

Elders

Johnny Davis 307-4232
Dan Fuller..... 478-3755
Jerry Hopkins 818-7164
Phil Porter 575-4782
*Richard Watson..... 307-2608

*Chairman for the Month of May

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..... 389-2935
Lawrence Richardson..... 772-336-4989
Shaun Tyson..... 615-513-2045
Ivan Villard 422-5041
Kevin Weeks..... 386-4108

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Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

Vol. LVIV

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No. 18

WHAT THE POST-COVID-19 WORLD NEEDS



The truth
(John 8:32)

The church
(1 Pet. 2:9-12)

The gospel
(Rom. 1:16)

The Christian
(Matt. 5:13-16)

The word
(Jas. 1:21)

The cure
(Heb. 10:19-22)

Love
(John 15:13)

Grace
(Tit. 2:11)

Kindness
(Eph. 4:32)

Mercy
(2 Pet. 3:9)

Peace
(John 16:33)

Salvation
(1 Tim. 2:4)

Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:1-4)



By Dan Jenkins

Finishing the Race and Receiving the Crown

The Bible uses many figures of speech to describe our journey to heaven. The parables of Jesus often take ordinary events to illustrate the nature of the kingdom and the part each of us plays. We are workers in the vineyard, sowers of the seed, merchants seeking a pearl of great price and many others. The writers of the New Testament add another one which the world understands. The Olympic games which involved running originated in ancient Greece. They vividly remind us that like those participants in those races each of us is a spiritual athlete running in our spiritual race.

The writer of Hebrews describes the practice used by runners of putting weights on their feet as they prepared for their race. When those weights were removed, muscles had been strengthened and the freedom made their feet seem so light and ready to run.

I remember that pair of skates I received at Christmas. They were not lace-up boots like we have today but had straps and clamps to attach them to ordinary shoes. I specifically remember how light my feet seemed when I unclamped the heavy skates from my feet. I felt like I could jump higher and run faster than I had ever done. With those weights removed, I knew I could do things better than I had ever done before.

The skates were not nice lace-up boots but were clamped to ordinary shoes

Read these words from God. “Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us” (Heb. 12:1). As we run our race, there are many weights, not necessarily sinful acts, which can hinder us. Jesus describes three things which can so easily keep us from reaching spiritual maturity—cares, riches and pleasure (Luke 8:14). Are these weights in your life which need to be set aside as you run the race?

The Bible adds another aspect to the race we are running. “And if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules” (2 Tim. 2:5). Think of how races involve measured distances and specific lanes clearly marked in races you have seen. We are not at liberty to set the rules or run outside our lanes. There is a Judge who will determine how lawfully we run.

At the end of those ancient races, “medals” were given. Garland wreaths were placed on the heads of the winners. “Everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown” (1 Cor. 9:24). Paul said that having finished the race he awaited the crown of righteousness (2 im. 4:8). Wreaths will wither, but our crown is a crown of life.

How are you doing in your race for the crown? Are there changes you need to make as you run your race?



By David Sproule

When Paul Was Quarantined: Steadfast Service Unto Death

So, once this time of COVID-19 self-quarantine is over, what will you do then? What will happen if at some point in the future you are confined to quarters again? Such is exactly what happened with the apostle Paul. After his two years as a Roman prisoner at end of the book of Acts (28:30), he was apparently released for a time (of maybe three to five years). But, after those few years, he was again taken into custody and imprisoned. What would you do? Paul realized that he would probably never be free again, but that did not stop him from focusing on the work of the Lord. In his final days, Paul wrote a **second letter** to his close friend, **Timothy**, urging him to remain steadfast in his service to the Lord.

While in quarantine, Paul focused on steadfast service that is unashamed of Christ and His truth. Paul urged Timothy to “not be ashamed” (1:8), following the example of Onesiphorus (1:16). Paul himself was “not ashamed” (1:12) of the gospel or the work that the Lord had given to him, thus he affirms that no worker in the kingdom would “need to be ashamed” (2:15) of the truth of God. We must not be ashamed today of Christ and living for Him!

