

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
Andrew Durham

Scripture Reading:
Chevis Webb
Matthew 4:1-11

Prayer:
Ron Dixon

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Thinking Like Jesus
Lesson 8 – Thinking About
Temptation and Sin

Closing Prayer:
Jim Stubblefield

Wednesday, August 5

Song Leader:
Thom Steger

Invitation:
John Fix

Prayer:
Bill Duryea

Lord's Supper Preparation
August: Huffines
September:

11:00 AM

Song Leader:
Nate Durham

Scripture Reading:
Louis Long
Colossians 2:1-10

Prayer:
Doug Thweatt

Lord's Supper:
Ron Dixon
John Fix

Lesson:
Chris Huffines

Title:
Song Service - Invitation

Announcements:
Jim Stubblefield

Closing Prayer:
Kevin Hayes

Usher for This Week:
Thom Steger

Creekview *BULLETIN*

A Good Choice

Moses chose “rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin” (Heb. 11:25). When we become Christians, we make a similar choice. We choose to join the best fellowship there is, which is with God and His children. Let us rejoice in this fellowship today as we worship God together.

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

2

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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

When Should You Give Up?

Telling sinners about the good news of Jesus Christ is a blessed privilege. In Romans 10:15, Paul quoted Isaiah 52:7 and wrote, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!" Each of us should want to be the bearer of good news, and there has never been better news than the story of Jesus and His offer of redemption and forgiveness for all sinners.

Even so, teaching the gospel is not an easy task, and it can bring grief and hardship. Not everyone thinks that the feet of those who speak of Jesus are beautiful. In fact, most sinners are not receptive to the message of God's word, which Jesus foretold (Matt. 7:13-14; 13:19-23; 22:14; Luke 13:23-30). Sinners often resist the gospel and refuse to repent. Moreover, they resent having their sins exposed and are offended by those who shed the light of truth upon them (Eph. 5:11-13).

Jesus gave instructions to His apostles concerning unreceptive sinners when He sent them on the limited commission. In Mark 6:11, He said, "Any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake the dust off the soles of your feet for a testimony against them." The idea is that any place that rejected the message of Jesus was not worthy even to have its dust upon the feet of His messengers. There is an example of Paul and Barnabas doing this when the Jews of Pisidian Antioch instigated a persecution against them. As they left that town, "they shook off the dust of their feet in protest against them" (Acts 13:51).

These thoughts raise the question of how much effort should be made to convict sinners who stubbornly refuse the gospel. At what point shall we shake the dust from our feet? Certainly, those who receive the gospel with utter contempt, belligerence, and even blasphemy have deemed themselves unworthy of the gracious message. In fact, that was the very response Paul and Barnabas gave to the Jews at Pisidian Antioch, for they said, "Since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles" (Acts 13:46). Such a response complies with the Lord's instruction in Matthew 7:6, for He said, "Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces."

So then, shall we turn our feet and walk away from sinners as soon as they reject the gospel? Do they only get one chance to believe? This hardly seems to be the case, for the God we serve has a history of longsuffering and patience. He endured centuries of faithlessness in Israel before He determined that "there was no remedy" (2Chron. 36:16). The Lord also waited while Saul of Tarsus ravaged the church until at last He said to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads" (Acts 26:14). This history demonstrates that God is patient toward sinners, which is declared in 2Peter 3:9:

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

God's patience means salvation for sinners because it is an extension of opportunity for those who have not obeyed the gospel (2Pet. 3:14). Indeed, He is a God of second chances and much more.

Therefore, we must be patient as we tell sinners about the gospel. Their resistance may be frustrating, disappointing, and heart-breaking, but we must not give up on them too soon. Let us remember that we are working to rescue them from the delusions and captivity of Satan (2Tim. 2:24-26). It is not easy to break his spell. When we shod our feet with the "preparation of the gospel of peace" (Eph. 6:15), we should prepare for a long journey. Notice that Paul and Barnabas returned to Pisidian Antioch a short time after they shook its dust from their feet (Acts 14:21). They did not give up their efforts on that city but instead strengthened and encouraged the church there to continue in the faith. Let us be likewise resilient as we carry out the eternally important task of telling the world about Jesus.

Stacey E. Durham

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news & notes

- Today, the 11AM service will be devoted mostly to worship in song.
- Please be mindful of some of our older members who still staying home due to the virus threat. They are likely shut-in until the situation is greatly improved.
- Please pray for the following members: Barbara Atkins, Shirley Buchanan, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, Kay Lanian, Laurie and Polchek. Also pray for Jody Baize, Sandlyn Fultz, Tommy Lanian, Wayne Wright, and Dot Long's sister Melissa.

reading plan

Sunday- 1Thessalonians 4-5
Monday - Leviticus 22-24
Tuesday - 2Kings 21-25
Wednesday - Psalms 90-92
Thursday - Proverbs 14-15
Friday - Ezekiel 43-48
Saturday - John 1-2

meetings

None to announce