Pastors

Johnny Davis		
*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 February		

Evangelists

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



Deacons

Mike Archer	422-2005
David Brown	
Novel Brown	
Chuck Clark	
Victor Colage	
Lance Collier	
Kirk Crews	
Cam Crotts	
Jim Davis	
Mike Erickson	
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	
Buzz Nelson	627-4890
Nate Nelson	
Jerry Pittman	
, Lawrence Richardson	.772-336-4989
Shaun Tyson	
Ivan Villard	
Kevin Weeks	
Keviii Weeks	

Church Office

Phone	
Fax	
Website	www.pblcoc.org
E-mail	office@pblcoc.org

Feb. 10-13	Third Street with Michael Evans
Feb. 17-20	Sebring Parkway with Derek Yarber
Feb. 24-27	Okeechobee with Neal Pollard
March 3-6	Palm Beach Lakes with David Lipe

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The Truth Shall Set You

iree

March 3-6

Gospel Meeting Season

Gospel Meeting with David Lipe



Do You "Know the Lord"?

There was no name on the church building, just a plaque which said, "The word of the Lord will be proclaimed here Sunday at 3:00 p.m." We had just arrived in New Zealand (there were six of us, three couples) and had gone there to establish the church in Hamilton. We decided we would go to visit

that group. As we walked in we noticed a different arrangement of the pews—at the front of the building there were pews on all four sides of what was obviously the table for the Lord's Supper. Then, there were other pews, much like you would see in any church building, which extended back to the entrance.

They asked us, "Do you know the Lord as your personal Savior?" When we answered "yes," they ushered us up to the "inner circle," and we wor-

shiped with them. We arranged for a study period later that week and discovered a lot about them. When we came a second time, we were not invited to sit at the front, but we were seated in the pews in what I perceived as the "sinner section."

Obviously that phrase about knowing Jesus as a personal Savior is rather widespread in the religious world. It is not found in that form in the Bible, but the Bible does discuss about knowing the Lord. How does God use the words about knowing the Lord?

The clearest definition of knowing the Lord is found in the second chapter of First John. "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments" (v. 4). One cannot simply say that "I know the Lord as my Savior" and fail to obey Him. God says that if I fail to do what He says that I do not know Him.

Look at the next verse. "He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is

> not in Him." In the study that we had, it was obvious that while they talked about knowing Jesus, they had little regard in doing what He said. God said that they lied when they said they knew Him.

> Now look at the next verse. "Whosoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him." One who knows God's will, but does not obey Him, may think

he loves the Lord. However, John says that whatever love they may think they have for Him is an imperfect love.

This same truth tying the true love of Jesus to obeying Him was taught by Jesus. "You are my friends if you do whatever I command you" (John 15:14). "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15).

So, when you hear someone talk about knowing the Lord, remember that it is one thing to say, "I know the Lord," and another to show that we know Him by obeying Him!



The Christian's "Rewards Program"

It seems that companies everywhere are getting into offering a "Rewards" Program" of some kind. Airlines have been offering "Frequent Flyer Miles" for years, but now other businesses are jumping on the bandwagon. After so many carwashes, get your next car wash for free. After so many

submarine sandwiches, get your next sub for free. After so many Slurpees, get your next Slurpee for free. After so many socks, get your next pair of socks for free.

What's the idea? Do more and you'll get more. Spend more and you'll get more. The aim of a "Rewards Program" from the standpoint of the com- kind of "Rewards love is the heart motivation which God seeks behind pany (generally speaking) is to get more customers to give them more money. The aim of a "Rewards Program" from the standpoint of the consumer (generally speaking) is to get more free stuff.

Do you suppose there are any Christians who may view the Christian life like it is some kind of "Rewards Program"? Meaning: Are there some who may think that being a Christian is all about "what I get out of it"? And, is it possible that there are some who are motivated by a mentality that says, "I will do more as a Christian so that I can get more"?