While in quarantine, Paul focused on steadfast service that involves hard work and endurance. Paul did not

describe the Christian life as a life of ease or a life in which a person could engage at his convenience. One who is “approved to God” is called a “worker” (2:15), and even more than that, he is to be “hard-working” (2:6). There is many a “hardship” that a faithful Christian will have to “endure” in his service (2:3), but only through steadfast endurance will he receive the eternal “salvation” (2:10) and “reign” (2:12) promised by Christ. We must labor diligently for the Lord today!

That did not stop him from focusing on the work of the Lord

While in quarantine, Paul focused on steadfast service that is offered from the right heart. Paul never led Christians to believe that their service to the Lord was merely an external effort or for the sake of appearance. For one’s steadfast service to actually be acceptable to the Lord, it must be generated by a “genuine faith” (1:5), that is embedded in a heart that is “gentle,” “patient” and “humble” toward all (2:24-25). We must make sure our heart is right with God!

While in quarantine, Paul focused on steadfast service that labors until the very end and finishes the work that is to be done. Paul did not let up when he was nearing the end or suggest that he could take a break. He said, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith” (4:7). We must have that same confidence!

Could the words “steadfast service” be used to describe our efforts as a Christian? Even while in quarantine?



By Josh Blackmer

Unidentified

Things are so crazy right now that no one is talking about the fact that the Department of Defense (DOD) has admitted to the existence of unidentified flying objects (UFOs). The DOD prefers to call them unexplained aerial phenomena, but that will not change the public opinion that they are UFOs. The release of this information was said to have been done to clear up any misconceptions by the public as to whether the videos that were leaked in 2007 and 2017 were real. The videos were taken by fighter pilots, and they show round objects hovering in the sky or rotating through the air. The DOD did have a program investigating UFOs, but that investigation has been terminated as well as many strange ideas about the objects over the years. They are not admitting to any kind of origin for these objects or the presence of little green men.

Did you know that you can be both unrecognizable and identifiable at the same time? As Christians, we can be in both of these categories. We are to be dead to the old man of sin, “knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin” (Rom. 6:6). If the old man is dead, then we are fundamentally different to the point that our old friends still living in our old ways no longer know us. “In

all this, they are surprised that you do not run with them into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you” (1 Pet. 4:4). They would say, “We don’t even know you anymore!” You are unrecognizable to them.

In dying to the old man, we are raised to walk in a new life. “Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4). When we do this, we “put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth” (Eph. 4:24). Now we are known by God and His Son, and we have a relationship with Him. We pass from one state of being to another. “So then, you will know them by their fruits. Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter” (Matt. 7:20-21).

How we live and conduct our lives determines how we are known. “For He rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son” (Col. 1:13). We are now identifiable as belonging in the kingdom and not walking in darkness. It does not matter what others say we are or what they will admit about us. It only matters what He will say about us.

It only matters what He will say about us.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Take the next step

There are 377 steps from the main lobby of the Statue of Liberty up to the crown. Each step is essential in order to reach the crown. Some climbers pause occasionally to regain their energy, but then they must begin their ascent again, one step at a time, to reach the goal.

In the Christian life, there are steps that are essential in our Christian growth. Many of these steps are in our Bible study habits. Those early steps in Bible study are intended to be fairly easy, like a baby drinking milk (Heb. 5:12-6:1). But a Christian cannot pause here and not continue his ascent. He must continue on his climb, one step at a time.

How much of your Bible are you reading every week? What would be your “next step” to read more? How deep is your study of your Bible? What would be your “next step” to go deeper? Climbers at the Statue must take the next step to reach the crown. Climbers in the Christian life must take the next step to reach the crown of righteousness. What’s your next step? – DS



When the present distress passes

It’s interesting how some folks try to use certain information in the Bible to prove a point that is not actually parallel. For example, during these times of quarantine, some have tried to justify worshiping from home by stating that the early church didn’t worship in church buildings but in homes. While the early church did worship in homes (Rom. 16:5, 14, 15; 1 Cor. 16:19; Col. 4:15; Phile. 2), the local congregation was actually gathering together in homes to worship and fellowship. “Gathering together” (what they were doing in homes) is not the same as “not gathering together” (what we are doing in homes).

