

DUTY ROSTER FOR APRIL 7, 2019

Usher for This Week: Doug Thweatt

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

Chevis Webb

Scripture Reading:

Kevin Hayes

Scripture:

2Corinthians 8:1-5

Prayer:

David Bansemer

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

What Can You Do?

Lesson 4 - You Can Give

Closing Prayer:

Alex Bansemer

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

Stacey Durham

Scripture Reading:

Chris Huffines

Scripture:

1Corinthians 11:23-29

Prayer:

Jim Stubblefield

Lord's Supper:

Ron Hunt

Thom Steger

Al Cotton

Bill Duryea

Lesson:

Andrew Durham

Song Service - Invitation

Announcements:

John Fix

Closing Prayer:

Ron Dixon

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Song Leader: John Fix
Invitation: Alex Bansemer
Closing Prayer: Chris Huffines

Creekview church of Christ
930 Long Hollow Pike
Gallatin, TN 37066
615-452-8212

Service Times:
Sundays 9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Bible Study
11:00 AM Worship
Wednesdays 7:00 PM Bible Study

creekviewchurchofchrist.com

LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION

April: Steger
May: Stubblefield

SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING

April: Steger
May: Stubblefield

Elders: Ron Dixon, John Fix, Stacey Durham Deacons: David Bansemer, Kevin Hayes, Thom Steger, Doug Thweatt
Preacher and Editor: Stacey Durham

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

APRIL 7, 2019

Volume 34 Number 14

Spring Showers

It is the time of year when every other day seems to bring rain. This makes it a good time to consider how even the weather is a witness to God. Notice what Acts 14:17 says about God: "He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." Likewise, Jesus said that God "sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous" (Matt. 5:45). Let us open our eyes and see the evidence that is all around us. How great is our God!

To Our Visitors:

Thank you for attending the services at Creekview today. You are an encouragement to us, and we hope to also be an encouragement to you. If you are passing through, then we pray for your safe passage. If you live in the local area, then we invite you to continue to worship and study with us on a regular basis.

news and notes:

- Maddy Clemens broke her elbow on Thursday. Please pray for her comfort and healing.
- In the 11AM hour, we will devote most of our worship to singing.
- Please keep these members in your prayers: Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Dot Long, Pat Ridings, and Bessie Short. Also remember Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry and Dot Long's sister Melissa.

52 Week Reading Plan: Week 14

Sunday-1Corinthians 11-12
Monday - Exodus 1-4
Tuesday - 1Samuel 16-20
Wednesday - Psalms 39-41
Thursday - Job 27-28
Friday - Jeremiah 7-11
Saturday - Mark 7-8

Gospel Meetings:

Memorial Blvd. (Springfield) - Apr. 7-11
Northfield Blvd. (Murfreesboro) - Apr. 7-12
Skyview (White House) - Apr. 11-14
Warfield Blvd. (Clarksville) - Apr. 11-14
Eastside (Bowling Green) - Apr. 19, singing
Bethany (Orlinda) - Apr. 21-26

Root Cause Analysis

Years ago when I was a process engineer, one of my responsibilities was solving and preventing problems in manufacturing processes. To solve a production problem, process engineers use root cause analysis, which focuses attention on the cause of the problem rather than the problem itself. In this way, engineers can prevent a problem from repeating rather than wasting time, effort, and resources correcting the same problem over and over again.

The Lord Jesus Himself was very adept at root cause analysis. Of course, He was not solving manufacturing problems, but rather He was solving the problems of life and the spirit. Actually, there was very little analysis to be done by Jesus, “for He Himself knew what was in man” (John 2:25). He knew what the root causes of man’s problems were and was quick to identify those causes. For example, a man once said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” Rather than addressing the problem of the inheritance, Jesus focused on the root cause of the problem, saying, “Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.” He then proceeded to tell the parable of the rich fool, who trusted in wealth and time but was not rich toward God. So then, the problem was a dispute over an inheritance, but the root cause was greed and materialism. If the root cause was eliminated, then the problem would cease to exist. See Luke 12:13-21.

Although we do not have the divine insight that Jesus has, we can do our own root cause analysis to solve problems in our own lives and the lives of others. The Lord has given us His word in the Scriptures so that we have divine wisdom to make such analyses. Indeed, “the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart” (Heb. 4:12). We can use the word of God to cut through any problem, find its root cause, and prevent it from happening again.

One of the methods engineers use for root cause analysis is called the “5 Whys.” The idea is that by repeatedly asking “why” you can progressively arrive at the root cause of a problem. In other words, you would ask, “Why is Problem A happening?” The answer is Cause B. You then ask, “Why is Cause B happening?” The answer is Cause C. Usually, five repetitions or less is sufficient to arrive at the root cause and thus solve the problem.

In spiritual matters, we can do the same kind of process to solve problems. For example, a problem of strife and quarrels existed among some of the early Christians. James gave an inspired root cause analysis of the problem in James 4:1-8:

¹What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? ²You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. ⁴You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: “He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us”? ⁶But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, “God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

James identifies the problem (“quarrels and conflicts”) and the root cause (“your pleasures”) in verse 1, but the root cause analysis is given in verses 2-3. Several other secondary problems are cited in this analysis (you do not have, you do not ask, you do not receive), but James bypasses all of these to focus on the root cause of them all. Indeed, the root cause was their lusts, jealousy, and selfish ambition (Jas. 3:16), and if this cause was eliminated, then the quarrels and conflicts would stop. So then, James gives the solution in verses 4-8, which is humility, submission to God, and resistance to the devil.

Therefore, let us recognize that many problems could be solved and prevented if we would focus on their root causes rather than the problems themselves. Just as Jesus addressed problems such as murder, adultery, fornication, theft, deceit, and slander by focusing on the root cause of the heart (Matt. 5:20-30; 15:18-20), so we should also address problems today in the same way. Why is our society plagued with fornication, abortion, homosexuality, violence, substance abuse, theft, and every other problem? A root cause analysis will show that the source is the lack of love for God and man (Matt. 22:36-40). Furthermore, the solution is Jesus and His gospel. So then, let’s attack these problems at their roots by preaching repentance toward God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and the whole purpose of God (Acts 20:21, 27).

Stacey E. Durham