

God's Word

Ready With a Response

There are far too many people living their lives outside the covenant promises of the Lord because they've been disillusioned by "the church". I had two encounters in the same day with two such people.

The first was a young man searching for a belief system to call his own. He has a Christian background and wanted to know how I choose as I did. I shared that as a child I went to church because there was no other option. That's just how it was! It wasn't until I was much older that I became sick and tired of being sick and tired (and sad, worried and angry) that I cried out to the Lord to be in my life.

This young man is intrigued with Islam and its disciplined lifestyle. I listened as he shared his comparisons of Islam and Christianity. I only answered when asked a specific question. One thing unsolicited I offered was that he and his fiancé need to be on this quest together. "Whatever" was chosen they need to be on the journey as a family united. There was lots more to the interaction; not enough space to share it. Prayerfully, we will have opportunity to interact again. I was honored that he trusted me enough to allow me in on this very personal subject.

Later that day a woman (another former church goer) asked me a question regarding prayer. Someone she knows had told her that while preaching, her pastor told the listening congregation that the way they prayed was wrong. He offered no explanation, no remedy...no nothing. He left them hanging; confused and questioning their prayer life. Her question for me; Is there one right way to pray? My response centered on the Lord's prayer being a "model" prayer. Yet, more times than not all we may be able to manage in prayer is, "JESUS!". He knows how to decipher the unspoken.

I told her that I used to teach my Bible study kids their prayers "should" contain ACTS - which the Lord's prayer certainly contains.

ut even if you should suffer for the sake o f righteousness blessed. are VOU do not fear And intimidation, their do and not be troubled. sanctify Christ Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence and keep good conscience so that the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior

in Christ will be put to shame. I Peter 3:14-





Sick, Shut-in and Prayer Requests and **Prayer**

Please call these names out during your personal prayer time; and in your intercessions ask the Father to bless these individuals and ministries in His own way and in His own time.

Bro. John Agee Bro. Nathaniel Agee Sis. Yolanda Allen Sis. Ada Anderson The Arnette/Cavanaugh Fam<u>ily</u>

Dea. David Avers, Sr. The Banks/Callahan

Family

Sis. Ethel Barksdale Sis. Roberta Bass Elder Dorothy Bishop

Bro. Atilol Bland

Dea. James W. Bland Sis. Martha Bland

Bro. Shakespeare Bland Rev. Peggy Brice

Bro. Russell Bradshaw, III

Bro. Larry Brown

Bro. Sherman Brown Bro. William Brown

Sis. Mamie Bruce

Bro. Andre Callahan

Sis. Judy Callahan

Sis. Felicia Christmas

Bro. Shaun Daniel

Sis. Marcine Dillard

Bro. John/Sis. Susie Divers

Bro. Charlie English

Dea. Ashland Fortune & LC Sheriff's Dept.

Sis. Mary Fortune

Bro. James Fox

Bro. Jamar Galdden & Family

Sis. Holly Grooms Bro. Robert Grooms Bro. Franklin Hardy Sis. Letia Harris

Sis. Marie Harris

Rev. Edna Holt Sis Janas Howard

Kingdom Living Temple Sis. Stacy Jackson Dea. Duke Johnson

Pastor Lewis & Family Sis. Rhoda Lewis &

Family

Bro. Walter Martin Bro. Lamont Minor The Morris/Lewis Family

Deas. Frances Parrish Sis. Harriett Parrish

Dea. Roger Parrish

Sis. Audrey Perkins Sis. Leatrice Price

Sis. Adeline Quarles

Bro. Lonnie Quarles

Sis. Lucille Randolph Bro. Ted Richardson

Bro. Alfonza Scott

Sis. Mary Scott

Sis. Pamala Shelton

Bro. Travis Shelton Rev. Otis Spellman

Rev. Beulah Spellman Sis. Charmeka Stewart

Sis. Doretta Trice

Dea. Chester Walker & Family

Sis. lesha White Sis. Melvina White

Sis. Lorraine Winston Walton/Shipman Family

On the cover: From last year's Marriage Retreat. Pastor and Elder Susan presenting the banquet message. We look forward to seeing all the couples and couples-to-be on the 17th.

Preaching Schedule

8:00 a.m. **February**



7 - Elder Susan Lewis

14 - Minister Dory Martin

21 - Rev. Bernadine Bradshaw

28 - Rev. Dr. Sarah Slaughter

11:00 a.m. Sunday Morning

Elder Ruben Lewis, Jr.

Condolences

Our love and prayers of sympathy and comfort go out to our First Lady, Elder Susan Lewis and Pastor Lewis on the loss

of Susan's Mother, Mrs. Hattie F. "Jonnie" Morris.