Right now, we are in an unusual time when elderships had to make some unusual decisions about gathering together. However, when this unusual time has passed, the will of God for His church to “gather together” for worship still remains (1 Cor. 11:17, 18, 20, 33, 34; 14:23, 26), whether that is congregations “gathering together” in homes or in church buildings. Let’s make sure that we don’t misuse the Bible when we are looking to justify a practice. – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Karen Bibbee | undergoing chemo & radiation for lung cancer |
| Chuck Clark | recovering at home from the infection in his finger |
| Betty Davis | recovering at home |
| Joe Holland | Heartland Health Care, treatments for an infection |
| Lynne Jorgensen | received good results from her medical test |
| John Loftis | dealing with severe back pain |
| Connye Plouffe | Martin Nursing & Restorative Care Center (room 204-A) |
| Betty Sanders | staying with family, recovering from her heart attack |
| Dorothy Savage | recovering at home |
| Linda Studer | recovering from her latest chemo treatment |

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 |
| Annie Faison | Leigh Puckett |
| Dianne Frye | Les Sawyer |
| Margie Hardin | Ricky Smedley |
| Loretta Holaday | Patricia Ventress |
| Joe Holland | |

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| JoAnn Campbell | Tasha Ellis' mother, unusual weakness and exhaustion |
| Stephanie Contreras | Alex Contreras' wife, recovering from gallbladder surgery |
| Lucious Davis | Tonya Ross' father, diagnosed with stage 4 bone cancer |
| Ron Fernander | Turkessa Staley's father, Lakeside Health Center |
| Monica Pacheco | Joyce Parker's daughter, radiation for breast cancer |
| Doug Philips | Jacqui Jenkins' brother, stage 4 cancer in his spine |
| Monicia Sims | Jimmie Banks' sister, diagnosed with COVID-19 |
| Donald Smith | Traci Sproule's father, diagnosed with Ménière's disease |

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

Bahamas
Tavaro & Shameika Hanna



Church Family Calendar of Events

All Events Are Subject to Change.

Sunday, May 3

- ♦ **ALL SERVICES WILL BE ONLINE ONLY.** Go to www.pblcoc.org and click on "Watch Our Services Live."
 - 9:15 a.m. Bible Study
 - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
 - 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
- ♦ **Communion:** You can pick up the Lord's Supper from church on Friday, if you need it. Please come in the morning (9:00-11:00 a.m.) or afternoon (1:00-3:00 p.m.). Call ahead and it will be ready for you.

Wednesday, May 6

- ♦ **ONLINE Midweek Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. Go to www.pblcoc.org and click on "Watch Our Services Live." A link to the handout/chart is available in your Family News email or email the office (office@pblcoc.org)

Saturday, May 16

- ♦ **Widows & Widowers Luncheon** at 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the home of Kane & Fran Campbell. Come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship. RSVP to Kane & Fran Campbell or Joan Holloway.

Sunday, May 24

- ♦ **Promotion Sunday** at 9:00 a.m. All adults and children will meet in the Auditorium for a special presentation.
- ♦ **High School Graduates' Luncheon** after morning worship in the Family Room. All members are encouraged to attend and bring a potluck dish to share.

Saturday, May 30

- ♦ **VBS Work Day** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. All members are encouraged to come and help prepare decorations. See Josh Blackmer for details.

Sunday, May 31

- ♦ **Fifth Sunday Night Finger Foods** after evening worship in the Family Room. Bring finger foods and drinks to share.

Saturday, June 6

- ♦ **VBS Work Day** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. All members are encouraged to come and help prepare decorations. See Josh Blackmer for details.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

Tuesday, May 5

- ♦ **Young Adult Ladies' Zoom Prayer Night** at 8:00 p.m. See Cara, Cindy or Amber for more details.

Saturday, May 30

- ♦ **VBS Work Day** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. All members are encouraged to come and help prepare decorations. See Josh Blackmer for details.

Tuesday, June 2

- ♦ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. See Cindy Nelson for details.

Friday, June 5

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

Saturday, June 6

- ♦ **VBS Work Day** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. All members are encouraged to come and help prepare decorations. See Josh Blackmer for details.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Sunday, May 3

- ♦ **Sunday Morning Bible Classes.** Please join your class early so that we can start lessons on time. For details on how to join the online class, contact Jeff Goodale or Kevin Weeks (Grades 5 & Under) or Josh Blackmer (Jr. & Sr. High).

