# Whispering Hills

# Church of Christ



Volume VII, Issue IV

July 26, 2020

# **Gathering Times**

Sunday Worship

10:30 AM

Updates will be forthcoming as to the continual changes with COVID-19.

# Address: 2126 S. Main Street Duncanville, TX 75137

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# Welcome Christians!!

# Leadership

#### Elders:

James E. Hunter, Sr (214) 215 - 4169 jaywood1@swbell.net

Steve Owens (214) 354 - 0419

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#### Minister:

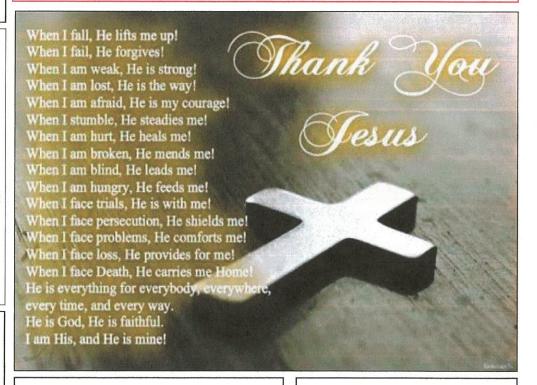
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## HOW TO BE SAVED

- 1. Hear (Rom 10:17; Jn 6:45)
- 2. Believe (Jn 8:24; Heb 11:6)
- 3. Repent (Lk 13:3,5; Ac 2:38)
- 4. Confess (Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9, 10)
- 5. Baptized (Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21)

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thess. 5:18



# **Weekly Bible Reading**

July 26 2020 Joshua 9 - 16 July 27 2020 Joshua 17 - 24 July 28 2020 Judges 1 - 7 July 29 2020 Judges 8 - 14 July 30 2020 Judges 15 - 21 July 31 2020 Ruth August 01 2020 1 Samuel 1 - 10

### Our religious conviction:

God chose to save the world by sending His Son, Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (Rom 10:17).

Those who choose to listen and obey the Gospel message SHALL be saved (Ac 2:38).

God adds them to the Church of the Bible which His Son is coming for one day (2 The 1: 7 - 10).

# foodfor

## **BE THANKFUL FOR CHALLENGES**

Words have meaning. The greek word "astheneia" is the same as weaknesses and infirmities (2 Cor 12:9, 10). These are challenges, which may be called by different names, but still a part of our lives as Christians. Some have perspectives as grave problems, insurmountable obstacles, certain defeats or reasons to give up; but if viewed through the eyes of faithful Christians, they are simply CHALLENGES on the ROAD to HEAVEN. Paul's prayers were answered, but not as he wanted. It was answered according to what was best for him. God did not take away the thorn in the flesh; but, gave Paul the strength to bear it. God does not take troubles away; but, gives us the strength to bear/overcome them. After given the answer to his prayer, he never complained about this thorn in the flesh. Had it not been for him seeking to show his glory through weakness to discredit the false teachers, one never would have known about his thorn in the flesh (2 Cor 12:11-21). God always answer the prayers of His Children in each best interest according to His Infinite Wisdom, Thus, suffering is necessary as all things work together for the good of them who love the Lord (Rom 8:18, 28). He is most concerned with our Spiritual life. The great paradoxes is one's greatest virtues come through adversity. One must accept the answer God gives. His Power is seen in man's weakness. Paul point was made because it is impossible for one to live the Christian life by oneself. Every Christian must learn this. God's help is needed and available, if one will simply humble oneself by believing, trusting and obeying God (Rom 8:31-39). Since Jesus died for the sake of men, Paul is happy to undergo hardship for Christ's sake. This is the reason he takes pleasure in his weaknesses because they magnify God's Power. These words illustrate his weaknesses: injuries (affronts/insults); necessities (hardships); persecutions (affliction); distresses (anxiety). Paul is weak in his own strength, but strong in God's Power (Php 4:13). One must learn not to trust in self, but God (Pro 3:5). They teach us to rely on God. Every Christian has "insurmountable obstacles" in their life to overcome. They are never want them, but simply a part of life. Having an appreciation causes us to realize our weaknesses. The trials force us to admit our weakness and turn to God (Rom 5:1-8; 1 Tim 1:16; 1 Pet 1:5-7; 4:12-14; 1 Jn 3:16). They strengthen our souls. The strongest oak is not the one which is nurtured in a greenhouse environment, but grows in the open where it battles against the storms around it. The same is true of Christians and "storms" in our lives. God describes trials, "The testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing" (Jas 1:3, 4). Fulfill Spiritual maturity (perfection and completion) is to travel the road of adversity (2 Cor 9:8; Eph 2:10; 4:11-16; Tit 2:10; 3:1; Heb 10:24). They give us a sense of certain victory. Christians may not win every individual battle, but win walking with the Lord, daily by overcoming our encounters with adversity. There are certainly challenges ahead; thus, with God's Guidance, we can and will achieve the ultimate victory (Mt 7:21; 1 Cor 2:9; 2 Pet 3:10; Rev 10:14, 15)!





