive to earn God's favor and to achieve moral perfection. This was true in the Jewish ceremonial law of the Old Testament; and it is true with Buddhism, the Hindu doctrine of karma, and the Sh-aria law of Islam. But the essence of Christianity is not an attempt to earn God’s favor with works. We know that we can never be everything God desires us to be. God also understands this. He made us free moral agents to make our own choices. He never wanted puppets on strings attached to His own hands. So, because of His great love, He provides His own grace.

The doctrine of grace teaches that it is impossible for man to earn his way into eternal life with God. The easiest way to explain grace is, that God sent His Son to take my place in the death I deserved (Rom. 6:23) and give me His place in the righteousness I could never obtain on my own (see 2 Cor. 5:21).

Faith is not simply a cognitive recognition and confession about Jesus. It is the motivating factor for everything one who desires to please God does. In Hebrews 11 the writer exemplifies each character saying, “By faith” he did what he did. The writer also says, “Without faith it is impossible to please” God (11:6). James confirms the motivating factor of faith saying, “Show me your faith apart from your works, and I’ll show you my faith by my works” (2:18). Therefore, grace is what God does for man; and faith is what man does for God. The apostle Paul put it this way: “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Eph. 2:8-9a). Grace is not the gift from God in this verse. Salvation is the gift (cf. Rom. 6:23). Also, Paul states, “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God” (Rom. 5:1-2). Grace gives us the opportunity to be saved, but it is our own faith that saves us. Therefore, it is obvious that grace is God’s part in my salvation, but faith is my part. Our faith moves us into God’s grace by our own obedience (see Rom. 6:1-4, 15-18). We must continue living by faith in order to remain under His grace. Then, when our life on earth is over, we can face judgment with confident assurance that we have an eternal home of peace and rest, because we accepted His grace by our own faith.

--Mike Rogers


Prayer List

Kathy McMahan  
Rhonda Kidd in the loss of her granddad. Also remember Storm victims, earthquake victims, Israel, Our Country, Our Missionaries, LaVerne Baxter, Heath Billings, Neil Bringle, Captain Mike Shipley, Georgia Cook, Steve Cook, Jeff Cooper, Larry Coughlan, Kenneth Coulston, Jason Elliott, Hattie Fields, Malissa Garner, Jackie Gatlin, Kay Gatlin, Pat Gatlin, Kyle Hanks, K.C. Haynes, Helen Kennedy, Stan McDevitt, Phyllis McLillie, Judy Merritt, Gigi Miller, Robin Montgomery, Larry Newman, Sophie Nolan, Randy Rhoads, Addie Rimmer, Bonita Rogers, Phillip Scrip, Donna Sonwineski, Anthony Stacks, David South, Melvin Wall, Paulette Watkins, Larry Whaley II, Oscar Williams

**NURSING HOME:**  
**Covington Care:** Shirley Laxton, Cynthia Wilson  
**Ripley Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center:** Vicki Mayfield

**MILITARY:**  
Killian Bridgeman, Logan Bridgeman, Major Creel, Bradley Evins, Dayana Fendley, Tanner Mason, Richie Newbill, Chris Nowak, Michael J. Pena, Jedidiah Phillips, Jacob Sampson, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart

**BIRTHDAYS APRIL 27-MAY 3**



29—Judy McCool, Isaac Stewart  
1—Erin Evins  
2—Kay Gatlin

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
1—Jon & Allison McCain  
3—Albert & Deborah Cates

**AREA EVENTS**  
April 26—Ladies Day at Estes Church of Christ, Registration-9:00; Speakers: Laurel, Amy, & Karen Sewell, Holly Sewell-McCain, In-Laws BUILDING PRAISE-WORTHY FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS Not Out-Laws  
April 26—Ladies Day at Southaven Church of Christ, Registration- 8:45; Speaker: Jeanny Gilpin, “Wash Day: Sorting Out Life One Load At A Time”

