The Importance of Tackling Tough Biblical Subjects

This past Sunday's sermons were tough for me as a preacher to prepare and deliver. We studied biblical modesty on Sunday morning and fasting on Sunday evening. Neither of these topics are frequently taught, mainly because they're difficult. It is always easier to leave tough topics untaught, but would God be pleased if we avoid what His Word teaches when it might offend someone?

As New Testament Christians, God expects us to understand and follow "the whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:27), including challenging and uncomfortable topics. Addressing tough biblical subjects—like sin, judgment, repentance, or God's strict expectations regarding marriage and sexuality—strengthens our faith helps us understand God's will. Avoiding these truths risks spiritual stagnation and a weakened witness in a world who needs to know the truth.

In 2 Timothy 3:16–17, Paul writes, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." This includes passages that convict or challenge us. By wrestling with these Scriptures, we grow in maturity and are prepared for God's work.

Jesus Himself did not shy away from hard truths. In Matthew 7:13-14, He warns, "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few." Is it our job as Christians to comfort the people walking down the road to hell or to rescue them from that path? If we love them, we must teach them the truth.

Failing to address tough subjects also weakens our ability to guide others. Hebrews 5:12-14 laments believers who remain immature, unable to handle "solid food" because they avoid deeper truths. By neglecting topics like sin's consequences, our faith will be shallow and fail under pressure.

Avoiding difficult topics can also distort the gospel. Paul warns in Galatians 1:8. "But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed." Diluting God's Word to avoid offense presents a false gospel, depriving people of the transformative power of truth.

Let us boldly embrace all of Scripture, trusting that God's Word, though sometimes hard to hear, is "living and active" (Hebrews 4:12). By teaching and discussing tough biblical subjects, we honor God, grow in faith, and shine as lights in a world that needs the unfiltered truth of the gospel.

On Our Prayer List... *May we always be using God's blessing & power of prayer for one another: Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them they should always pray & not give up. Luke 18:1.

{Recent Medical concerns/updates in need of our prayers}

*Linda Rodgers-is continuing to have more medical struggles, in room 6120 @ Centennial. *Andy Marlor—fractured hip *Becky Palk-has finished her treatments *Levi &Quis Crowell/6wks premature baby in NICU in Chatt) Levi is Sharon Forster's nephew

{SURGERIES

Recovering from

*Claude Hurt

*Rachel Corlew-(Abby Hurt's mother)surg on 9/29 *Barbara Breedan-requesting prayers for her surg on Oct 6th *Billy Buttrey *Norman Gentry-will have a procedure in October *Todd Mullinicks

THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER

*Kenny Fleming—continued endurance with cancer issues

*Lillian Childress-(Sherry Harvey's aunt) finished radiation, upcoming check up.

*Dale Street-(N. Buttrey grandfather)CA *Mack Winstead-CA-continued prayers

*Hudson Jones-{2yr old son of Dan & Catherine, Walnut St COC-Leukemia}

*Robert Gardner(friend of Bill Williams) CA

*Casey Vailes-(Ranae Duncan's son) Cancer

*David Stokes-(Jordan Stokes& Carly Stone's dad) & Drew Swearns step-dad

*Jimmy Phy-continued endurance with CA care

*Houston Howell

*David Nowlin-CA treatments-WcoC elder *Wanda Dobbins-(kin to Tylers) terminal CA

*Jackie Borders-Lauren Stuart's mom

*Maggie Wright -(friend of N. Buttrey) CA

*Alan Jones-esophageal CA-treatments

Listed below are those that are continuing to have on-going medical issues that are in need of our prayers. *Marvin England *Alton Gordon

*Anita Buckner *Hattie Tate *Betty Suddeath *Al & Vicki Peek *Shane Cobb *Brian Gill *Betty James *Greg Mullinicks *Carlene Davis *Margie Gunn *Chase Lewis *Doug Simpson *Carol Wall *Josh Barnett *Sue Edmission *Alvssa Gold *Warren (Johnny) Proctor *Whitney(Bullion)Sager

*Savannah Patrick-(Rhetts syndrome-Marsha Patrick's granddaughter-she loves cards) c/o Jaimie Patrick—111 McJury Lane. Lafayette TN

{Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Rehab/Home}

Humphreys County NH 104 Fort Hill Rd. Waverly, TN 37185-June Dreaden- Rm 204/ Helen Damesworth

Waverly Hills Post Acute-895 Powers Blvd, Waverly, TN 37185-Gary Pace

NHC-812 N.Charlotte, Dickson, TN 37055- JoAnn Haley / Doris Stokes-R127

AHC Decatur County-726 Kentucky Ave, Parsons, TN 38363-Wyle Marshall-(Rm 726)-Traci Adams dad

Signature Hitcare, 98 Old Farmers Rd, Clarksville, TN 37043-Thelma Davidson-Rm 205 (Gwen's sister) in for rehab & dialysis

{AT HOME:} Jimmy & Retha Raye Mullinicks-56 Mike Street Robert & (Bertha) Bradford-347 Brown Mill Rd

Jim & Jane Ridings-172 Indian Ck Rd

*Carolyn Wilson

*Mike Gunn

*Jo Hall

*Marcía Simpson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Our sympathy to the family of Renee Duncan, who has been on our prayer list, her service was held on Mon, Sept 29th.



