#### **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**

| Mike Archer         | 422-2995     |
|---------------------|--------------|
| David Brown         | 972-7608     |
| Novel Brown         | 848-6988     |
| Chuck Clark         | 627-4132     |
| Victor Colage       | 719-1490     |
| Lance Collier       | 793-2718     |
| Kirk Crews          | 339-9283     |
| Cam Crotts          | 214-3114     |
| Mike Erickson       | 310-9916     |
| Tim Fry             | 373-9121     |
| Jeff Goodale        | 261-1188     |
| Rick Hall           | 622-5131     |
| Bob Higbee          | 303-386-6405 |
| Bill Ingram, Jr     | 772-341-5463 |
| Gary Jenkins        | 889-3585     |
| Dick Kelley         | 968-1799     |
| Jeff Leslie         | 744-3444     |
| Paul Metzkes        | 736-9086     |
| Buzz Nelson         | 627-4890     |
| Nate Nelson         | 801-9456     |
| Jerry Pittman       | 793-2725     |
| Lawrence Richardson | 772-336-4989 |
| Shaun Tyson         | 615-513-2045 |
| Ivan Villard        | 422-5041     |
| Kevin Weeks         | 386-4108     |

#### **Church Office**

| Phone   | 561-848-1111      |
|---------|-------------------|
| Fax     | 561-848-1198      |
| Website | www.pblcoc.org    |
| F_mail  | office@nblcoc.org |



Vol. LVIV

February 16, 2020

No. 7

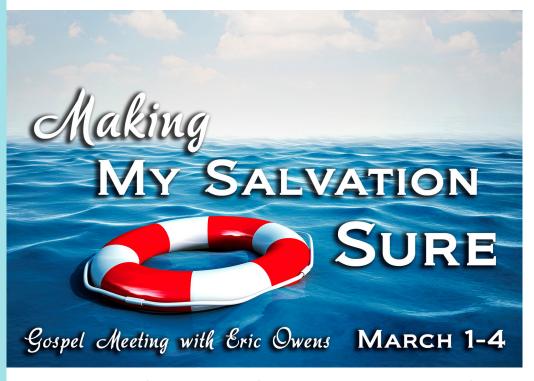
# Welcome New Members



Judd, John

Group 3

Identified February 2



Our Gospel Meeting begins in TWO weeks! Pray about it! Invite others! Be here!



By Dan Jenkins

# The Importance of One Individual

or at least its lyr-

ics in your mind

today.

Date palm seeds

(no matter how

old) produce

date palms!

Do you remember the words of the song you may have learned years ago entitled, "The Apostle Song"? It is the best way to remember the names of the twelve, but have you ever noticed the opening words? "Jesus called them one by one, Peter, Andrew, James and John..."

He called them, but the emphasis is that He called earth, a them one by one. Those four fishermen in the first chapter of Mark, who left their nets to follow Him.

Let me urge you

chapter of Mark, who left their nets to follow Him, obviously had prior knowledge of Him. He called to put this song, them, but He called most of them one by one.

We think of Jesus teaching large multitudes and are right in doing this, but have you thought His work involved one-on-one conversations with individuals? Look at this list.

He had individual, personal conversations with the Samaritan woman; the woman taken in the act of adultery; Mary outside of her house after Lazarus died; Martha outside of her house after Lazarus died; Matthew as he collected taxes; the one thankful leper; the blind man beside the road in Jericho; Legion, the "wild man" of the Gadarenes; the thief on the cross; the child who was used to teach humility; Zacchaeus in the tree; and likely many others. Jesus came to seek and save the lost, but many times He sought them out individually.

How often have we failed to see that, while the Great Commission involves going into all the world, it is most often achieved by taking it to every creature? There is a different emphasis in "all the world" and "every creature." The commission in our lives always involves personal, individual contact.

Look at that list again, and see how often the contact with others was not planned contact. Jesus walked on this earth, and as He walked He saw the people around Him. Do we

see people around us? I am not asking whether we see their physical presence but am asking a far more important question. Do we see the souls of those around us? We see their bodies, but do we see their souls? Jesus did!

r mind
Have you ever had a song come to mind and
it stayed with you all day? The lyrics just kept coming to mind. Let me urge you to consciously put this song or at least its lyrics in your mind. It is more than 80 years old.

