Elders

Johnny Davis	307-4232
Dan Fuller	478-3755
Jerry Hopkins	434-4188
*Phil Porter	575-4782
Richard Watson	307-2608

*Chairman for the Month of February

Evangelists

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

Deacons

2 64.661.16
Mike Archer422-2995
David Brown972-7608
Novel Brown848-6988
Chuck Clark 627-4132
Victor Colage719-1490
Lance Collier793-2718
Kirk Crews 339-9283
Cam Crotts214-3114
Mike Erickson310-9916
Tim Fry373-9121
Jeff Goodale261-1188
Rick Hall622-5131
Bob Higbee303-386-6405
Bill Ingram, Jr772-341-5463
Gary Jenkins 889-3585
Dick Kelley968-1799
Jeff Leslie744-3444
Paul Metzkes736-9086
Buzz Nelson627-4890
Nate Nelson801-9456
Jerry Pittman793-2725
Lawrence Richardson772-336-4989
Shaun Tyson615-513-2045
Ivan Villard422-5041
Kevin Weeks386-4108

Church Office

Phone	561-848-1111
Fax	561-848-1198
Website	www.pblcoc.org
F-mail	office@nblcoc.org



Vol. LVIV

February 2, 2020

No. 5







By Dan Jenkins

Who Gets the "Family Farm"?

The death of a

parent often cre-

It's not merely

that you can't

be His friend...

It was that impromptu question from a listener which allowed Jesus to teach one of life's greatest lessons. In Luke 12, we read of a massive, innumerable crowd where people were trampling over each other just to listen to Jesus (v. 1). At one point, when Jesus paused, a person spoke up to the Mas-

ter and said to Him, "Tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me" (v. 13). The death of a parent often creates strife among the family, and this person knew that Jesus would settle the matter. Jesus did settle that matter but not in the way anyone expected.

The dividence of the inheritance with matter to divide the inheritance with matter of the inheritance with matter to divide the inheritance with me" (v. 13). The death of a parent often creates strife among the family, and this person knew that matter to divide the inheritance with me" (v. 13). The death of a parent often creates strife among the family, and this person knew that matter to divide the inheritance with me" (v. 13). The death of a parent often creates strife among the family, and this person knew that matter to divide the inheritance with me" (v. 13). The death of a parent often creates are inheritance with me and the parent of the inheritance with me and the inheritance with me an

He first told the man that His purpose was far greater than just to be a judge or arbitrator over such matters, and He spoke to that multitude. He showed the real problem in that family squabble was not just a legal matter. The Lord's view of this matter? "Beware of covetousness" (v. 15). Who "gets the farm" is meaningless, for, as Jesus said, "A man's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." That person who asked the question thought all that mattered was "the family farm," and Jesus said that "the farm" has no value when we look at the real purpose we are on this earth.

He then illustrated this truth by telling the story of the rich farmer whose harvest had given him great wealth. That

man's view of life was so wrong. He thought that his life consisted of his business skills. With a heart filled with foolish pride, he made plans to build bigger barns because he looked to his future and it was so bright. He now had "...many goods laid up for many years" (v. 19). The future was so bright. He had worked hard and now he could "retire" and enjoy what he had earned. His words? "Take ease; eat, drink and be merry." You know the rest of the story—he died within hours of saying this!

Jesus then asked a question worth noting: "Then whose shall these things be?" They definitely were not the farmer's, for he died. They were not his children's, for they too would eventually die. Neither were they his grandchildren's! The truth is that they never were possessed by any mortal. "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof" (Psa. 24:1).

Jesus' view of one's possessions was so different from that of the farmer. The farmer saw them as many goods laid up for many years. Jesus saw them as "things." The truth is that all of life's treasures are simply "stuff." Gather all the "stuff" on this earth, all its silver and gold, and compare it to the value of your soul (Matt. 16:26).

The farm and all earthly possessions were the Lord's before the farmer was born and were His after he died. Jesus called the farmer a fool. Check your values. Do not be a fool!



By David Sproule

We Can't Be Friends!

One of the greatest compliments paid to anyone in the Bible is found in James 2:23. As in other New Testament contexts, when the subject of faith is discussed at length, the great patriarch of faith from the Old Testament—Abraham—is called out as a man to emulate.

In the context of James 2, the inspired writer was explaining the Biblical nature of true faith. James emphasized that "faith [that] does not have works" cannot "save" a man (2:14), for "faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead" (2:17). To illustrate (and prove) this point, James called to mind how Abraham was "justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar" (2:21). He then asked, "Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by

works faith was made perfect?" (2:22). Abraham was a man of true faith, for his faith was evidenced by and punctuated by his works. He would have never considered for one moment that his relationship with God could be established or maintained by having "faith only" (2:24), but only when his faith was put into action.