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 8:45 a.m. | Grades 5 & Under Bible Classes |
| 9:15 a.m. | Jr. & Sr. High Bible Class |

Wednesday, May 6

- ♦ **Wednesday Bible Classes.** Please join your class early so that we can start lessons on time. For details on how to join the online class, contact Jeff Goodale or Kevin Weeks (Grades 5 & Under) or Josh Blackmer (Jr. & Sr. High).

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 6:30 p.m. | Grades 5 & Under Bible Classes |
| 7:00 p.m. | Jr. & Sr. High Bible Class |

Sunday, May 24

- ♦ **Promotion Sunday** at 9:00 a.m. All adults and children will meet in the Auditorium for a special presentation.

2020 VISION: SEEING WHAT GOD SEES

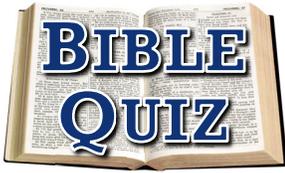


“BLESSED ARE THE EYES WHICH SEE THE THINGS YOU SEE” LUKE 10:23

May

**SEE
DANGERS**

*“See then that you walk circumspectly”
(Eph. 5:15)*



Who Said It?

(Old Testament Edition)

1. Who said, "Take careful heed to yourselves, that you love the Lord your God" (Joshua 23:11)? _____
2. Who said, "How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God" (Genesis 39:9)? _____
3. Who said, "I know that You can do everything" (Job 42:2)? _____
4. Who said, "Whatever the Lord says to me, that I will speak" (1 Kings 22:14)? _____
5. Who said, "Who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this" (Esther 4:14)? _____
6. Who said, "The battle is the Lord's" (1 Samuel 17:47)? _____
7. Who said, "Fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives" (Nehemiah 4:14)? _____
8. Who said, "The Lord will not forsake His people, for His great name's sake" (1 Samuel 12:22)? _____
9. Who said, "The hand of our God is upon all those for good who seek Him" (Ezra 8:22)? _____
10. Who said, "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them" (2 Kings 6:16)? _____
11. Who said, "How long will you falter between two opinions" (1 Kings 18:21)? _____
12. Who said, "Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us" (Daniel 3:17)? _____
13. Who said, "It is the Lord. Let Him do what seems good to Him" (1 Samuel 3:18)? _____
14. Who said, "For how can I endure to see the evil that will come to my people" (Esther 8:6)? _____
15. Who said, "Teach us what we shall do for the child who will be born" (Judges 13:8)? _____
16. Who said, "God is with you in all that you do" (Genesis 21:22)? _____

Sunday Worship Services

All services this week will be streamed live on our website:
 Sunday (9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.) and Wednesday (7:00 p.m.)

Birthdays & Anniversaries *This Week*

Sunday (May 3rd)

Julio Aristy
 Bill Ingram, Sr.

Monday (May 4th)

Dan Johnson

Tuesday (May 5th)

Taylor & Natalie Reeves (Ann.)
 Willie Wilkins

Tuesday (May 5th) cont.

Trina Wright

Wednesday (May 6th)

Rachel Fuller
 Johnnie Green
 Nicholas Pietro
 Marie Thorpe

Friday (May 8th)

Jacqui Jenkins
 Alice Nelson
 Chuck Reeves, Jr.
 Jackie Stout

Saturday (May 9th)

Carole Graff
 Leigh Puckett

Our Record

| Attendance | <u>Apr. 26</u> | <u>Apr. Avg</u> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Sun. Bible Study | NA | NA |
| Sun. A.M. Worship | NA | NA |
| Sun. P.M. Worship | NA | NA |
| Wed. Bible Study | NA | NA |
| Contribution | \$16,519 | \$15,645 |
| 2020 Weekly Budget: \$14,944 | | |
| Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$3,940 | | |



Palm Beach Lakes CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

*Speaking where the **Bible** speaks, Silent where the **Bible** is silent.*



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: Elizabeth Summerlot & Keila McLeod

*Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.*

Proverbs 16:3