



## ~ Activities And Events ~

**Beginning February**— On the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 PM., will begin a new study; The Bible: A Portrait of Redemption. It will be at Henrietta Murphy Jones home. Her address is in the Tara Directory.

**Beginning February**— Every 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 AM, Ladies will meet for prayer and get-together. This will be held at the Fellowship Hall, See Mitzi if you have any questions.

**Project Outreach**— The new tracts are available, "The Unity of the Bible." They are available for you at the security desk.

**March 2026**—We will be preparing bags quarterly for the homeless. There is a list on the bulletin board for items needed. Michael Hollis is overseeing this outreach program.

## Prayer Requests

**Bernice Harris**— recently learned she has had a fractured hip, unknowing it until was told by doctors. Let's remember her in prayers.

**Matthew Paschall**— a young man at Memphis school of preaching fell on the ice during the ice storm last week. He passed away due to his injuries. Prayers are asked to keep his family and friends in prayer.

**Brenda Millsap**—has some heath issues, keep her in prayers. She's a sister of the Pollard's.

**Henrietta Murphy Jones**— received good news, the cancer near lungs is gone and very little below intestines. She'll see doctors to see if they'll do surgery or chemo.

**Rosalyn Curseen**— will see spine doctor next week to see when the body cast will come off. She will begin rehabilitation after she is without the cast. Keep her in prayers

**Michael Curseen**— continues with Infusion Treatments every 3 weeks, for the next 2 years. He is going well with the infusions. We need to continue prayers for Michael.

**Continued Prayer List:** Vera Hannah, Russ Baker, Ted Young, Maggie and Patrick Brown, Keith Fort, Brenda Millsap, Billie Pouncey, Archie Robinson, Jimmy Denney, Christian and Cory Curseen, Anthony Newman, Paul Pacchioli, Havanna Goebel, Marcia Woodbury, Steve Smith, Jim and Maxine Howell, Vernetta Jones, Don Cheek, Doris Pate, Mozelle Jones, Vera Pollard, Willie Mae Brown, Carla Robinson's mother, Alfred and Lenor is a Barnes, parents of Alfred Barnes, Erika Lee Havanna's daughter, Erika Lee's father

**Our Deepest Sympathy ...** Our condolences are extended to the family of Bill Jones. He passed on Sunday, January 25, 2026. Arrangements are; February 21 2026, viewing at 10 AM, service at noon, and repast at 1 PM.. Horis Ward Funeral Home, Fairview Chapel, 376 Fairview Rd., Stockbridge, Ga..

## Elders' Comments

There are things in this life that challenge our faith and commitment to God. Sin is a daily challenge. Who does not face temptation? Being a Christian does not remove it, or make it easy to overcome. Hebrews 12:1 speaks of "the sin that so easily ensnares us." For the Hebrew Christians in that context, their sin was a lack of faith and commitment to Christ. That is why the writer gave numerous examples of obedient faith in the previous chapter. Others had faced persecution and hardships in life but remained true to God, so must we. Today, we have the same examples of faith, and others in the New Testament, to emulate when our faith and commitment are challenged. Is there a sin that so easily "ensnares" you? Deal with it immediately! Do not let it keep you out of heaven. Your soul is precious. Resist the devil. Ask God to help you. Jesus died for you, and He is ready and able to help.

The Elders

## Change of Address...

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# ARE MY PRIORITIES IN ORDER?

FUTURE

PRESENT

PAST

The above question is very significant to those who want to go to heaven. Most everyone has priorities. Whatever receives the greater emphasis in thought, time and effort become our personal priorities. Three general categories of priorities would be the material, physical and spiritual. A worldly individual seeks the material and physical to the neglect of the spiritual. The Christian's primary emphasis is always the spiritual, with the material and physical kept in their proper perspective. Because of worldly influences, sometime we allow conflicts to develop in what becomes our priorities, creating a need to reevaluate them. Personal examination is emphasized in scripture (II Cor. 13:5).

God must be first in our love (Mark 12:29-30). In this great text, love for God with all one's heart, soul, mind and strength is described as the "first of all commandments." And why is it first? Because in observing it, all other commandments are observed. In loving God first, all others (family, friends, brethren, enemies and self) are properly loved. Loving God first is the only way to keep other relationships in their right perspective. Loving self, or family, first involves misplaced priorities. And Jesus said that those who do so are not worthy of him (Matt. 10:37). In becoming a Christian, everyone and everything takes a secondary place in importance. The same is true in living faithfully. The Lord is to be first always.

Very often material pursuits or physical pleasures choke out the word, hindering our spiritual growth (Matt. 13:22). It could be the time we spend watching television, attending sporting events, gardening hobbies and various other things that can take much of our time. These things are not wrong within themselves, but when we overindulge in them to the exclusion of spiritual pursuits, the word of God is choked and the work of God is hindered. Is it wrong to work, to pay your bills and support your family? Certainly not. In fact, the Bible emphasizes the importance of it (II Thess 3:10,11; I Tim. 5:8). However, secular work to the neglect or exclusion of one's spiritual needs is wrong. Spiritual growth can never be neglected and still please God. When we work to pay for things we did not need in the first place, and to be able to buy even more, then our spiritual objectives can be compromised and neglected. That's where sin enters the picture.

Christianity involves a new life and a new pastime. It is based on commitment, not convenience. Living right is far more important than living well. Food for the soul must have priority over food for the body (Matt. 4:4). Godliness is of greater value than physical exercise (I Tim. 4:8).

The one who gains the world and loses his soul cheats himself (Matt. 16:26). Though we do not earn our salvation in any way, still there is a price that must be paid to be a disciple of Jesus (Luke 14:33). Let's all consider the above question— Are my priorities in order?

Richard