In verse 23, God told James to write that Abraham "was called the friend of God." God looked at Abraham and said, "That's my friend." What a thought! The trust, devotion,

commitment and love that Abraham had for God was evident in his life. He wanted to be God's friend, and he made every effort to demonstrate that to his heavenly friend.

Only 25 verses later, James wrote about being friends with someone else. How interesting that in one book we read about being a friend of God, and then we read about a totally different friendship. Read this carefully: "Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever

therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (4:4).

What a contrast between being "the friend of God" in 2:23 and "an enemy of God" in 4:4! What makes the difference? God says, "If you're going to be friends with the world, then we can't be friends!" If you're going to be more interested in what the world thinks than what God thinks...If you're going to

be more desirous of the world's attention, accolades and approval than you are of God's...If you're going to long to hang out with and spend more time with the world than you long to be with God...then you cannot be God's friend! But, it's even worse than that! It's not merely that you can't be His friend, but in actuality, you are His enemy!

As James' brother, Jesus, said, "No one can serve two masters" (Matt. 6:24). You must choose! Do you want the world to be your friend, or do you want God's friendship?



By Josh Blackmer

Stand in Awe of My Name

In the book of Malachi, God chastises the priests. They had not been acting in accordance with the covenant. God spoke concerning Levi through Aaron, "My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him as an object of reverence; so he revered Me and stood in awe of My

name" (2:5). We see awe and reverence as something God desires from those who serve and worship Him. He specifically mentions a sense of wonder and awe for His name. To hold in reverence the name of someone means to place great respect on every aspect of that person. Let's look at some of the names that are used for God in the Old Testament.

In the moment that Abraham would've faithfully sacrificed his son, his hand was stayed (Gen. 22:10-14). What Abraham had been telling his son came to pass. The Lord had provided a ram caught in the thicket as a sacrifice. Abraham called that place Jehovah-Jireh, the Lord will provide.

The psalm that most know best begins with these words, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want" (Psa. 23:1). David, a shepherd in his youth, knew the work of the shepherd was to provide for his flock. That means caring for it and defending it. So, when the Lord is mentioned as a shepherd, Je-

hovah-Raah, it is no wonder that we find such comfort.

The people led by Moses had just crossed the Red Sea and were being led into the wilderness of Shur (Ex. 15:22-27). They had been three days in the wilderness and found only bitter water. The people cried out. The Lord showed Moses a tree that was to be thrown into the water, and it was made clean. Then the Lord said, "If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight,

and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the LORD, am your healer" (v. 26). They knew the plights which the Egyptians had suffered. That is why God calls Himself Jehovah-Rapha. Things were going to be much better with God as long as they kept His statutes.

These are a few of the many names of our Lord, each praising Him for different attributes. Bringing these names into focus when we contemplate who God is should help us to be in reverential awe of Him. Just as Thomas stood in awe before the Christ as He said, "Reach here with your finger, and see my hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side..." (John 20:27-28). Thomas responded, "My Lord and My God!" The Lord makes a point to speak to the millions of believers that would come later, "Blessed are they who have not seen, and yet believed."

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

for the Day

These are a few

of the many

names of our

Love being loved or being in love?

It is important for young people and young couples (although it is not exclusive to those who are young) to understand and appreciate the difference between (1) loving the fact that someone loves you and (2) actually being in love with someone (exclusively) to the point of wanting to put him/her and his/her needs above your own for the rest of your life. This is critical to assess in your own heart before committing to marry and devoting yourself to someone!

But, consider that this applies to your relationship with God, as well. Are you in a relationship with God and wanting to be with Him because

(1) you love being loved by Him and receiving all the benefits that come with that or (2) because you truly love Him and want to put Him and His desires above your own for the rest of your life? The first is focused on a relationship with God because of (1) what I get out of it, rather than (2) what I can give to Him.

Take a measurement. Why do you love? Why do you love who you love? – DS

Do you love a good banquet?

When you think of a banquet, what comes to mind? Do you think of a great time, with great people and great food? If you were given the choice (when it comes to a nice banquet), would you rather (1) be served at a table or be the one serving? (2) eat a delicious meal or prepare and serve the meal? (3) drink an iced beverage or pour the drinks? (4) leave a mess on

the table or clean up the mess? (5) be the guest of honor or be the one honoring the guests?