The Bible certainly teaches that Christians will be rewarded, both in this life (John 10:10) and in the life to come

(Matt. 16:27). But is that our sole motivation? "Doing for God just to get from Him"? There is no way for us to ever "earn enough reward points" so that God is then indebted to us to "give us" what we have "merited"! Every reward of God is a "gift" (in this life [Eph. 2:8] and in the next life [Rom. 6:23]) based upon His marvelous "grace" (1 Tim. 1:12-15).

So, why do you "serve" the Lord? Why do you "follow" the Lord? Why do you "give" to the Lord? Why do

> you "love" the Lord? Why do you "worship" the Lord? Is it purely, only or mainly for what you "get out of it"? If it is, we need to reconsider the definition and our personal practice of agape love. Agape each and every action of a Christian! "Let all that you do be done with agape love" (1 Cor. 16:14). Agape love is an unconditional, unselfish elevation of anoth-

er and his/her needs above ourselves, seeking the best of the one loved. Think about that for a moment! That does NOT say that we do things as Christians in order to GET, but that all we do as a Christian OUGHT TO BE in order to GIVE!

Can you say, "I love the Lord! I love Him so much that I will serve Him with all my being regardless of any reward that I might receive!"? Let us not view the Christian life as a "Rewards Program," and do more just to get more! Let us do more for God because we love Him more and more every day!

"Knowing the Lord" is frequently used, but not in the way God uses it

Is the Christian

life like some

Program"?

Essentials for Living a Christ-Like Life

This is a great

way to have a

positive

influence.



The book of Colossians is a great source of information for greater Christian living. In the last two chapters, Paul exhorts the Christians in Colossae to live the type of life that shows their faith in Jesus the Christ. In chapter three, verses one though eleven, he describes the basics of Christian living. In

verses twelve through seventeen, of chapter three, he describes the Christian's apparel. In chapter three verse eighteen through chapter four verse one, he describes the guidelines that should govern Christian families. With these in place he goes on to speak about the essentials for Christian living.

It always helps to have a source that, like a cheat sheet, quickly breaks down some of the important aspects of our duties. Chapter four, verses

two through six, does that for us. First, we need to continue in prayer (2-4). A prayer that is faithful (Rom. 12:12; 1 Thess. 5:17). A prayer that is alert or vigilant, much like what Jesus told His disciples on the night of His betrayal (Matt. 26:41). Also, a prayer that is thankful. Colossians has an emphasis on thankfulness (1:3, 12). We should let our requests be made known with thanksgiving (Phil. 4:6). Finally, a prayer that is purposeful. Paul had specific things that he had asked them to pray for. Paul often asked prayers for his behalf (Rom. 15:30). For opportunities to teach (Col. 4:3; 2 Thess. 3:1). He also asked for wisdom in this case (Col. 4:4). Paul here offers a great example for our prayers.

Second, he speaks to us that we should "conduct ourselves in wisdom" (Col. 4:5). We should be very conscience of our conduct. It is what people notice and interpret first about us. Today everything is about perception. It must be understood that our actions should not lead anyone to think that we are anything other than followers of Christ. "By this all men

> will know that you are My disciples..." (John 13:35a). Part of this type of wisdom is being aware of the opportunities that are afforded to us or "making the most of the opportunity." Paul sums it up this way in Ephesians, "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil" (5:15-16).

Lastly, our speech needs to be seasoned. Jesus spoke and all the people "were speaking well of Him, and wondering at the gracious words which were falling from His lips" (Luke 4:22). This might not be the result we always get, because it wasn't for Jesus. However, our speech needs to be guarded so that it does not become a stumbling block for anyone coming to Christ. Essentials for Christian living include praying with a purpose, conduct in wisdom and speech seasoned with grace. This is a great way to have a positive influence.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

"Pretty close to the church of Christ"?

How often have you heard someone say something like the following: "Well, they don't go to the church of Christ anymore, but they go to something that's pretty close to it"? Would you say that "something pretty close" to the church of the New Testament is good enough?

