



New Date for



Saturday,
August 12

VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL

This Week's Lesson

Sunday Morning Worship

Ready or Not

Hebrews 11.8-10

Evening Worship

The Key to Eternal Life

John 3.14-15

THE URGENCY OF THE GOSPEL

I cannot imagine one day, one hour, or even one moment outside the grace and love of the Lord Jesus Christ. To be outside of the grace of God is to be lost in sin and without hope of everlasting life. So it saddens me to see countless people at risk of losing their souls each day. Without the grace of God, they have no hope (Ephesians 2.11-12). They desperately need to hear and obey the gospel! The Lord Jesus Christ "gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Galatians 1.4-5). No other sacrifice could have atoned for our sins (Hebrews 10.4). He was the perfect sacrifice for all time and for every generation (Hebrews 9.11-12).

Many will be lost on the day of Judgment, because they do not know God or because they have not obeyed the gospel of our Lord Jesus (2 Thessalonians 1.7-10). Our mission, as Christians, is to give them what they need the most: the gospel truth wrapped in love. We must share the gospel with everyone who will listen. We must reach the 322 million souls of America and the 7.3 billion souls of the world. According to the CIA's Fact Book, there will be 360,000 births today and 151,600 deaths today. How will they hear the saving message of Jesus Christ? What part will you play? Our task is not done until every soul hears the gospel. Will you help us share God's saving message with the lost?

BETTER COMMUNICATION

In a July 2, 2011 website post in *Psychology Today*, Dr. Clifford Lazarus offered several keys to good communication. Among them were:

- *Make sure you have the attention of the one with whom you wish to communicate*
- *Try to send clear messages that are both congruent in verbal and nonverbal dimensions*
- *Say what you mean and mean what you say*

Poor communication can cause relationships to fail, sports teams to lose, countries to disintegrate, and people to be lost. So, in the interest of good communication, here are a few more keys to improve your next conversation:

1. *Empathy.* Do you put yourself in the place of the other person when you talk to them? Do you consider their feelings and interests?
2. *Listen.* Colleges train people how to speak, but they don't teach them how to listen. Don't be quick to interrupt someone. Let them finish what they're saying. Don't ignore what they are saying while you are waiting to jump into the conversation.
3. *Don't try to fix everything.* When someone is sharing a personal issue, we tend to go into "fix it" mode. We instantly become experts in all areas of life. But unless the other person specifically asks for your advice, don't be quick to give it. Just let them vent. Be quiet.
4. *Control your volume.* Don't fall into the trap of thinking that the louder you speak the more right you are. Avoid sarcasm, condescension, and bragging. Speak to an adult like an adult. Be mature in your speech.

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen"
(Ephesians 4.29).

Buddy Johnson

Collins' Corner

Matthew 6:9-13

Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

In the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6, Jesus isn't just giving us a prayer to recite or memorize, he is reshaping and reframing how we think about God, others, and interaction between the two. Toward the end of this prayer, in verse 12, Jesus pleads for God to "forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors."

For a long time I think that maybe we have engrained in our minds that we should forgive in order to be forgiven. We forgive to get "off the hook" so to speak. It's similar to the way that we've treated how we handle saying "I'm sorry." You know how your parents did it with you and your siblings. Someone messes up—tell them you're sorry—sorry—good boy. Then you move on. We do things in order to get off the hook all the time, and maybe we've treated forgiveness that way. "IF YOU DON'T FORGIVE YOU WON'T BE FORGIVEN!" So then we operate out of a place of fear. And that's not great.

Just doing good things and right things with improper motivations are not spiritually sustainable because they're not connected to Jesus. So, I don't forgive SO THAT I can be forgiven, I forgive BECAUSE I've been forgiven.

Jesus begins this section of the prayer with "Lord, forgive me." Before this, his reshaping of our thoughts begins to take place: I recognize you as father, I want what you want in this life, help me to see things the way you see them, I want to be totally dependent on you...so forgive me. Forgive me when I'm not. Forgive me when I want what I want and not what you want. Forgive me when I see the world without considering you. Forgive me when I don't trust or depend on you. Forgive me.

It's awful hard for me to forgive anyone if I don't first recognize my need to be forgiven. It's easier for me to extend grace to those in need of it when I'm in need of it myself. It's easier to give something away that is not yours to begin with. That's common sense. Forgiveness isn't mine to own, but it is mine to share. So let's share it. I don't own forgiveness. I didn't purchase it. It doesn't begin with me. I have, however, received forgiveness. Therefore, I should give it away as freely as when I received it.

Matt

Preschool-Primary and Intermediate Grades

Sunday Morning

Cradle Roll	Jane Foy	Anna Gilbert	108
Toddlers	Laura Fox	Linda Gilbert	105
2 year olds	Rebecca Baggett		106
3 year olds	Kayla McCord		100
4 year olds	Brook Gilbert	Seth Gilbert	103
Kindergarten	Jeana Piggott		107
1st Grade	Sandy Cupp		202
2nd Grade	Rachael Liner	Bryan Liner	203
3rd Grade	Andy Milton		206
4th Grade	Andy Milton		206
5th Grade	Mae Fowler		208
6th Grade	Dave Piggott		210