Lead me to some soul today,
O teach me, Lord, just what to say.
Friends of mine are lost in sin
And cannot find their way.
Few there are who seem to care
And few there are who pray.
Melt my heart and fill my life,
Give me one soul today.



By David Sproule

# Seeds Still Work After 2,000 Years

Researchers recently revealed that they had discovered date palm seeds in some archaeological excavations in the Judean Desert near the Dead Sea. These date palm seeds were dated to be 2,000 years old. Think about that: ancient seeds of date palm trees that were determined to be from

around New Testament times. Questions may have come to mind in finding these seeds: (1) Would the seeds still work? (2) If they still worked, what would they grow? (3) Would they still grow date palms, or would they grow something different than they originally would have?

Whether or not these kinds of questions were actually asked, the results were evident and noteworthy—so noteworthy that worldwide news is

being made about these seeds and the resulting saplings. Isn't God's creation amazing! As a believer, you know exactly what would happen in this situation, but it is still refreshing to see God's procreative power at work. You know from the very first chapter of the Bible that a "seed" would yield "according to its kind" (Gen. 1:11). What would come from a date palm seed? Date palms! You would never expect to get anything different. And you never would get anything different. Date palm seeds (no matter how old) produce date palms!

The spiritual application of this is astounding and very compelling! When Jesus explained the parable of the soils, He told His followers, "The seed is the Word of God" (Luke 8:11). The sower went out to sow. What he was sowing into the hearts of the people was "the Word of God." Now, whatever the seed produced 2,000 years ago (i.e., whatever the Word of God produced 2,000 years ago) is what the same seed (without any contamination) will produce today!

Read the book of Acts and you find the Word of God being sown everywhere the disciples went, and they were sowing the same seed wherever they went. The seed revealed that Jesus died, was buried and was raised again (1 Cor. 15:3-4), and in response, man must hear, believe, repent, confess and be baptized (Acts 2:37-41). When the seed was planted and watered, the result (when accepted and

acted upon) was a New Testament Christian (Matt. 28:19-20+Acts 11:26). Nothing more, nothing less. Those New Testament Christians were all "added" by the Lord to His "church" (Acts 2:41, 47), which was purchased by Christ (Acts 20:28) and established in Acts 2. They were all added to the "one church" (Eph. 4:4), for there was no other church in existence other than Christ's church (having grown from His seed)!

So, what happens when that same seed is sown 2,000 years later? It will produce (and only produce) the same thing!



By Josh Blackmer

## **Pray with Penitence**

The psalms teach us a lot about prayer. Many of them are in the form of a prayer to God about themes that weigh on the human soul. There are prayers of protection, "O LORD, how my adversaries have increased!" (Psa. 3:1). Prayers of praise, "I will extol You, my God, O King, And I will bless

Your name forever and ever" (Psa. 145:1). The psalm that we yourselwill look at is a prayer of penitence. This psalm is said to have been written by David after Nathan the prophet had confronted him about his sin.

"How blessed is

he whose It opens with an appeal to God's grace: "Be gracious to me, according to your loving kindness... transgression is wash me" (Psa. 51:1-2). The writer then acknowledgforgiven!" es his sin: "For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me" (Psa. 51:3-6). That is followed with a plea for cleansing: "Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow... restore to me the joy of Your salvation" (Psa. 51:7-12). The psalmist now returns to God with a renewed sense of service: "Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will be converted to You...Then You will delight in righteous sacrifices, in burnt offering and whole burnt offering; then young bulls will be offered on Your altar" (Psa. 51:13-19).

The prayer prayed in confidence needs to begin with

penitence. Only the penitent man will pass. Who among us hasn't sinned? We acknowledge where we stand with God. "All have sinned" (Rom. 3:23). "If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves" (1 John 1:8). That is followed by repentance. There is nothing that we can do to cleanse ourselves. It can only be done because of the sacrifice of God. "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). With confidence in

God to cleanse, combined with our actions of obedience to Him, then we return to Him. It is then that we have a renewed sense of service. The weight of sin is gone! We can come to God with humility, and He can make us whole. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise" (Psa. 51:17). Much like the short and powerful prayer of the tax collector in the parable of Jesus, "God, be merciful to me, the sin-

ner!" (Luke 18:13).