**BIBLE READING SCHEDULE APRIL 27-MAY 3**  
April 27—1 Chr. 16-18  
April 28—1 Chr. 19-21  
April 29—1 Chr. 22-25  
April 30—1 Chr. 26-29  
May 1—11 Chr. 1-3  
May 2—11 Chr. 4-6  
May 3—11 Chr. 7-9

Calendar of Events

APRIL EVENTS

28—Monday Night for the Master, Group 4  
29—Ladies Bible Class, 10AM  
30—Devotional/Worship in song

***We had another great year with Lads to Leaders! We sincerely thank our youth, their parents, everyone who donated food items, & volunteers. You all helped make this year a success. We are proud of you and appreciate all of your countless hours of hard work and dedication!***



***Everyone is invited to the building for a Graduation Celebration, Friday, May 2 @ 6PM***  
***Sign-up sheet is on the table by the Nursery***

**Class of 2025 High School Graduates**

Crockett County High School	Eason Robinson
Faith Heritage Christian Academy	Garrett Howard

**Covington Church of Christ**  
**Mental Health Weekend Seminar**  
**Biblical & Practical**  
**Help for Those Who Hurt**  
**May 3-4**  
**With**  
**Neil Richey, PhD. LPC**

**Saturday**  
6:00PM Embracing Calm: Coping with Stress & Anxiety  
7:00PM Being There: Supporting Loved Ones in Times of Crisis  
8:00PM Finding the Light: A Journey Through Depression

**Childcare will be provided Saturday for children 0-12 yrs. old**

**Sunday**  
9:00AM Mind Over Matter: Strategies for Rewiring an Anxious Mind  
10:00AM Releasing the Weight: Navigating Guilt in Mental Health  
12:30PM Together We Thrive: Building a Supportive Community

Luncheon on Sunday (Potluck)  
Everyone is invited!

Carpenter’s Apprentice

Thefreedictionary.com defines a proverb in this way, “A short pithy saying in frequent and widespread use that expresses a basic truth or practical precept.” (I know what all those words mean except one so I had to look up pithy too. In this context pithy would mean short and sweet, although terse, forceful and meaningful are also used in explaining the word.) The fact that common sense and general truths are mentioned in defining a proverb indicate the principle of a proverb is not based on an individual definition of truth or more specifically whether or not you want to believe it, but based on much broader scope of observation. Therefore, like it or not, most of the time, what is said in a proverb is going to happen. So long as we are not talking about a specific proverb, most are willing to accept proverbial truth. We understand, “the early bird gets the worm” to mean get up and get going. Many are good without the worm, it’s a choice they make to do without something (first meal) because to them something else (sleep) is better. The only one affected is the late bird, so no one much cares. Similarly we understand the proverb, “Practice makes perfect” in fact, how much more sensible can a proverb be? I have always heard the only difference between a professional golfer and a regular person is 5000 swings a day. While perfection is not attainable, imagine how much better you’d be at something you practiced 500 times a day! While we understand what a proverb is and use many every day, why is it, proverbs like the one mentioned in the book of Proverbs in chapter 22:6 seem to get everyone’s hackles up and the definition of a proverb suddenly begins to change or take on new meanings? The proverb says, “Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6). Compare Proverbs 22:6 with this advice, “There is no use crying over spilled milk.” The proverb is not meant to pass judgement or blame, it simply states a factual observation! Proverbs 22:6 is meant to impart wisdom and the necessity for parents to be intentional about parenting. Your older child has manners because they were instilled in them when they were young. We demand, “Yes sir” and “no sir.” We teach cleanliness is next to Godliness (even though that is not in the Bible) expecting neatness and order. We make sure they get to every practice, do their homework and keep their grades up. We demand excellence and responsibility in everything often citing Colossians 3:17 and 23. Most of the time we model the behaviors we expect like our manners and work ethic. So, let’s ask some honest questions, what do they see when we worship? What do they hear about other Christians? When do they see us put God first? How do they view our service to God? Let’s consider one more proverb, “A picture is worth a thousand words.”

-jeff