Our "Fall Family Retreat" will be on Oct 17th-19th @ Nathan Bedford Forrest. Lots of fun & fellowship involved for all ages!! Cost is \$15.00. Sign-up sheet in the foyer, last day to sign up will be Wed, October 8th. Hope to see you there

RED CROSS WILL BE HERE ON MONDAY.

Ост 6тн **FROM** 1:30-5:30

YOUTH Men's Elble Study *FLAME this coming Saturday, Oct 4th this Wed, Oct

1st @ 5:15.

*5th Quarter

this Friday,

Oct 3rd after

the ballgame.

@ 6:30 am here at the building. Sister Betty Suddeath's

"Ladies Class" will continue this coming Wed night.

If anyone is in need of a hospital bed call the office or Mike Burns.

Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

RUSH weekend is always one of the best weekends that our youth can be a part of. Freed Hardeman puts on a great event each and every year. We were blessed with great speakers and bible class teachers. We arrived on Friday night and enjoyed a meal together before heading to our cabin to get unpacked. Afterwards, we headed back to campus for a devotional together. After devo, we headed back to the cabin for the night. We woke up Saturday, ate breakfast and headed to campus. The day was filled with 3 keynote speakers, 2 bible class sessions, 2 meals, free time, a concert, and food trucks. It was a very busy day, but a great day! Sunday, we woke up to another beautiful day. We started with breakfast together followed by our worship service together. After worship we packed everything up and headed home. I'm so thankful for all those that came! It was a wonderful weekend!

In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, October 5th 2025

<i>J</i> ,	
Welcome	Mike Burns
Lead Singing	Mark Forster
1st Prayer	Keith Grigsby
Se <i>rmon</i>	John Jones
Lord's Table	Andrew Peyton
Gerald Curtis	Wendell Monroe
Brent Davis	Mike Robertson

John Potter

Ethan Tummins

Closing Prayer	Wayne Berryman
Collect Cards	Slate Berryman
	& Stirling Hurt
Greeters	
Nursery	Not at this time
Collect Cups	Youth
Security	Team #5

Sunday 6PM October 5th 2025

Lead Singing	Mark Forster
Prayer	Jacen Robertson
Sermon	John Jones
Lord's Table	Bruce Mayfield & Wade Tummins
Closing Prayer	Carter Howard

Wednesday 6:30 PM, October 8th 2025

Lead Singing	Jimmy Long
Prayer	
Adult Class	John Jones

^{*}If you are unable to serve......please contact Wade Tummins in advance. (cell 931-209-6291)

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Return Service Requested





*If you are unable to attend any service please tune in to our Facebook page or our YouTube page to watch the services. This is NOT a replacement for the command to assemble together as Christ's Body, but a tool for those who may be homebound/shut-in or sick.

The MESSENGER is online! Visit the church website to view!



OUR RECORDS for 9/28/2025

Sunday Morning Bible School — — — — —	114
Sunday Morning Worship :	192
Sunday Evening Worship	93
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study 1	131
Sunday Contribution — — — — — \$8,1	124

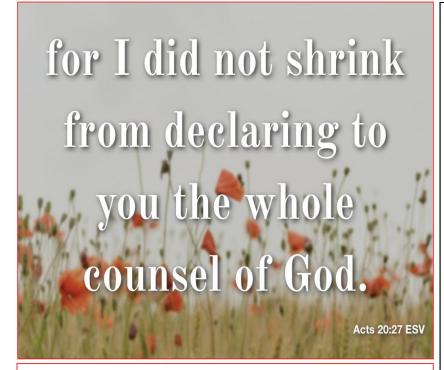


The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of September 28th 2025

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST



Sunday Morning

"Upcoming Sermons"

'Christian Living Series": Making the Most of Your Time

October 5th

Sunday Night

What Does the Bible Isaiah 59- Sin & Salvation

To Contact Us: 9704 Hwy 70 E Mail us: P.O. Box 256 **McEwen, TN 37101**

E-mail: mcewencofc@gmail.com Phone: 931-582-6130 Website: www.mcewenchurchofchrist.com

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study.....9:00am Worship......10:00am Evening.....6:00pm

Wednesday

Bible Study.....6:30pm

Elders:

Calvin Buckner

Billy Buttrey Bruce Mayfield

W.R. Long Mike Robertson

Deacons:

Mike Burns Mark Forster Derek Berryman Wayne Coates Barry Phy James Ridings Iohn Hurt Robert Proctor Dwight Stuart Wade Tummins Toe Smith Ethan Tummins

Ronnie Tyler

Staff:

Ministers ---- Every Member Pulpit ----- John Jones Youth ----- Keith Grigsby Secretaries ---- Terri Tummins Teresa Fleming

EVANGELISM PROGRAM

Continue to be:

- Praying for those we are studying with
- To provide new (Contact's) cards for us to reach out to.

Team - may have cards to work on this Wednesday night.

^{*}If changes need to be made in scheduling please contact Jimmy Phy.