Overseers

Johnny Davis	307-4232
Dan Fuller	478-3755
Joe Holland	626-2809
*Jerry Hopkins	434-4188
Phil Porter	575-4782
Richard Watson	694-0444

*Chairman for the Month of December

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins	.744-4559
David Sproule	. 301-2230
Josh Blackmer	. 319-1418

Deacons

Mike Archer	422-2995
David Brown	972-7608
Novel Brown	848-6988
Chuck Clark	627-4132
Victor Colage	719-1490
Lance Collier	793-2718
Jim Davis	248-3310
Mike Erickson	310-9916
Tim Fry	373-9121
Jeff Goodale	261-1188
Rick Hall	622-5131
Bob Higbee	303-386-6405
Gary Jenkins	889-3585
Dick Kelley	968-1799
Jeff Leslie	744-3444
Paul Metzkes	736-9086
Buzz Nelson	627-4890
Jerry Pittman	793-2725
Kevin Weeks	386-4108

Church Office

Phone	561-848-1111
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E-mail	office@pblcoc.org



10 Questions
to Ask Yourself
as the new year approaches

- 1. What reading plan will I use for my personal Bible time?
- 2. When, where and how often am I going to pray?
- 3. Is there any reason I will not attend every church service?
- 4. What specific people (make a list) am I going to reach out to with the gospel and/or invitations to worship (and pray for)?
- 5. What can I do to personally encourage my brothers and sisters in Christ?
- 6. Upon what sin or shortcoming am I going to unleash every effort and energy I have (with God's help) to overcome?
- 7. How much am I going to give on the first day of the week, and can I give a little bit more than that?
- 8. What one thing could I cut out of my schedule that I could replace with something for God and/or the church?
- 9. What are some specific things that I can do to ensure that agape love abides in and reigns in my home and family?
- 10. If I were to die in this next year, is there anything that I would seriously regret having not done or not said, that I should do or say now?

By Dan Jenkins

The Rich Man, the Eye of a Needle and Heaven

Read the Bible

more carefully,

more slowly. You

The only reason-

able conclusion

when faced with

the substantial

As far back as I can remember I've heard Christians say, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter heaven." In fact, in past years, this is what I said that Jesus said about this topic. I was wrong when I taught this. Let's take a moment to carefully examine

what our Lord said. Let's take time to learn the importance of reading the Bible more carefully.

So, let me ask you, is the following statement true? "The Bible teaches that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter heaven." True or false? Suppose I were to say that this is not what the Bible says. There may be overlook- about rich men and the eye of a needle. The passage is a context in which these words were said. However, we far too often fail to read the verses before and

after a single favorite verse. Matthew, Mark and Luke record the words of Jesus in this way. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven." How then could I have said, "This is not what the Bible says"?

Take time to study the matter more deeply. Mark adds another aspect of the rich man which so many have overlooked. Just before Jesus spoke of the rich man and the needle, Jesus said, "How hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of heaven" (Mark 10:24). The kind of rich man Jesus had in mind when he spoke of the eye of the needle was the rich man who trusts in his riches. It was not the possession of the riches which was the problem, it was the trust rich men foolishly place in their riches.

Think about it for just a moment. How rich was David? How rich was young Solomon? How rich was Job? Have you not known Christians who were rich, yet their riches did not

> destroy their spirituality? We have failed to see precisely what Jesus was saying. The dangers of riches is that because of them men begin to trust in their riches more than in God.

There's one other thing we need to see ing great truths! is not discussing entering heaven but entering the kingdom of heaven. What is that kingdom? The Bible

> clearly shows that the kingdom of heaven is the church! Jesus was not saying that rich men have problems entering into heaven, but they have problems entering into the church. Those who trust in riches rarely become Christians, but if they truly die to self in their repentance, they become tremendous assets to the cause of Christ. When they die to self, their riches no longer control them. They control their riches!

> Let me encourage you to read the Bible more carefully. Read it more slowly. You may be overlooking great truths!



By David Sproule

"Dear Friend, I Found God"

Friend, I want you to know that I truly have found God, and this has changed my life forever. I am excited to share this with you, and I hope you will take the time to read and consider it.