Continuous Prayers: Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Clouds, I.V. Jones (Bro Jones' dad), Ron Forge, Christina Jones Patricia Hurd, Ray & Ruby Busby (family of the Busby's), Sheila Harris, Sam Lily, Miguel Graves, Joyce Fair Joyce Gutierrez, Dre Day (friend of Bro Owens' son), Adam McCants (father-in-law of Bro Ramsey's daughter) Curtis Ward, Quinn Beacham (friend of Bro Ramsey), Vernon Skinner (son of Sis Skinner) Joel Sotelo Vazquez [Mexico City, Mexico]

Sick: Arthur Henry, Dan Allen, Jerry Birdow, Jose (Bro Santos' friend),

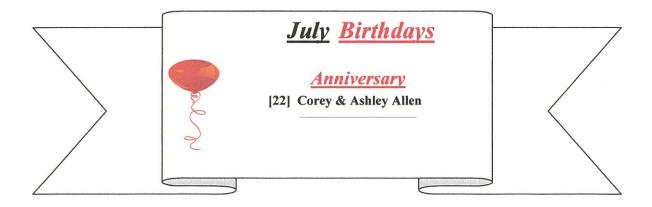
General: Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers), Simon Young, Randy Murray, Sam Lily (Sis Guthrie's stepson), James Hunter, Jr Chris White, Kaylan White, Carolyn Andrews, Pat Harper, Bro/Sis Williams, Brenda Moore Patrick Roberson (Bro/Sis Owens' nephew)

#### **UPDATES:**

- 1. Bertha Tapia (friend of Bro Ramsey) pneumonia and in coma w/ failing liver in Mexico (22 Jul 20)
- 2. Michael Neazer (23 Jul 20)
- 3. Alicia Ivey (23 Jul 20)
- 4. Yvette Thornhill
- 5. Angel Adams
- 6. Alesia Adams
- 7. M. Staton
- 8. Edwards Family

# Upcoming Activities/Announcements

- 1. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.
- 2. Duncanville Lectureship 2020: Cancelled





1 Cor 9:16 - 18 "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel."

Subject:	WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF ME?	
Scripture Reference:	Deuteronomy 10:12	
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# WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF ME? Deuteronomy 10:12

## INTRODUCTION:

- 1. The question before us is, "WHAT DOTH THE LORD THY GOD REQUIRE OF THEE?"
  - A. Though this is an ancient question, its answer is just as vital today as it was centuries ago.
  - B. The same categorical things God required of His People then are equally required today.
- 2. Notice what is under consideration is directly linked to what God requires of His People.

#### BODY:

#### 1. TO FEAR HIM

- A. The word "fear" in this text means reverence toward God, to be in awe of Him.
  - 1. Some clarification is needed concerning the word "fear" as used in the Bible.
  - 2. Fear, as related to reverence toward God, is NOT always abject terror/fright of God.
- B. Fear (reverence) of God contains many elements:
  - 1. Solemnity, Awe, Adoration and Honor (1 Pet 3:15)
- C. God demands reverence of the individual servant (Exo 3:3-6).
- D. God also demands reverence from his servants collectively (Psa 89:7).
- E. Many have no reverence for God and seek every opportunity to mock/ridicule Him.
  - 1. God will not tolerate these actions (Psa 50:21).

## 2. TO WALK IN ALL HIS WAYS

- A. To walk in all of God's ways means to obey Him.
  - 1. It is possible for a person to believe one has obeyed God's Will, when one has NOT obeyed the Will of God (Mt 7:21-23).
- B. What obedience [is] NOT.
  - 1. Simply promising to obey is **NOT** obedience.
    - A. The Parable of the two sons (Mt 21:28 32).
  - 2. Partial obedience is NOT true obedience (1 Sam 15:22).
  - 3. Substitution of another human's will for God's is NOT obedience (1 Sam 15:23).
  - 4. To violate God's Authority and to engage in unauthorized works is **NOT** obedience. A. Lev 10:1, 2; Heb 11:4
  - 5. Being religious is **NOT** obeying (Lk 6:46, 11:28; Jn 13:17; 14:15; Tit 1:16; Jas 1:22)
- C. The elements of true obedience and God's response to that obedience are clearly seen in the classic example of Israel's actions concerning Jericho (Heb 11:30).
  - 1. God offered to give Jericho to Israel (Jos 6:2).
  - 2. In order to receive this promise, Israel was to obey God's instructions in this matter.
  - 3. In order to obey God, they had to receive instructions from God (Jos 6:2-5).

### 3. TO LOVE HIM

- A. God loved us (Jn 3:16; 1 Jn 3:16; 4:10).
- B. Requirements of loving God: Obedience (Jn 14:15)
  - 1. Loving His Children (1 Jn 4:20, 21) / Enduring temptation (Jas 1:12) /
  - 2. Caring for the less fortunate (1 Jn 3:17) / NOT loving the world (1 Jn 2:15-17).

## 4. TO SERVE HIM WITH ALL OUR HEART AND SOUL

- A. The Greek word "doulos" as found in numerous passages within the New Testament.
  - 1. Rom 6:19; Ac 16:17; Tit 1:1; 1 Pet 2:16 Man's highest honor is to serve God.
- B. True servitude demands obedience to God's Will by all-inclusive surrendering of man's.
  - 1. This surrender involves total trust in and complete reliance upon God.