It is only after we have brought ourselves low before God that He will exalt us. It is then that we say, "How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered! How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit!" (Psa. 32:1-2). We can be confident in prayer, but we must always be humble and remember the great cost that was paid to be in this relationship with God, our Creator.

# Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

### If you ain't a saint, why not?

It's disheartening sometimes that we have allowed certain religious groups to redefine how we use Bible words. The word "saint" is one such word. In some circles, a "saint" is one who lived a highly virtuous life and has been responsible for two posthumous miracles. Others think of a "saint" as some perfect person and will exclaim at times, "Don't look at me! I'm no saint!"

The word "saint" or "saints" is found more than 60 times in the New Testament, and it comes from the Greek word hagios, which is also (and more often) translated "holy." The word "saint" is used as a descriptive word for God's people, and it emphasizes that one has been separated FROM sin and set apart TO God, to be USED by Him in His service.

Are you a saint? That doesn't mean, "Are you sinless?" Are you continuing to separate yourself FROM sin? Are you continuing to set yourself apart TO God? And, equally essential, are you being USED by Him in His service? Let's define and live Bible words in Bible ways! – DS

# God's way is "ten times better"!

Daniel and his three friends were taken as teenagers from their home in Jerusalem and forced into a three-year training program to serve before King Nebuchadnezzar in the foreign (and pagan) land of Babylon. Yet, even as a teenager, "Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself" with the king's food (Dan. 1:8). The Bible does not tell us the exact

reason, but we know that Daniel was determined to follow the law of God and not break it.

After a trial period of not partaking in the king's provisions, the Hebrew teens were examined by the king and were found to be "ten times better than all" the others in the king's "realm" (1:20).

How was that "ten" times measured? Perhaps it is to emphasize "complete" (by the number ten) superiority over the others who were not following God's law.

Take that and apply it to your life. By following God's law and being determined to not defile ourselves with the things of the world, our lives are "ten times better" than anyone else! -DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



# **Pray for These PBL Members**

Mike Archer having a procedure in New York on February 17

**Lillian Bankston** Rehabilitation Center of the Palm Beaches (room 209)

**Betty Davis** recovering at home

**Eva Fulton** swelling in her feet and high blood pressure issues

**Dave Holaday** recovering from a heart procedure

**Shirley Hopkins** slowly improving

Mary A. Jackson having hip replacement surgery on February 20

**Gwen Lyons** scheduled for back surgery on February 28

Sandy Mann recovering from elbow replacement surgery

Sallie Moses has not been doing well lately

Connye Plouffe undergoing rehab on her leg

Mary Reeves recovering from her neck & back surgery

Willie Smith back procedure was postponed

Linda Studer Jupiter Medical Center (NO visitors right now)

**Long-Term Health Issues** 

**Lillian Bankston** dialysis treatments

## **Pray for Our Shut-Ins**

Millie Ames **Daniel Johnson** Karen Bibbee Don & Betty Matter **Hattie Daniels** Deidra Miley Josie Dawson Harriet Morris Leigh Puckett Annie Faison Dianne Frye Les Sawyer Ricky Smedley Margie Hardin Patricia Ventress Loretta Holaday

Joe Holland



The family of Sandra Daniels, who passed away on Friday, February 7. The funeral is on Saturday, February 15 at 10:00 a.m. in our church building.

# **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 with edema

**Edward Kelley** Dick Kelley's brother, not doing well

**Beverly Michaelian** Lynne Jorgensen's mother, recovering from another fall

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

**Nelson Simpkins** Sam Simpkins' brother, recovering from two heart attacks

**Travis Simpkins** Sam Simpkins' brother, recovering from a heart attack



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

Alfrica

Tamuka Arunashe Nnanna Aforji

Montgomery, Alabama
Apologetics Press

Coral Springs, Florida Mauricio Yegros

Bahamas

Tavaro & Shameika Hanna

# Church Family **Calendar of Events**

#### Sunday-Wednesday, February 16-19

 Gospel Meeting hosted by Okeechobee each night at 7:00 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday). David Sproule will be speaking on "He's Coming! Are You Ready?"