What if I told you one of the following statements—would it be "good enough"? "When I went home last night, I pulled in my neighbor's driveway, went in their house and slept in their bed. It was pretty close to mine." "I went on a date the other night with a woman who wasn't my wife, although she's pretty close to being

like her." "When I went to the school to pick up my kids, I got some other ones instead, but they're pretty close to being like my kids." "I mailed my check to the IRS last week. I didn't send them the exact amount that was required, but I sent something pretty close."

Would you say that "pretty close" is good enough in these scenarios? Of course not! Then, why would some think that "pretty close" will work when it comes to the Lord's church? -DS

Long-term investment strategy

A financial investment article addressed how readily we accumulate debt sometimes, without giving any thought to the future. The article concluded with this statement, "It's mostly because we're very aware of the short-term and happily ignore the long term." Isn't that sometimes a summary of human life? We focus on the short-term (i.e., the here-and-now, the

> what-can-I-get-out-of-this-right-now, the instant -gratification) and neglect to consider the longterm?

Moses helps us to see how we need to redirect our focus. Moses so easily could have focused on his short-term gains, but he didn't. "By faith

Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward" (Heb. 11:24-26).

You are making an eternal investment with your soul. Don't let any short-term joy rob you of your long-term reward! - DS



Keep in Your Prayers

Pray for These PBL Members

Jordan Beasley	still being treated (at home) for an infection
Pat Brown	undergoing medical tests
Chuck Clark	undergoing treatments for prostate cancer
Cora Lee Dennis	Kindred Hospital for long-term care, dialysis treatments
Charles Fifield	recovering at home, slowly improving
Rachel Fuller	undergoing medical tests
Eva Fulton	recovering at home from hospitalization
Lovetta Harmon	undergoing therapy at home, slowly improving
Shirley Hopkins	upcoming medical procedures
Dan Jenkins	recovering from cataract surgery
Joyce Parker	having a medical test done on February 11
Jo Ann Rogers	Wellington Regional (room 380), not doing well
Yolanda Stewart	having surgery on February 11
Linda Studer	struggling with her new chemo treatment
Patricia Ventress	still having tests on her throat

Sallie Moses, upon the passing of Silas, on Tuesday morning, February 5.

Long-Term Health Issues

Lillian Bankston	dialysis treatments	
Joe Holland	chronic health issues	
Charles Norton	dialysis treatments	
Patricia Ventress	dialysis treatments	

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Hattie Daniels	Don & Betty Matter
Sandra Daniels	Deidra Miley
Josie Dawson	Harriet Morris
Cora Lee Dennis	Silas Moses
Annie Faison	Godfrey Pratt
Margie Hardin	Leigh Puckett
Janet Hickerson	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	







Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Victor Colage	Victor Colage's father, in Manor Care on Village Blvd.
David Findley	Maria Hackshaw's father, diagnosed with cancer
Thelma Findley	Maria Hackshaw's mother, recovering from a procedu
Charles Griffen	Mary Porter's father, still not doing well
Darrin McCreery	Pat Harrington's son, prostate cancer & spreading
Clara Medina	Carolina Medina's sister, still in the hospital
Beverly Michaelian	Lynne Jorgensen's mother, pulled a muscle in her nec
Bruce Morning	Michael Morning's brother, in rehab in Boca Raton
Ann Teague	Sabrina Pietro's mother, recovering from cancer surge
Carol Wineinger	Cherylann Wineinger's mother, recovering from surge

Church Family **Calendar of Events**

Sunday, February 10

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

Sunday-Wednesday, February 10-13

• **Gospel Meeting hosted by Third Street.** Michael Evans from Charlotte, NC will be speaking each night at 7:30 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday).

Monday, February 11

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

Tuesday, February 12

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

Friday, February 15

• Family Group 4 Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Mike & Jean Archer.

Saturday, February 16

Sweetheart Banquet hosted by the Jr. High Youth.

Saturday, February 16 (cont.)

 Begins at 5:00 p.m. PBL members 55+ years old or married 25+ years are invited. Cost is \$5 per person. RSVP by February 10 to Sarah Collier or Ivan & Amber Villard.

Sunday, February 17

 PBL Family Photos Updated after morning services or before evening services by Mike Erickson in the Family Room.