I know that not everyone believes in God. But I want you to know that the evi-

dence I have found for the existence of God is absolutely over-

whelming. This isn't just a little belief I have in my heart, but it is the only reasonable conclusion when faced with the substantial volume of proof.

First, I have had to consider the "Law of Cause of Effect." Basically, this states that "every material effect must have an adequate cause that existed before the effect." If I found my house crum- volume of proof bled to the ground, I could not blame it on the mos-

quito I found flying over the debris. That would not be an adequate cause. Something guite substantial would have to cause that to happen. Would that also be true of our universe? Do you know that there are over 100 billion galaxies in our universe and each galaxy (like our Milky Way) has over 100 billion stars in it? Would a tiny ball of matter smaller than a proton be able to "Bang" Big enough to adequately cause this massive, material universe that we cannot even completely see, yet alone explore? No, that would not be an adequate cause!

There must have been an original cause substantial enough to bring about the effect that is here. In that, I found God!

Second, I have had to consider the "Law of Biogenesis." Basically, this states that "life in the material universe comes from previous life of its own kind." This has been proven over and over, and science itself has shown that life never arises except from life. It is evident that life is now here. Where did it come from? It could not have come from non-

> life. Therefore, the origin of life on earth points back to an original life-giver. Who could that be? In that, I found God!

> Third, I have had to consider the "Law of Rationality." Basically, this states that "one must only draw and accept conclusions that are warranted by clear evidence." Specifically, think about the matter of design. If there is design, that demands the

conclusion that there is a designer. A watch demands a watchmaker. A painting demands a painter. The design that is evident in the earth, the universe and even the human body is millions of times more complex than a watch or painting. What conclusion does that evidence warrant? Doesn't that design also demand a designer? In that, I found God!

There is no other explanation for the substantial amount of evidence than this conclusion: There is a God! You are important to me, and I wanted to share that with you.

By Josh Blackmer

What Do We Do With It All?

David Cassidy, better known by some as Keith Partridge, was a famous actor, singer and song writer in the 70s. As some stars do, David had a rough go at life. Before his fall he was twice bankrupt, had been through several marriages, numerous DUIs and on November 27, 2017, he died of liver failure. His

daughter, Katie Cassidy, reported that his last words were, "So 39:4) much wasted time." She went on to say, "This will be a daily reminder for me to share my gratitude with those I love [and] to never waste another minute."

We are born

What do we do with it all? All of our time. We are born thinking we have so much time, and we near the end of our days thinking quite the opposite. The life expectancy of an average American in 2015 was 78 years. That comes out to 937 months, 4,080 weeks, 28,564 days, 685,525 hours and 41,131,506 minutes. On average, we spend 26.9 years of our 78 sleeping. If you work 40 hours a week from age 20 to 65, not accounting for vacation or holidays, you work 10.7 years of your life. If you spend 1.5 hours a day eating then you spend 4.9 years of your life eating. 78 years is whittled down to 35.5 years if you take out sleeping, working and eating. So what are you going to do with what you have left of it?

Job said, "Man, who is born of woman, Is short-lived

and full of turmoil" (14:1). James puts it more poetically, "Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away" (4:14). Considering where we are in our lives at the close of another year is helpful for putting things into perspective. David said, "LORD, make me to know my end and what is the extent of my days; let me know how transient I am" (Psa. 39:4). And again, "So teach us to number our days, that we may present to You a heart of wisdom" (Psa. 90:12).

It is easy to be in coast mode. You are just going through the days in auto pilot. When we live that way, we are not thinking about where we are going or what we are doing with the time that is given to us. We eat it up with Netflix binging and things that, in the end, won't matter. Solomon said, "Thus I considered all my activities which my hands had

done and the labor which I had exerted, and behold all was vanity and striving after wind and there was no profit under the sun" (Ecc. 2:11). Even though he had done many marvelous things, it was nothing in comparison to his relationship and obedience to God.

If you were to think about your last words, what would you want them to be? Full of regret at time wasted or full of hope to hearing of those around you? We are subject to time. Fill yours with good deeds, and you will find rest.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Where's your hope?