Generally, at a banquet, there are two "classes" of people—the guests and the servers. Which would you rather be? Most of us (if given the choice) would probably rather be served than to

be the one serving. But, consider what Jesus had to say. First, if you are an invitee, "Sit down in the lowest place" (Luke 14:10). Second, the "greatest" ones are not the people in seats of honor, but the ones in a place in insignificance, who are serving (Matt. 20:26-27). After all, that's the place that Jesus took (20:28). If serving was not above Him, it is not above us! – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Skye Brown undergoing therapy on her arm

Betty Davis recovering at home

James Green undergoing physical therapy on broken shoulder

Shirley Hopkins at home and slowly improving

David Lord suffering with rheumatoid arthritis

Gwen Lyons surgery on a broken bone in her back was postponed

Sandy Mann having elbow replacement surgery on Jan. 31

Winifred Patterson recovering from her cataract surgeries

Connye Plouffe undergoing rehab on her leg

Chuck Reeves, Sr. dealing with severe back problems

recovering from her neck & back surgery, improving **Mary Reeves**

Linda Studer having chemo treatments every 3 weeks (next is Feb. 6)

Marie Thorpe dealing with pain from a pinched nerve in her back

Ralph Williams recovering from surgery **Long-Term Health Issues**

Lillian Bankston dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Joe Holland

Millie Ames Karen Bibbee **Daniel Johnson** Hattie Daniels Don & Betty Matter Sandra Daniels Deidra Miley Josie Dawson **Harriet Morris**

Annie Faison Leigh Puckett Dianne Frye Les Sawyer Ricky Smedley Margie Hardin

Patricia Ventress Loretta Holaday



We extend our deepest sympathy to Victor Colage, upon the passing of his father, Victor Colage, Sr., on Saturday, January 25.

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Ron Fernander Turkessa Staley's father, Lakeside Health Center

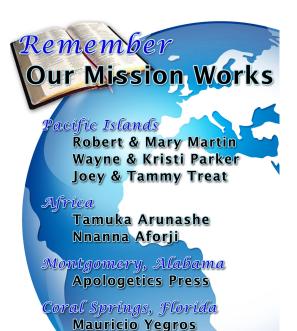
Janie Floren Josie Dawson's sister, chemo treatments for breast cancer

Dificial Geffrard Justilien Honore's mother, hospitalized last week

Edward Kelley Dick Kelley's brother, not doing well

Geraldine Marshall Betty Sanders' sister, inoperable gallbladder issues

Doug Philips Jacqui Jenkins' brother, stage 4 cancer in his spine



Tavaro & Shameika Hanna

Bahamas

Church Family **Calendar of Events**

Sunday, February 2

North Lake Nursing Home Visit at 2:30 p.m.

Monday, February 3

• No Monday Night Bible Study.

Tuesday, February 4

Tuesday Morning Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room.

Friday-Sunday, February 7-9

 Mother/Daughter Retreat at CFBC. This year's theme is "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." Cost is \$40. Register online at www.cfbiblecamp.org.

Saturday, February 8

Ladies' Day hosted by Gifford from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Bessie Lorenzo will be speaking on "A Rose Among Daisies." See the bulletin board for more details.

Sunday, February 9

 New Bible Classes Begin at 9:00 a.m. for all children and adults.

Sunday, February 9 (cont.)

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

Friday, February 14

• Family Group 4 Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Lance & Brenda Collier.

Saturday, February 15

 Sweetheart Banquet hosted by the Jr. High Youth at 5:00 p.m. for PBL members 55+ years old or married 25+ years. RSVP by February 12 to Sarah Collier or Ivan & Amber Villard. Tickets are \$5 (pay at the door).

Sunday, February 16

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

Monday, February 17

 Men Meet Monday Night at 7:30 p.m. at the pavilion on the church property. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited.



Tuesday, February 4

 Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Cindy Nelson. Bring sides, desserts and drinks.

Friday-Sunday, February 7-9

 Sr. High & Young Adult Family Camping Trip. See Josh Blackmer or Ivan Villard for more details.

Friday, February 14

 Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Michelle Franck for more details.

Monday, February 17

 Men Meet Monday Night at 7:30 p.m. at the pavilion on the church property. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Saturday, February 7

Young Adult Devo at 6:00 p.m.



Friday-Sunday, February 7-9

 Sr. High & Young Adult Family Camping Trip. See Josh Blackmer or Ivan Villard for more details.

Saturday, February 8

Valentine's Play Date for Grades 5 & Under at 11:00

 a.m. at PGA National Park (West Pavilion). Please bring
 your own picnic lunch. RSVP by February 5 to Taylor or
 Natalie Reeves.

Sunday, February 9

- New Bible Classes Begin at 9:00 a.m. for all children and adults.
- Youth & Family Singing after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Friday, February 14

 Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Michelle Franck for more details.

