

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
John Fix

Scripture Reading:
Doug Thweatt
Romans 1:18-23

Prayer:
Bill Duryea

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Answering a Fool, Part 1

Closing Prayer:
Ron Dixon

Wednesday, August 19

Song Leader:
Chevis Webb

Invitation:
Nate Durham

Prayer:
Alex Bansemer

Lord's Supper Preparation
August: Huffines
September:

11:00 AM

Song Leader:
Jim Barton

Scripture Reading:
Wayne Baker
Psalm 14:1-3

Prayer:
Ron Hunt

Lord's Supper:
David Bansemer
Alex Bansemer

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Answering a Fool, Part 2

Announcements:
Jim Stubblefield

Closing Prayer:
Al Cotten

Usher for This Week:
Louis Long

Creekview *BULLETIN*

The Household of God

In 1 Timothy 3:15, the "household of God" means the family of God, and the family of God is the church. Those who are in the church of God have God as their Father and one another as brothers and sisters. What a joy and privilege it is to assemble with God's family and worship our Father in heaven!

Streaming Services

All services of the church will be streamed live on the Creekview Facebook page. Each stream will begin a few minutes early so that viewers can connect.

AUGUST

16

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SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS:

WORSHIP: 9:00 AM
BIBLE STUDY: 10:00 AM
WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE STUDY: 7:00 PM

Programmed to Be Miserable

On Friday (8/14/20), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a disturbing report. A survey of adults in the United States conducted during June 24-30, 2020, found that 25.5% of respondents aged 18-24 years had seriously considered suicide in the previous 30 days. This is one of several findings indicating that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has severely affected the mental health of many Americans.

Why is one out of every four young adults so miserable that he or she is contemplating suicide? The CDC report presents these findings as the effects of "COVID-19-associated morbidity, mortality, and mitigation," but these factors alone cannot account for such misery among young adults. Very few young adults have had the disease, and most who have had it recovered quickly after having only mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. The threat of contracting the disease is minimal for them, and the chance of dying from it is almost zero. Mitigation attempts have caused some to lose their jobs, but the quarantines, social distancing, and mask mandates have been mostly a matter of inconvenience. None of this should provoke a young person to contemplate suicide.

The answer is obvious. The present conditions due to COVID-19 would not precipitate such a reaction among young adults if they had been raised up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Eph. 6:4). When young people are taught to know God and His word, they do not despair of life due to hardships. Instead, they are confident, hopeful, and resilient because they rely on someone greater than themselves. Their happiness does not require their circumstances to be free from challenges and difficulties. Many times, they find happiness in persevering through hardships because such challenges build their character and faith (Rom. 5:3-5; Jas. 1:2-4).

The misery of young adults who are generally healthy and well-supplied is indicative of a massive failure of parenting. Because they were given everything they wanted without being taught to work, many young adults are self-centered and feel entitled. Because they were not disciplined by their parents, they have no self-discipline to behave as adults (Prov. 12:1; 22:15; 23:13-14; 29:15). Because they were taught to think highly of themselves without actually achieving anything, they do not know how to cope with failure, challenges, and hardship. Because they were taught to revere men rather than God (Matt. 10:28; Acts 5:29), they pursue the wrong goals and follow the wrong guidance. Their parents' failure was a formula for disaster, for they were programmed to be miserable.

The misery of these young people is so much different from what God intends for them. He gives vitality and energy to young people for their joy, not their sorrow. Consider the inspired words of Solomon from Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:1:

^{11:9}Rejoice, young man, during your childhood, and let your heart be

pleasant during the days of young manhood. And follow the impulses of your heart and the desires of your eyes. Yet know that God will bring you to judgment for all these things. ¹⁰So, remove grief and anger from your heart and put away pain from your body, because childhood and the prime of life are fleeting. ^{12:1}Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no delight in them."

God intends for young people to remember Him and to rejoice in their youth. How sad it is that so many of them are already saying of their days, "I have no delight in them." Instead of rejoicing in the vitality of youth, they are so miserable that they would even consider taking their own lives.

Thankfully, people are not machines, so they can break away from their training. Even if young people were programmed to be miserable, they can overcome such training to find the fullness of joy through Jesus (1Pet. 1:8). Let us pray that they will not make the dreadful mistake of taking their own lives but will remember their Creator before it is too late (Eccl. 12:6-7).

Stacey E. Durham

ELDERS:

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Stacey Durham

DEACONS:

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Kevin Hayes
Thom Steger
Doug Thweatt

PREACHER & EDITOR:

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news & notes

- Kay Lanius was hospitalized last week due to pain and other issues. Please pray for her and Kim.
- Please remember these others in your prayers: Barbara Atkins, Shirley Buchanan, Kay Cook, Jaxson Escue, Donella Jones, Laurie Polchek. Also pray for Jody Baize, Sandlyn Fultz, Tommy Lanius, Wayne Wright, and Dot Long's sister Melissa.

reading plan

Sunday - 1 Timothy 1-3
Monday - Numbers 1-4
Tuesday - 1 Chronicles 5-9
Wednesday - Psalms 96-98
Thursday - Proverbs 17-18
Friday - Daniel 7-12
Saturday - John 5-6

meetings

None to announce