Wednesday Night

Cradle Roll	Jenifer McDaniel		108
Toddlers	Cindy Mackie	Lauren Mackie	105
2 year olds	Olivia Simpson	Molly Chaffin	106
3 year olds	Stephanie Chaffin		100
4 year olds	Lynn Lane		103
Kindergarten	Pam Rawdon		107
1st Grade	Lisa Rhodes		202
2nd Grade	Sarah Lane		203
3rd Grade	Courtney Norton	Lindsey Norton	206
4th Grade	Courtney Norton	Lindsey Norton	206
5th Grade	Rick Gilbert		208
6th Grade	Glenn Binkley		210

Teens Bible Class—Matt Collins—Downstairs

Adult Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Comparative Religions—Don Viar—College (215)
Parables—Matt Collins/Sean Flatt—20s-30s (214)
Give Me the Heart of a Servant—Buddy Johnson/Jason Fowler 30s-40s (213)

I and II Peter—Bobby Lane—Library
21st Century Galatians—John Rhodes—Fellowship Hall
Christian Growth: My Salvation + Your Salvation = Our Salvation—David Whiteaker—Small Auditorium
Hebrews—Morris Mabry—(114)
Jude & Revelation—Laura Jackson—Ladies (115)

Wednesday Afternoon Class 1:30pm

Proverbs—David Vaughn—(115)

Wednesday Night

Philippians—Brian Carver—College (215)
Survey of Church History—Houston Bynum—Auditorium
Fearless—Joe Hill—Room (114)
Exciting Stories in Genesis—Buddy Johnson/Doug Fowler—Fellowship Hall
James—Delores Wheatley—Library (Ladies)
Breaking Free—Anna Gilbert/Carrie Simpson—Ladies-115

News & Announcements

Congratulations to **Shawn & Jessica (Long) Wilson** on the birth of their son, **Samuel Atticus Wilson**, who was born May 9, weighing 7 pounds 14 ounces and 19 inches long. The proud grandparents are **Mike & Shelia Long** and **Reed & Tammy Wilson**, and the proud great grandmother is **Faye Wilson**.

Congratulations to **Jordan & Jessica (Qualls) Burgess** on the birth of their daughter **Lennox Lee Burgess**, who was born on May 12, weighing 7 pounds 8 ounces and 20 inches long. **David & Rosemary Andrews** are the proud grandparents and **Gary & Bobbie Wyatt** are the proud great grandparents.

Remember in Prayer and Praise!

It was great to see **Richard LaFever, Adriel Stout and Janice Parish** back in worship with us Sunday!!!

Matt Collins will have surgery to remove his thyroid today at Vanderbilt.

Jeremy Fortner, son of **Ken & Marty Clark**, has had a setback, and the family pleads for your prayers.

Herman Cupp, father of **Jann Cupp, Jon Cupp, Karen Edgington and Kelly Lucius**, is seriously ill in East Tennessee. Please continue to pray for the family.

Gayle McNew, aunt of **Jimmy Patterson**, is recovering from surgery in Florida.

April Sunshine Davis received great news that the pre-cancerous tissue removed from her leg is benign.

Remember those who are dealing with cancer:

Kathy Adams, Linda Alcorn, Kenneth Allen, Dean Boles, Kaye Bowman, Rene' Canfield, Joy Carter, Matt Collins, Walter Fitzpatrick, Jeremy Fortner, Tim Jennings, Dave Leaf, Angela Leffew, Rhett Massey, Paula Palk, Jan Shepherd and Marty Smith

Remember Our Shut-ins:

Bethesda: Jan Shuster, Cornelia Steakley & Lyda Taylor

Heritage Pointe: Peggy Cooper and Wilma Hayes

NHC Healthcare: Evelyn Solt & Aletha Tino

His Place: Lyman Schroeder

Signature Health-Algood: Matilda Craighead

At Home: Hugh & Kathy Adams, Herman Bean, Margaret Cunningham, Mary Dyer, Neta Ford, Geneva Glasgow, Peggy Mackie, Ralph Medley, Pat McCanless, Leighton Sissom, Claudine Smith, Frances Smith, Marty Smith and Jordan Terry

THANK YOU! Thanks to all of you for the cards, phone calls, and visits during my recent knee replacement surgery and recovery. I am recovering well and appreciate so very much all your prayers and concerns.

In Christian Love, **Adriel Stout**



Wedding Gift Tea for **Kimberly Miller**, bride elect of **Bradley Bynum**, this Sunday, **May 21 from 1:30 to 3:00**, in the Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Borden's, Belk, Kohl's and Walmart.

YAH Cincinnati Motorcoach Trip:

Deadline is this **Sunday, May 21**. There are only a few left who have not paid. We still have seats available so please spread the word so we can have a full trip. You can drop your payment off at the church office. Make checks payable to **Donnie Westbrooks**. Thank you so much to those who have already paid.



MAGI: May items are pencil sharpeners, paddle balls, cars, trucks and tooth paste.

Young At Heart June Fun: On **June 10**, we will be leaving our parking lot at **9am** to Rugby, Tennessee. The cost is \$32.00 per person, and includes lunch, taxes, gratuity and the guided tour cost. You will also have time to shop in the Rugby Commissary on your own. Deadline for sign-up and payment is Saturday, May 27. Make all checks payable to **Larry Harkleroad**.



Blood Assurance will be in our front parking lot with their Blood Mobile on Monday, **May 29, from 12:30pm to 5:00pm**. Call 931-239-9411 or go to bloodassurance.org/jacoc to schedule an appointment.

Book Drive for Sycamore Elementary School:

Sycamore Elementary School is collecting gently used books for their summer reading program. If you have child friendly books that need a new home, please donate in the tub by Matt's office. Donations will be collected until the end of May.

