

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
Bailey Steger

Scripture Reading:
Chevis Webb
1Peter 2:4-10

Prayer:
Nate Durham

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Called Out of Darkness
Lesson 1 – Called from
Darkness to Light

Closing Prayer:
Andrew Durham

Wednesday, January 3

Song Leader:
Nate Durham

Invitation:
Ron Hunt

Prayer:
Alex Bansemer

Lord's Supper Preparation
January: Durham
February:

11:00 AM

Song Leader:
David Bansemer

Scripture Reading:
Al Cotten
Romans 11:33-36

Prayer:
Andrew Durham

Lord's Supper:
Kevin Hayes
Louis Long

Lesson:
Chris Huffines

Title:
Song Service - Invitation

Announcements:
Jim Stubblefield

Closing Prayer:
Doug Thweatt

Usher for This Week:
Doug Thweatt

Creekview *BULLETIN*

Blessed New Year

If you truly want to have a blessed new year, then follow the commandments of God. There is no better advice to offer than this, so let's follow it again this year. "Blessed are they that do His commandments" (Rev. 22:14).

To Our Visitors

We commend you for your concern regarding the things of the Lord, which is evident by your presence with us today. We hope that you find the services to be edifying to your soul and glorifying to God. Thank you for being a part of this blessed effort.

JANUARY

3

2021

VOL. 36
NUM. 1



SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS:

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

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE STUDY: 7:00 PM

Finding Good in the Bad

When hardships come, your spiritual mettle is tested. The carnal reaction to hardships is to give up hope, become bitter, and blame God. That is the response sought by Satan (Job 1:8-12; 2:3-7). On the other hand, the spiritual reaction is to remain steadily faithful to God and seek for good to come out of the bad.

Good can come always from bad, but sometimes it is not recognized. It does not always come in the form of physical and material blessings, such as health, prosperity, and liberty. In fact, it is usually the loss of these things that causes hardship. So then, we must be able to look beyond what meets the eye to find the good that is always present. Consider 2Corinthians 4:16-18:

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, ¹⁸while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Scripture is filled with examples of good coming from bad. The foremost is of course Jesus' ordeal of the cross. The pain, injustice, and indignity were miserable, but His suffering made possible the salvation of the world. "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich" (2Cor. 8:9). His example proves that the greatest good comes from the hardship of true sacrifice.

Another example is that of Paul and Timothy, whose afflictions are described in 2Corinthians 1:3-11. Their suffering was so great that they "despaired even of life" (v. 8), yet they still found good in their situation. They discovered comfort from God, and they were able to pass that comfort on to their fellow Christians who were also suffering. Their situation also provoked many other Christians to pray on their behalf in petitions for their deliverance and in thanksgiving when those petitions were answered. This demonstrates how hardships can strengthen the faith of those who suffer and the faith of others as well (Jas. 1:2-4; 1Thess. 1:6-7).

In John chapter 9, there is the example of a man born blind whom Jesus healed. When the Lord's disciples questioned whose sin was responsible for the man's blindness, Jesus declared that it was no one's fault but rather it was "so that the works of God might be displayed in him" (v. 3). Just as this

man's hardship was an opportunity to demonstrate the great power of God, so also many other difficult situations lead to God's glory. Such results do not require miracles. They only require burdened and downtrodden persons who are also faithful and strong through God. God's power is often perfected in those who are weak in body but strong in spirit (2Cor. 12:9).

Whenever you face your own hardships, keep in mind examples like these and the lessons they teach. Know that there is always good to be found if you know where to look for it. Use these examples to form questions and find the good in your own difficult situations. Is there an opportunity for you to make a great sacrifice to benefit others? Through the way you endure your hardship, can you give comfort and strength to others, direct their minds toward God, and bring honor and glory to God? Is your burden a physical weakness that strengthens you spiritually and trains you to rely solely upon God? Questions such as these can help you to find good even when your circumstances are bad.

Stacey E. Durham

ELDERS:

Ron Dixon
John Fix
Stacey Durham

DEACONS:

David Bansemer
Kevin Hayes
Thom Steger
Doug Thweatt

PREACHER & EDITOR:

Stacey Durham

CREEKVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST

930 Long Hollow Pike
Gallatin, TN 37066
615-452-8212

creekviewchurchofchrist.com

news & notes

- The 11AM service will be devoted mostly to singing.
- The new quarter for classes begins today.
- Mishae Nevils was able to go home from the hospital last week and is doing well. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Also keep the following members in your prayers: Barbara Atkins, Jeri Baker, Shirley Buchanan, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Laurie Polchek, and Kirk Webb. Also remember Ralph Anderson, Jody Baize, Wayne Wright, Dot Long's sister Melissa, and Pat Ridings' brother.

reading plan

Sunday - Romans 1-2
Monday - Genesis 1-3
Tuesday - Joshua 1-5
Wednesday - Psalms 1-2
Thursday - Job 1-2
Friday - Isaiah 1-6
Saturday - Matthew 1-2

meetings

None to announce