Sunday-Wednesday, February 17-20

 Gospel Meeting hosted by Sebring Parkway each night at 7:00 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday). Derek Yarber from Lebanon, Missouri will be speaking on "A Week with Jesus."

Tuesday, February 19

• Family Groups 1 & 2 Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Dan & Judie Jenkins.

<u>Thursday, February 21</u>

 Family Group 3 Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Novel & Mary Brown.

Young Adults

Friday, February 15

• 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.

Thursday, February 28

• Meat Night for YA Men at 6:30 p.m. at the home of David Sproule.

Saturday, March 2

• Young Adult Devo at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Taylor & Natalie Reeves.

Tuesday, March 12

• Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Casey Byerly. Bring your own dinner or eat before you come. Dessert will be provided.

Friday, March 15

 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.



Sunday, February 10

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

Friday, February 15

• 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, February 16

- Youth Rally hosted by Sebring Parkway from 9:00 a.m. until noon (followed by lunch). Derek Yarber from Lebanon, Missouri will be speaking on "It's a Race!"
- Sweetheart Banquet hosted by the Jr. High Youth. Begins at 5:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth should arrive at 3:30 p.m. to help set up. See Sarah Collier or Ivan & Amber Villard for more details.

Friday-Sunday, February 22-24

 YES Weekend for Grades 8-12 at the Forrest Park congregation in Valdosta, GA.



How to Improve Your Marriage with 6 "R" Words



Many spouses have all the good intentions in the world. They love their mates. They are faithful, respectful and share responsibilities in the home, but there seems to be this inexorable slipping away when it comes to a heart-level connection with each other. What is driving your marriage? Is it genuine love and commitment that is willing to do whatever is necessary to bind you together and improve your connection with each other?

Here are a series of six intentions that, if put into practice, can help you reconnect with your spouse.

1. Recommit

Commitment works best as a daily initiative. Like most things that are good for us, commitment to our spouse benefits from being re-upped every morning. We all tend to default to *me first* if we're not intentional. So we recommend beginning each new day with a deliberate act of kindness to get the ball rolling. It's not about us.

2. Refresh

Sometimes it's as simple as refreshing the screen on a computer to get all the data up to date. Other times, refresh is more like changing a clogged filter in the HVAC or throwing out a tray of ice that's all fused together. No matter how we approach refreshing, it's always about sweeping away the cobwebs and making sure our love and our attention to our spouse are constantly reimagining and moving away from what is stale and mundane.

3. Remember

We recommend huddling up together with your wife and reading your wedding vows again. We love to see couples recapture the raw thrill of anticipation for sharing the same room, building a life together. Remember what made you ask her out in the first place. Now determine what it is that would motivate you to ask her out again... and do it.

4. Renovate

Sometimes things wear out. Is your conversational life boring? Have you forgotten how to have fun? Get creative and make something happen. Have you stopped dreaming together? Build some new dreams.

5. Romance

Sometimes it's our romance that needs renovation. When did you last give her flowers? Have you swept her off her feet recently? Do you flirt? Do you tell her how much she gets under your skin? Have you ever thought about trying once again to win her love all over again?

6. Recalibrate

You may have been married just a couple of years or you may be 40 years in. Regardless, you have changed physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. What worked when you were dating may need updating, reconstructing, reimagining, and recalibrating today. Maybe you need to dial it down; maybe you need to dial it up. One thing's for sure, all our settings could use some thoughtful readjusting.

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



Sunday, February 3

LOCAL VISITORS: Miss Sophonie Achille; Mrs. Donna Bleau; Mr. Mr. Charles Cato III; Kyle Coffman; Mr. Jordan Davis; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Mrs. Bruni Gonzalez; Miss Jamie Granino; Mrs. Maxine Griggs; Mrs. Patricia Harris; Mr. Bruce Lenard Henderson; Mr. LaVon Kinsey, Sr.; Mr. & Mrs. Rich & Nancy Light; Mr. Michael Menendez; Ms. Delores Morton & Melissa; Mrs. Liz Otero; and Mrs. Karla Santiago.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Mrs. Blanchie Bellamy, Little River, SC; Mr. & Mrs. Chet & Brenda Brown, Elko New Market, MN; Mr. Scott Kelly, Jacob & Colton, Tamarac, FL; Ms. Linda McNeese, Woodbury, TN; Mr. Raymond Pedigo, Woodbury, TN; and Mr. & Mrs. Bill & Lee Tellmann, Pacific, MO.