The Bible has a whole chapter about love (1 Cor. 13). The Bible has a whole chapter about faith (Heb. 11). The Bible has a whole chapter about hope—do you know which chapter it is? It is longer than the chapter about love and the chapter about faith combined. It is found in First Corinthians 15—what most Bible students might refer to as the resurrection chapter.

As Christians, we have a living hope because Jesus Himself was raised from the dead (15:1-19), and because "Christ is risen from the dead," He "has become the firstfruits" of those who have died in Christ (15:20). His resurrection guarantees our resurrection! Death is not the end! In fact, when Jesus returns, "the dead will be raised," and death will be no more (15:52-54)!

Is there hope beyond this life? Is there hope beyond our last breath? Is there hope beyond the grave? Yes! That hope is wrapped around the same thing that our faith and love are wrapped around—Jesus Christ! Let us put our hope in Him and eagerly await His return! — DS

Be consistent in your outrage

The recurring accusations of sexual misconduct that are flooding our media reports reflect how sick our society has become. One day it's the report of a teacher's sexual relationship with a student, then the next day it's yet another high-profile, celebrity-type who is being accused of inappropriate sexual behavior. Stunned reactions sweep through the media and the masses.



But, has anyone backed away long enough to realize that what we are witnessing is proof positive of a very fundamental truth? "Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" (Gal. 6:7). When a society promotes and celebrates (in movies, television, books, games,

social media, etc.) loose sexuality, premarital sex, extramarital sex, fornication of all types, sexy bodies, sexy clothing, hooking up, sleeping around, etc., etc., WHAT DO YOU EXPECT WILL HAPPEN?

If you are outraged at the reports about these various sexual transgressions, are you equally outraged at our society's entertainment with sexual promiscuity? God placed sex in ONE place—for a man and his wife only (Heb. 13:4)! Fornication is $\sin!$ Not entertainment! -DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Mike Archer Manor Care (room 127B), undergoing rehab

Mary Brown JFK Hospital (room 2137), blood clots in her legs

Pat Brown lymphedema in arm and hand

Jimmy Burney diagnosed with lung cancer

Linda Coe awaiting test results

Zula Garrett Jupiter Medical Center (room 331), fluid on her lungs

Tom Martens undergoing therapy at home

Silas Moses Rehab Center of the Palm Beaches (room 304)

Angie Seames neck surgery on Dec. 1

Giselle Smith eye surgery on Dec. 1



Sadie Tennant and family upon the passing of **Cathy Seay**, on Friday morning.

Sarah Rodgers upon the passing of **her sister, Annie Mitchell,** on Thursday morning.

Long-Term Health Issues

Lillian Bankstondialysis treatmentsSilas Mosesdialysis treatmentsCharles Nortondialysis treatmentsNorm Smedleybreathing problemsPatricia Ventressdialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames Shelton Howell Sandra Daniels **Daniel Johnson** Cora Lee Dennis Don & Betty Matter Annie Faison Deidra Miley Helen Gardner Harriet Morris Margie Hardin **Godfrey Pratt** Janet Hickerson Leigh Puckett Loretta Holaday Ricky Smedley

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Elaine Back

Ke'niya Ealey

Adrienne Banks' granddaughter, NICU in Holtz Hosp.

Evelyn Ellis

Mike Ellis' mother, La Posada, recovering from surgery

Zoe Fuente

Joyce Barnhouse's great-granddaughter, now at home

Jennifer King

Rashanna Green's mother, ICU at St. Mary's

Carolyn Miller

Marcia Clough-Moss' mother-in-law, not well after surg.

Twyla Wright Trina Wright's mother, now at home, still very weak

Teresa Williams' sister, recovering from eye surgery

Remember
Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands
Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker
Joey & Tammy Treat

Africa
Tamuka Arunashe
Nnanna Aforji

Montgomery, Alabama
Apologetics Press

Coral Springs, Florida
Mauricio Yegros

Yvonne Palmer

Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 3

- Renova/North Lake Nursing Home Visit at 2:30 p.m.
- "Fortifying Your Faith" Class at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 4

 No Monday Night Bible Study. Class will resume in January.

