



Walker's Wanderings



Tears for the Lost

Jeremiah is referred to as the "Weeping Prophet". In fact, his second book is called quite appropriately Lamentations. He opens the 1st chapter of Lamentations with the following words. How lonely sits the city that was full of people! How like a widow has she become, she who was great among the nations! She who was a princess among the provinces has become a slave. ² She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has none to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her; they have become her enemies. At the end of Jeremiah 8 in verses 18-22, Jeremiah makes this despairing and pained statement of grief, that continues in Jeremiah 9:1 ¹⁸ My joy is gone; grief is upon me; my heart is sick within me. ¹⁹ Behold, the cry of the daughter of my people from the length and breadth of the land: "Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?" "Why have they provoked me to anger with their carved images and with their foreign idols?" ²⁰ "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." ²¹ For the wound of the daughter of my people is my heart wounded; I mourn, and dismay has taken hold on me. ²² Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of the daughter of my people not been restored? **9** Oh that my head were waters, and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

Those are the words of a man who has seen God's people desert God and then God allow them to fall into captivity. His broken heart leaks out of his eyes and stains the parchment with his tears.

As I was reading and studying in Jeremiah and Lamentations, this past week, I was struck by the sorrow that Jeremiah felt as he looked at what Judah was in those days and as he remembered what she had been. He enumerated the sins that had led Judah away from her God and he grieved.

I began to reflect on how blasé and unconcerned I sometimes became about those that are part of my fleshly family and my spiritual family that have, like Judah of old, wandered away from the Lord. I vowed to myself that I would make more concerted efforts to lead them back to the Lord. Sadly my list grew much longer than I wished just in listing those who have wandered away since we arrived in Trenton nearly 14 years ago.

As I looked at the list, I began to remember happier days spiritually for many of these folks. All of them I love and have tender feelings for in my heart. So many happy memories of happy days when we were together, both physically and spiritually. I remember for almost each one times of laughter and fun. I remember, with many hugs and tears at sad times. Some I even remember hugging as they came out of the watery grave of baptism. Then I think of how infrequently I see them now.

I also have a broken heart over their choices and the inevitable result of their decisions. As I look over my list, it becomes difficult to type as I have tears streaming down my face for them and their families without God.

I committed to myself that I would try to contact each one in the next 30 days, either in person or by written communication to tell them that I love them and miss them! Many of you have done this with some but I would challenge you to make your own list and pray to God for His patience to give them time to repent. I also would encourage you to pray for the motivation to seek them out and the wisdom to say the right words. Let's reach out to those that we love while we still can!

I Love and Appreciate You! Don

Trenton Tidings

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OUR ELDERS

Rick Breeden 423/309-0527 • *Don Puryear 706/820-8167
Don Walker 423/785-7885 • Ken Wheeler 423/421-9155

*Elder on Call for July

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements: Don Puryear

10:30 AM Service

Lead Singing: Zack Breeden

Opening Prayer: William Releford

Lesson: Matt Wheeler

Scripture: xxcxcccc

Preside Lord's Table: Felix Cruz, III

Assist: Bruce Turner Mike Wheeler

Chas Holder Reed Gross

Closing Prayer: Felix Cruz, III

6:00 PM Service

Lead Singing: Chris Knox

Opening Prayer: Ken Wheeler

Lesson: Butch Jones

Closing Prayer: Spencer Holder

Preside Lord's Table: Felix Cruz, III

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY 7/19

SINGING:

RYAN GRIFFIN

OPENING PRAYER:

DON PURYEAR

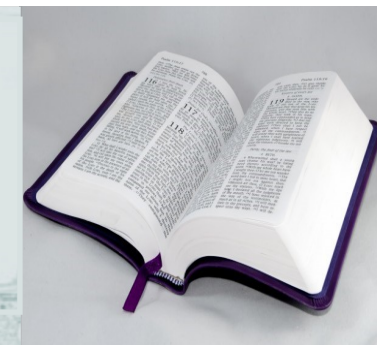
INVITATION:

ZACK BREEDEN

CLOSING PRAYER:

RICK BREEDEN

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO
SERVE ON SUNDAY OR
WEDNESDAY, PLEASE
NOTIFY FELIX CRUZ BY
CALLING OR TEXT
347/403-5262



This Week's

Events

Today

10:30 AM

**Matt Wheeler will
speak in brother
Don Walker's
absence**

6:00 PM

**Summer Series
with
Butch Jones
Ellijay, GA**

SUNDAY		7/9
Bible Classes		58
AM Worship		75
Contribution		\$2585
Lads to Leaders		\$732
PM Worship		59
WEDNESDAY		7/12
Bible Classes		54

Mighty Mites & TYG News

VBS is coming SOON! Next Sunday night we will take a week off from our Summer Series as we begin our VBS. There has already been a great deal of preparation made and there will REALLY be a LOT done in the next week!

These teachers work very hard to prepare for this to be a great time of learning and fellowship for you and your friends. It will be a great time because our teachers WILL be prepared and ready to go!

The only thing that will make it less than as successful as it could be, will be if YOU are not here! All the work, all the preparation for you will mean nothing to you if you aren't here!

MAKE SURE TO REMIND YOUR PARENTS THAT THERE IS A CLASS EACH NIGHT FOR THEM, TOO!

SHARPENING YOUR SKILLS

Ladies Bible Class and Digging Deep

There will be a special *Ladies Bible Class and Luncheon* on August 12 at Noon.

More details to follow but it will be something you don't want to miss. The men's breakfast was July 15 with Ivan Wallin directing the discussion.

These two classes along with the Monday night Ladies Bible Study and Digging Deep have become important parts of our growth and development! If you aren't attending some of these, it's a good time to start!

Hope to see you at some of these good events soon!

VBS is COMING!!!!

September 23-26

Make sure you are marking your calendar and inviting your children's friends . There will be an adult class each evening taught by brother Walker and Stan Freeman.

VBS TEACHERS need to decorate their doors on Saturday, July 22. Anyone that can please show up at 9 AM on July 22 to help decorate the auditorium.

FOODS NEEDED FOR VBS

**Chips Hot Dogs
Cookies Hot Dog Buns
Capri Suns Ice Cream
Fruit**

Sunday Morning Outline

I Am

Romans 1:14-16

• **A Debtor**

Romans 1:14

• **Eager**

Romans 1:15

• **Unashamed**

Romans 1:16

Sunday Evening Lesson

Brother Butch Jones will be our speaker tonight as our Summer Series continues.

Butch is a graduate of Alabama Christian College (now Faulkner U) and serves on the board of directors there as well as on other local organizations in the Gilmer County area. Butch has been preaching at Ellijay, GA for 37 years and is a wonderful gospel preacher and a great man!

His lesson tonight will be from Acts 4:1-22, Opposition As We Go Into All the World.

Make your plans to be here tonight and you probably will! Looking forward to you enjoying God's word tonight!

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

*Nancy Bernhardt Krista Brock
Carmen Cruz Robert Gill
Cindy Howell Russanna Jenkins
Helen Lusk Patrick & Annette
McGuire Sorita & Buddy McKenzie
Phyllis Mosley Bill Newby
Tara Osborne Taft Parker
Cloyce Purdon Janice Raines
Daniel Releford Lynn Releford
Cooper Jamie Walker Vicki Walker
Mitzi Webb Jewel Whitley*

IF YOU HAVE NOT COMPLETED A FORM FOR THE NEW DIRECTORY PLEASE DO SO THIS WEEK WHEN YOU ARE GIVEN A FORM. WE ARE TRYING TO GET IT COMPLETED AND WANT IT TO BE AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS!

CARD MINISTRY

There are cards and addresses in the east lobby . If you would like to write them and leave them in the basket They will be mailed on the next business day. This is a great way to reach out!

The Walkers

The Walkers are in Hentown, GA this morning and will be in Quitman tonight giving reports to the congregations that are the major partners in our Philippines work.

He will be speaking on Wednesday night at the Central church of Christ in Valdosta in their Summer Series. Please keep the Walkers in your prayers as they are on the road helping to raise the funds to continue these great works.