#### Monday, February 17

- Monday Night Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room
- 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.

#### Tuesday, February 18

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

#### Thursday, February 20

- Family Groups 1 & 2 Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Nate & Cindy Nelson.
- Family Group 3 Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Victor & Sandy Colage.

#### Sunday, February 23

 House-to-House/Heart-to-Heart Labeling before evening worship at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Room. Everyone is encouraged to come early and help out.

#### Sunday-Wednesday, February 23-26

- Gospel Meeting & Homecoming hosted by Clewiston each night at 7:00 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday). Speakers include Arlin Chapman and Glen Willcut.
- Gospel Meeting hosted by Sebring Parkway each night at 7:00 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday). Tim Dooley will be speaking on "A Wonderful Savior."

#### Wednesday, February 26

 Prayer Meeting to prepare for the Gospel Meeting. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet together in the auditorium after the devotional. Children in Grade 5 and under will have their regular classes.

#### Saturday, February 29

 Congregational Work Day to clean up the appearance of our building and grounds from 8:30 a.m. until noon.
 There is something for everyone to do!

# Young Adults

#### 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.

#### Friday, March 6

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

#### Saturday, March 7

 Young Adult Devo at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Cam & Hollie Crotts. See Ivan Villard for details.

#### Tuesday, March 10

 Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Amber Villard.

#### Saturday, March 14

→ Jr. High & YA Bike Riding at 10:00 a.m.



#### 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.

#### Sunday, February 23

- Jr. High Family Devo after evening worship. Please bring a drink, dessert or chips.
- Sr. High Devo after evening worship at the home of Buzz & Kathy Nelson. Please bring a dessert or drink.

#### Thursday-Sunday, February 27-March 1

 Challenge Youth Conference in Pigeon Forge, TN for Grades 8-12. Cost is \$50 per person (plus money for meals). See Josh Blackmer for more details.

#### Friday, March 6

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



# **March 2020**

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday                                       | Wednesday                 | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday   |
|---|---|---|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1<br>☆ North Lake<br>Nursing Home<br>b Willie Smith   | 2   | <b>3</b><br>b John Patrick<br>b Angela Walker | <b>4</b><br>b Glen Dawson | 5<br>b John Hoelzer   | 6  ☆ Sr. High & YA  Ladies' Hangout  b Susie Cox  b Linda Studer  | 7  ☆ Ladies' Day hosted by Sixth Street ☆ Young Adult Devo b Justin Maloney b Bob Swayne |
| Go  | spel Meeting with Er                          | ic Owens (March 1st-                          | 4 <sup>th</sup> )         |   | Scrap the Weekend at CFBC (6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> )     |  |
| 8  ☆ Daylight Saving Time Begins ☆ Mt. Dora Coin Cans Available ☆ Single Ladies' Luncheon ☆ Youth & Family Singing b Bereather Williams | 9<br>b Bonnie Quigley                         | 10 ☆ Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night         | 11                        | a Jim & Robin<br>Davis<br>b Marvin Dozier                     | a Bob & Jennifer<br>Higbee<br>b Vivian Blackmer<br>b Leesa Schenk | 14  ☆ Jr. High & YA  Bike Riding  b Mike Erickson  b Michael  Morning                    |
| 15  ☆ EDP Bible  Study & Fellow- ship   | b Tim Cox<br>b Lynne Jorgensen<br>b Sue Shelt | 17  | 18                        | 19<br>b Dion Hayes  | 20  | <b>21</b> b Max Fonrose b Yolanda Stewart  |
| 22  ☆ Jr. High Family Devo  ☆ Sr. High Devo a Christopher & Yolanda Stewart   | 23<br>b Betty Sanders                         | 24  | 25                        | 26 a Bobby & Cynthia Ingraham b Matthew King b Carmen Ruckman | <b>27</b> b Jerry Hopkins b Jerry Pittman                         | 28   |
| 29  ☆ Fifth Sunday Night Finger Foods b Martin Barr b Cruz Fernandez  | 30  | 31  |                           |   |   |  |

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







We rejoice with Melanie Weeks who was baptized on Wednesday, January 12 before evening services. She is listed in the directory with her family.