Tuesday, December 5

 No Tuesday Morning Bible Study. Class will resume in January.

Thursday, December 7

 Ladies' Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring soup, bread, dessert or drinks. Bring an ornament for the exchange.

Friday, December 8

• Family Group 4 Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Paul & Lisa Metzkes.

Sunday, December 10

No "Fortifying Your Faith" Class.

Sunday, December 10 (cont.)

 House to House/Heart to Heart Congregational Labeling Night after evening worship in the Family Room.
 Everyone is encouraged to stay and help out.

Saturday, December 16

◆ PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Room. Bring a \$10 gift for the holiday gift exchange. See Maria Hackshaw for more details.

Sunday, December 17

- 2-Week Mini-Session Classes Begin. Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults meet in the Auditorium.
- "Fortifying Your Faith" Class at 5:00 p.m. This is the last class.
- Youth & Family Singing after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Sunday, December 24

"Evening" Worship will be at 1:00 p.m.



Thursday, December 7

 Ladies' Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring soup, bread, dessert or drinks. Bring an ornament for the exchange.

Saturday, December 9

 Young Adult Holiday Party at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Sarah Collier. Bring a white elephant gift to exchange.

Saturday, January 6

 Young Adult Devo at 6:00 p.m. See Ivan Villard for details.

Tuesday, January 9

Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night at 6:30 p.m. See Rachel Fuller for details.

Friday, January 12

 Sr. High & Young Adult Ladies' Hangout at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Rachel Fuller. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Rachel, Julie or Brittany for details.



Saturday, December 9

 Jr. High Holiday Party hosted by 55+ Members from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be served. See Ivan, Amber or Sarah for details.

Sunday, December 10

Sr. High Visitation following morning worship until 5:00
 p.m. to deliver cookies and hang out.

Saturday, December 16

- Young Families' Holiday Party from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the home of Keila McLeod. RSVP to Josh Blackmer and sign up on the bulletin board to bring a food item. All families with children in Grade 5 and under are welcome.
- Sr. High Holiday Party. See Josh Blackmer for details.

Sunday, December 17

 Youth & Family Singing after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

DECEMBER:



"O victory in Jesus,

My Savior, forever!

He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood!

He loved me ere I knew Him,
And all my love is due Him!

He plunged me to victory

Beneath the cleansing flood!"

(Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939)

New Children's Bible Classes

Ages O-2 (Beginning in December)			
Cradle Roll God Made Me		Micky Affron	
Toddlers & Age 2	The Prophets	Emily Tyson	

Stepping into the Bible for Age 3 thru Grade 5 (Dec. 31-May 16)

STEPPING	The Church Begins	The Church in Jerusalem	The Church Grows	Saul of Tarsus Converted	The Apostle Peter
Session 1 Dec. 31 thru Jan. 24	Grades 4-5 Paul Metzkes	Ages 3-4 Mendy Crews		K & Grade 1 A. Seames & S. Eutsey	Grades 2 & 3 Jennifer Goodale
Session 2 Jan. 28 thru Feb. 21	Grades 2 & 3 J. Rogers & M. Porter	Grades 4-5 Heath Johnson	Ages 3-4 Stephanie Weeks		K & Grade 1 Amberdenise Puckett
Session 3 Feb. 25 thru Mar. 21	K & Grade 1 Amberdenise Puckett	Grades 2 & 3 J. Rogers & M. Porter	Grades 4-5 Heath Johnson	Ages 3-4 Stephanie Weeks	
Session 4 <i>Mar. 25 thru Apr. 18</i>		K & Grade 1 Amberdenise Puckett	Grades 2 & 3 J. Rogers & M. Porter	Grades 4-5 <i>Heath Johnson</i>	Ages 3-4 Stephanie Weeks
Session 5 Apr. 22 thru May 16	Ages 3-4 TBA		K & Grade 1 TBA	Grades 2 & 3 TBA	Grades 4-5 TBA

"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)



The Ladies' Soup Supper is this Thursday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Please sign up on the bulletin board to bring soup, bread, dessert or drinks. Bring an ornament for the exchange.