2020 VISION: SEEING WHAT GOD SEES

"BLESSED ARE THE EYES WHICH SEE THE THINGS YOU SEE" LUKE 10:23

February

SEE Potential

"See the end intended by the Lord" (Jas. 5:11)

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







Sunday, January 26

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Tunde Akingbade & Madison; Mr. & Mrs. Terry & Regina Crews; Mr. Gabrial Cutrer; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Miss Jamie Granino; Mrs. Maxine Griggs; Mr. Milton Jones; Mr. John Judd; Ms. Suzette McQueen & Jade; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Sharon Mann; and Mr. Garfield Walks.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Miss LaDon Cruz, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Bob & Joy Judd, Greer, SC; Mrs. Ginger Holliday, Boca Raton, FL; Scott, Jacob, & Colton Kelley, West Broward, FL; Ms. Bianca McIntosh, Marsh Harbour, Bahamas; Mr. & Mrs. Gene & Betty Mies, Ypsilanti, MI; Mr. & Mrs. Stephen & Cindy Shafor, Dorr, MI; Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Pat Steele, Paden City, WV; and Mr. & Mrs. Leon & Marie Weeks, Valdosta, GA.



Thank you for all the cards and prayers for my brother, and the beautiful flowers that were sent to his funeral. We all appreciate your kindness so much.

> Sincerely, Josie & Glen Dawson * * * * * *

Thank you for the flowers, cards and prayers after the passing of our brother.

Christene Bean & Loretta James

Sunday (February 2nd) Gai Ingram

Monday (February 3rd) Jennifer Goodale

Tuesday (February 4th) Novel & Mary Brown (Ann.) Errol & Jessie Gower-Winter (Ann.) Rashana Green Lily Lolo Deidra Miley

Wednesday (February 5th) Glen & Josie Dawson (Ann.) Mike & Tasha Ellis (Ann.) Joel & Jessica Ramirez (Ann.) Maurine Reed

Thursday (February 6th) Kenneth Long

Friday (February 7th) Connye Plouffe

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 Sunday evening, please meet at the front of the auditorium at 5:50 p.m.

Sunday Mornina, February 2

unday Morning, rebradry 2		
Lead Singing	Gary Friedly	
Opening Prayer	Bob Higbee	
Scripture Reading	Eugene Williams	
Presiding at Table	Gary Seames	
Serve at Table:		
Jordan Beasley	Taylor Reeves	
Mike Damron	Vincent Rogers	
Freddie Gadson	Dirk Summerlot	
Gary Jenkins	Lawrence Williams	
Alternates:		
Andy Anderson	Chad Morgan	
Closing Prayer	Orlando Lolo	

Sunday Evening, February 2

Lead SingingDan McLeod
Opening Prayer Jerry Hopkins
Scripture ReadingJohn Loftis
Presiding at TablePhil Porter
Lance Collier
Jeff Goodale
Jeremy Maloney
Closing Prayer Tom Martens
Wednesday Evening, February 5
Lead Singing Josiah Blackmer

Invitation......Jim Davis

Family PrayerJeff Goodale

<u>Ushers</u> for this week: Novel Brown (Head Usher); Ed Buonadonna & Ivan Villard, Jr. Security Team for this week: Jerry Pittman & Darin Summerlot

Our Record

Attendance	<u>Jan. 26</u>	Dec. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	220	209
Sun. A.M. Worsh	nip 321	305
Sun. P.M. Worsh	nip 166	135
Wed. Bible Stud	y 195	153
Contribution \$	160,708	\$15,807

2020 Weekly Budget: TBD Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: TBD





Service Schedule		
Sunday:		
Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.		
Worship 10:00 a.m.		
Worship6:00 p.m.		
Wednesday:		
Bible classes 7:00 p.m.		

Front Cover: Connie Tipton, Cara & Vivian Blackmer

New Bible Classes (FEB. 9 - APRIL 15)

SUNDAY MORNINGS at 9:00 A.M.

The Book of Revelation (Part 2)	Dan Jenkins (Auditorium)
Song of Solomon	David Sproule (Adult 1)
Young Adults: What God Wants	Gary Jenkins (Adult 3)
Sr. High: Answering Bible Questions	
Jr. High: Acts 1-12: The Beginning of the Church	

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS at 7:00 P.M.

Ezekiel	Josh Blackmer (Auditorium)
The Mind of Christ	Dan McLeod (Adult 1)
Ladies: Coming Back from Failure	Traci Sproule (Adult 2)
Sr. High: Getting to Know the Bible	
Jr. High: The Christian's Responsibility	