Sunday (February 16th) Andy Anderson **Casey Commander** Pat Parnell Laura Schuemann

Monday (February 17th) Julie Williams

Wednesday (February 19th) Taylor Johnson

Friday (February 21st) Lillian Bankston

Saturday (February 22nd) Lester Galloway



Sunday, February 9

LOCAL VISITORS: Miss Caila Buonadonna; Mr. & Mrs. Terry & Regina Crews; Mrs. Tracy Durandisse; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Miss Jamie Granino; Mrs. Maxine Griggs; Mr. & Mrs. Sam & Brittany Hanna; Ms. Tracy Hardy; Mr. Milton Jones; Ms. Suzette McQueen & Jade; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Sharon Mann; Ms. Lizzie Rozier; Mr. Rick Tibbetts; and Mr. Garfield Walks.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Ms. Marcia Farrar, Stuart, FL; Mrs. Ginger Holliday, Boca Raton, FL; Mr. Scott Kelley, West Broward, FL; Ms. Bianca McIntosh, Marsh Harbour, Bahamas; Ms. Linda McNeese, Woodbury, TN; Mr. & Mrs. Steve & Pat Maul, Worthington, PA; Ms. Regina Mayne, Stuart, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Gene & Betty Mies, Ypsilanti, MI; Mr. Raymond Pedigo, Woodbury, TN; Anne & Phil Smith, Gallatin, TN; Mrs. Jane Sugg; and Mr. & Mrs. Averill & Wilma Thomas, Shelby Township, MI.



To our brothers and sisters who continuously keep us on their prayer list, who have taken the time to mail a card, send an email, and/or text: All of your words of encouragement and well wishes were very thoughtful, especially during our time of bereavement from the death of several of our family members. Your words of comfort were exactly that. We truly believe we are still "coming along" because of the prayers that are laid before the throne of God on our behalf throughout our many health complications, treatments and procedures. With sincere hearts of appreciation we say, "Thank Willie & Giselle Smith

#### 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 Morning, February 16

| •           | ٠,      | ,              |
|-------------|---------|----------------|
| Lead Singir | ng      | Gary Friedly   |
| Opening Pr  | ayer    | Henry Williams |
| Scripture R | eading  | Dan McLeod     |
| Presiding a | t Table | Robert Lupo    |
| Serve at Ta | ıble:   |                |
| Jim Davi    | S       | Tim Mahlbacher |
| Edward      | Gager   | Robert Mariano |
| Bobby Ir    | ngraham | David Thorpe   |
| David Lo    | rd      | Tyler Williams |
| Alternates  | :       |                |
| Cam Cro     | tts     | Dan Fuller     |
|             |         |                |

Closing Prayer ......Rick Hall

#### Sunday Evening, February 16

| Lead Singing                   | Stephen Beliech |  |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Opening Prayer                 | Mike Ellis      |  |  |
| Scripture Reading              | Kane Campbell   |  |  |
| Presiding at Table             | Kevin Weeks     |  |  |
| Mike Erickson                  |                 |  |  |
| Nick Pietro                    |                 |  |  |
| Jim Rogers                     |                 |  |  |
| Closing Prayer                 | Willie Smith    |  |  |
| Wednesday Evening, February 19 |                 |  |  |

| Lead Singing  | Ivan Villard  |
|---------------|---------------|
| Invitation    | Taylor Reeves |
| Family Prayer | Johnny Davis  |

Ushers for this week: Novel Brown (Head Usher); Lance Collier & Gorman Ericksen Security Team for this week: Mike Damron & Lawrence Williams

#### **Our Record**

| l |                     |       |          |
|---|---------------------|-------|----------|
|   | Attendance <u>F</u> | eb. 9 | Jan. Avg |
|   | Sun. Bible Study    | 208   | 239      |
|   | Sun. A.M. Worship   | 383   | 316      |
|   | Sun. P.M. Worship   | 175   | 176      |
|   | Wed. Bible Study    | 176   | 171      |
|   | Contribution \$14   | 1,747 | \$16,551 |
| l |                     |       |          |

2020 Weekly Budget: \$14,944 Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$4,014





#### 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: Maddon Reeves