Sunday November 26

LOCAL VISITORS: Miss Linda Allen; Ms. Gail Archer; Mr. Jean Charles; the Henderson family; Mr. & Mrs. Rich & Nancy Light; Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Norma Mariano; Ms. Pat Patterson; Mrs. Alexis Rosemene; and Mr. Anthony Spinoga.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Chet & Brenda Brown, New Market, MN; the Duverge family, Miami, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Harold Gilmore, Decatur, AL; Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Patricia Hall, Maury City, TN; Mr. Scott Kelley, Jacob & Colton, West Broward, FL; Ms. Michelle Manzi & Lou Osher, Boothwyn, PA; Mrs. Anne Merrill, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Mrs. Gorgeous Morgan, Port St. Lucie, FL; and Mr. & Mrs. Donald & Chris Smith, Henderson, TN.



Monday (December 4th) Sandra Daniels **Guadalupe Tipton**

Tuesday (December 5th) Adrienna Gadson Janice Osborne

Wednesday (December 6th) Cara Blackmer Clayton Trujillo

Thursday (December 7th) **Sharon Banks**

Jeannie Buonadonna Deltom Lequernaqué

Friday (December 8th) **Harriet Morris**

Saturday (December 9th) Mike & Jean Archer (Ann.)

Those to Serve

If you cannot serve, please call Mike Ellis at 775-3533.

If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday morning, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at 9:50 a.m. If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday evening</u>, please meet at the front of the auditorium at <u>5:50 p.m.</u>

Sunday Morning, December 3

Lead Singing	Gary Friedly
Opening Prayer	Mike Erickson
Scripture Reading	Marvin Dozier
Presiding at Table	Kevin Weeks
Serve at Table:	
Josiah Blackmer	Chuck Reeves, Sr.
David Brown	Dirk Summerlot
Bob Higbee	Tyrone Tyson
Wallace Jones	Eugene Williams
Alternates:	
Lance Collier	L.H. Richardson
losing Prayer	Phil Porter

Sunday Evening, December 3

Lead Singing	Jerry Pittman		
Opening Prayer	Ivan Villard, Jr.		
Scripture Reading	Scott Studer		
Presiding at Table	Ted Friesner		
Harrison Crotts			
Glen Dawson			
Jeff Leslie			
Closing Prayer	John Loftis		
Wednesday Evening, December 6			
Load Cinging	Pohort Luno		

Lead Singing	Robert Lupo
Invitation	Freddie Gadson
Family Prayer	Chuck Clark

	Attendance	Nov. 26	Oct. Avg.
	Sun. Bible Study	243	227
	Sun. A.M. Worsh	ip 326	339
	Sun. P.M. Worsh	ip 161	181
	Wed. Bible Study	154	162
	Contribution	\$11,744	\$14,579
ı			

Our Record

2017 Weekly Budget: \$15,065 Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: -37,864

Ushers for week of **Dec. 3:** Head Ushers: Gadson & N. Brown; A. Fernandez & Heath Johnson



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at West Palm Beach, FL

Service Schedule

Sunday:

Bible Classes........ 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday: Bible classes 7:00 p.m.

Front Cover: Ladies' Soup Supper 2015

Locally, those channels are:

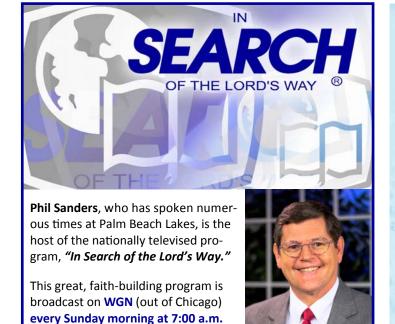
AT&T U-Verse (channel 180)

Comcast (channel 7)

DISH (channel 239)

about it.

DIRECTV (channel 307)



Be sure to check it out every week, record it, and tell others

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

The Bible says...

- Believe that Jesus is the Son of God
 "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).
- 2. Repent of your sinful ways

 "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).
- 3. Confess your faith in Jesus

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus...you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9).

4. Be immersed in water

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16).

- 5. Commit to a lifetime of faithful service
 - "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).