Thanks for the beautiful flowers for my brother's funeral. A special thanks to **David** and **Richard** for coming to represent the church of which I am so blessed to be a part of.

> Love in Christ, Betty Sanders * * * * * *

I am so grateful for my brothers and sisters at this congregation! I can't thank you all enough for the love, kindness, support and generosity shown to me and my family during the loss of my uncle, **O.C. Moore**. Words can't express how grateful and appreciative we were for your help that each shared during his going home service. Thanks for your love and support.

Linda Coe and family



Sunday (February 10th) Pete & Pat Brown (Ann.) Emily Tyson

<u>Monday (February 11th)</u> David Brown

Tuesday (February 12th) David Holaday

Wednesday (February 13th) Eugene & Penny Williams (Ann.) <u>Thursday (February 14th)</u> Marty & Leslie Williams (Ann.)

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

Those to Serve

If you cannot serve, please call Mike Ellis at 775-3533. If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday morning</u>, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at <u>9:50 a.m.</u> 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, February 10

Lead Singing	Gary Friedly
Opening Prayer	Bob Higbee
Scripture Reading	L.H. Richardson
Presiding at Table	Victor Colage
Serve at Table:	
Andy Anderson	Michael Morning
David Bound	Jim Rogers
Lance Collier	Daniel Wagner
Devin Eutsey	Lawrence Williams
Alternates:	
John Hoelzer	Nahum Villard
Closing Prayer	Gary Jenkins

Sunday Evening, February 10

Sunday Evening, rebra	ury 10	
Lead Singing	. Stephen Beliech	
Opening Prayer	Tim Fry	
Scripture Reading	John Patrick	
Presiding at Table	David Brown	
Max Fonrose		
Jeff Goodale		
Nick Pietro		
Closing Prayer	Gary Seames	
Wednesday Evening, February 13		
Lead Singing	Robert Lupo	
Invitation	Dirk Summerlot	
Family Prayer	Jim Davis	

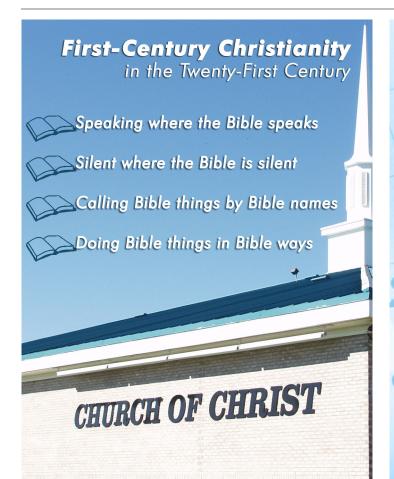
<u>Ushers</u> for this week: Novel Brown (Head Usher); Edward Gager & Eddie Gooden <u>Safety Team</u> for this week: Rick Hall & Rick Tibbetts

Our Record

Attendance	<u>Feb. 3</u>	Jan. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	216	234
Sun. A.M. Worship	350	339
Sun. P.M. Worship	129	185
Wed. Bible Study	172	177
Contribution	\$14,267	\$15,828
2019 Weekly Budget: \$15,190		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$990		



Front Cover: David Bound, IV; Lucas Villard and Levi Nelson



Upcoming Events

February 16 Sweetheart Banquet

March 3-6 Gospel Meeting with David Lipe Theme: "The Truth Shall Set You Free"

March 31 Fifth Sunday Night Finger Foods

April 18 Ladies' Day with Becky Blackmon

<u>May 4</u> Power Up! A Recharge for Christian Men

June 2 Promotion Sunday

June 16-19 Vacation Bible School