We pray God's peace to your entire family in this difficult time.



Continued from Page 1 As we ended she said she felt better because some of what I shared was pretty much what she told the confused congregant. We both expressed frustration regarding preachers who leave listeners spiritually confused from their sermons.

We should, at all times, be ready to share our testimony. These two know me outside of church. They know how crazy (peculiar) I am, yet they also know how dear I hold to my faith in the Lord. We don't need to be "preachy" or condemning. Simply share how the Lord has transformed you from whatever it is you used to be. The spirit that radiates from that will do the rest.

Ready to share In Jesus'

Name...



February Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 Ted Richardson
- 4 Paul V Dorothy Bishop
- **7** Darla Price
- **11** Gracie Quarles
- **12** Francine Payne
- **14** Cain ♥ Diane McKnight
- **16** Aaryn Grooms-Key Tracy Grooms-Key
- 17 Barbara Scott
- **18** Ted ♥ Lola Richardson



- 19 Flora Pace
- 20 Larry ♥ Roberta Bass
- 22 Tressie Barrett
- 23 Christopher Callahan Alice Fletcher
- **24** Clara Bruce
- **27** William ♥ Alinda Brown
- 28 Omarion Jones
 DawnAsia McKnight



February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Servant Leadership Education 7:00pm	2 Bible Study 9:00am 7:30 pm	3 -10:00am Gospel Chorus
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Holy Communion	Bible Study 7:00pm	Bible Study 1:00 p.m.	Prayer Service 7:00pm	Servant Leadership Education	Bible Study 9:00am	-10:00am Senior Choir
11	12	13	14	15 Servent	16	17 -10:30am
	Bible Study 7:00pm	Bible Study 1:00 p.m.	Prayer Service 7:00pm	Servant Leadership Education 7:00pm	Bible Study 9:00am 7:30 pm	Men's Chorus
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 -Noon YPU
	Presidents' Day	Bible Study 1:00 p.m.	Prayer Service 7:00pm	Servant Leadership Education 7:00pm	Bible Study 9:00am 7:30 pm	
25	26	27	28	1	2	3 -10:00am Gospel Chorus
Youth Sunday	Bible Study 7:00pm	Bible Study 1:00 p.m.	Prayer Service 7:00pm	Servant Leadership Education 7:00pm	Bible Study 9:00am 7:30 pm	

Other Important Dates

February 5 - 11:00 am

Installation of 2018
Officers

February 17 - 5:00 pm 2018 Marriage Retreat

January 19 - President's Day Church Office Closed

Trustee of the Month Thomas Waddy @ 434-589-8786 Please contact for entry into the church after hours or for other church related concerns during February 2018.





Bible Wordsearch 🤻



Wordsearch No.193

7 F K D

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

Women of the **Old Testament**

Abigail Adah Ahinoam Asenath Bilhah Deborah Delilah Dinah Elisheba Esther Eve Gomer Hagar Haggith Hannah Iscah Jael Jemima Jerusha lezebel

lochebed Judith Keziah Leah Merab Michal Miriam Naomi Orpah Rachel Rahah Rebekah Ruth Sarah Serach Tamar Vashti Zilpah Zipporah Bathsheba

Psalm 51

MORE PUZZLES AT: http://biblewordgames.com

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS (Adult)

Unit 3: Self-controlled, Upright, and Godly Faith

Feb 4 "Faith Without Works Is Dead" Lesson focus: Faith leads to action.

James 2:14-17 (Action-Oriented Faith), 18-22 (Faith Made Complete), 23-26 (Credited Righteousness)

Feb 11 "A Disciplined Faith" Lesson focus: Let your words reflect and honor God.

James 3:1-2 (Stricter Judgment), 3-6 (Small, But Powerful), 7-12 (A Restless Evil)

Feb 18 "Faithful Disciples" Lesson focus: God takes care of His faithful disciples.

Acts 9:36-38 (A Faithful Servant Removed), 39 (A Faithful Servant Remembered), 40-43 (A Faithful Servant Returned)

Feb 25 "The Good Fight of Faith" Lesson focus: True life is in God, not the world.

I Timothy 6:11-16 (The Good Fight of Faith), 17-19 (A Good Foundation), 20-21 (A Good Testimony)

If you know your Bible, Sunday School needs you. If you don't know your Bible, then you need Sunday School.

Lessons from **ECHOES: Comprehensive Bible Study - Faith in Action: Studies in Daniel and the New Testament**; Volume 30, Number 2; 2017. Cook Communications Ministries (David C. Cook)







