

# Whispering Hills

# Church of Christ



Volume VIII, Issue II August 09, 2020

## Gathering Times

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

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

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# Welcome Christians!!

## Leadership

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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)

***Faith***  
For with God  
nothing shall  
be impossible.  
Luke 1:37

## 6 Biblical Purpose Affirmations

- 1 I have been uniquely designed for a purpose.  
Psalms 139:14-16
- 2 I have been appointed and purposefully planted by God.  
John 15:16
- 3 God is continually working out His plans for my life.  
Psalms 138:8
- 4 God had me in mind before I was born.  
Jeremiah 1:5
- 5 I was saved for a purpose.  
2 Timothy 1:9
- 6 I am confident that the Holy Spirit will reveal my purpose to me.  
1 Corinthians 2:9-12

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The Growing Life

## Love Romans 12:9-21

BibleLoveNotes.com - Photo: Linda Bennet

### Love

1. is sincere.
2. hates evil.
3. clings to good.
4. devotes itself to brotherly love.
5. honors others, not self.
6. is fervent for God.
7. serves the Lord.
8. is joyful and hopeful.
9. is patient in affliction.
10. is faithful in prayer.
11. shares with those in need.
12. practices hospitality.
13. blesses those who offend.
14. rejoices with those rejoicing.
15. mourns with those who mourn.
16. lives in harmony.
17. isn't proud or conceited.
18. isn't influenced by position.

## Weekly Bible Reading

August 09 2020	1 Kings	15 - 22
August 10 2020	2 Kings	1 - 8
August 11 2020	2 Kings	9 - 16
August 12 2020	2 Kings	17 - 25
August 13 2020	1 Chronicle	1 - 9
August 14 2020	1 Chronicle	10 - 18
August 15 2020	1 Chronicle	19 - 29
August 16 2020	2 Chronicle	1 - 9

### 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).*





# food for thought

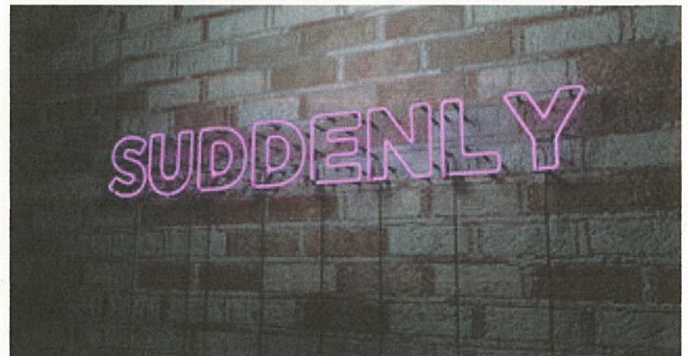
## Suddenly and Completely Taken Away

The Bible reveals how God brings good out of the worst of circumstances (Gen 45:5-8; Deu 8:2, 3; Jer 24:4-7; Lk 24:44-47; Ac 3:13-15; Rom 8:28-39; 2 Cor 4:15-17; 2 The 1:6-10; Heb 12:6-12; Jas 1:3, 4) and COVID-19 is certainly no exception. Hopefully, one of the greatest things to come out of this current pandemic will be our honest realization of just how quickly all the things once thought were so essential and indispensable in our lives, can be so suddenly and completely taken away. How the pursuits and activities once consumed so much of our time, effort, energy and finances, which had somehow convinced us to be so critically important – can be swiftly/suddenly...taken away. Paul says, ***“For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens”*** (2 Cor 5:1).

Perhaps, more people will now make the time to stop and think about the one day, as we all inevitably near our own departure from this earthly life, all of these same worldly pursuits and activities – plus a whole lot more – are going to be similarly and more suddenly removed leaving what is utterly worthless and totally meaningless (Php 3:7-11; 1 Tim 6:6-12). The only thing to matter at all in the day which one draws their final breath, will be the closeness of their relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ; which will, of course, be totally dependent on the time and effort one has previously put into seeking, developing, maintaining and maturing it according to the God’s Word – and that’s it. This is why Jesus Christ said in the sermon on the mount, ***“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also... But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you”*** (Mt 6:19-21, 33). This is surely the reason why His handpicked Apostle, who was present that day, wrote the LORD’S outlook on this world (1 Jn 2:15-17).

For those who have never seriously considered their desperate need to ensure they get and stay right with God; nor never seriously seeking to be more Biblically to know Him before their fatal and final earthly moment suddenly comes upon them (1 The 5:2-10; 2 Pet 3:10-12).

May the good God brings out of this current pandemic be, what provides the vital reality check needed revealing a more precise awareness by fully and steadfastly devoting oneself to ***“the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, ... the breaking of bread, and [prayer],”*** as well as to a far more regular, rigorous and diligent study of His Word (Ac 2:42; 2 Tim 2:15). Exert every effort to conduct oneself in such a way to be pleasing unto God. One is to labor and not be



ashamed by being honest, above board and work with the proper motives. One is to handle God’s Word in the right way conveying His Meaning in the proper understanding to others. False teachers perverts its purpose. To those already being faithful children of the living God (Rom 8:14-18; Gal 3:26, 27) and whose only priority is to live each day for and with the Lord whom they love by accepting the reality of their life (2 Cor 4:16-5:11; Col 3:1-4); may this current pandemic only serve to reinforce our faith, peace and reliance on Him who said, ***“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world”*** (Jn 16:33). He knows the weaknesses as well as fears of His Disciples. He continues to love and encourage because He wants them to know even when they are undergoing tribulation and trials, they can have peace. This peace is only for His Disciples. It is the peace of an untroubled mind (Jn 14:27). Christians can have this peace today when one believe, trust and obey Him (Rom 8:6; 15:13).





# PRAYER REQUEST

**Continuous Prayers:** Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Clouds, Ron Forge, Christina Jones, Miguel Graves, Joyce Fair Patricia Hurd, Ray & Ruby Busby (family of the Busby's), Sheila Harris, Sam Lily  
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 (Sis Skinner's son)  
Joel Sotelo Vazquez / Bertha Tapia [Mexico City, Mexico]

**Sick:** Arthur Henry, Dan Allen, Jerry Birdow, Jose (Bro Spataro's 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, Michael Neazer, M. Staton  
Chris White, Kaylan White, Carolyn Andrews, Pat Harper, Brenda Moore, Alicia Ivey, Yvette Thornhill  
Patrick Roberson (Bro/Sis Owens' nephew), Angel & Alesia Adams, Edwards FAMILY

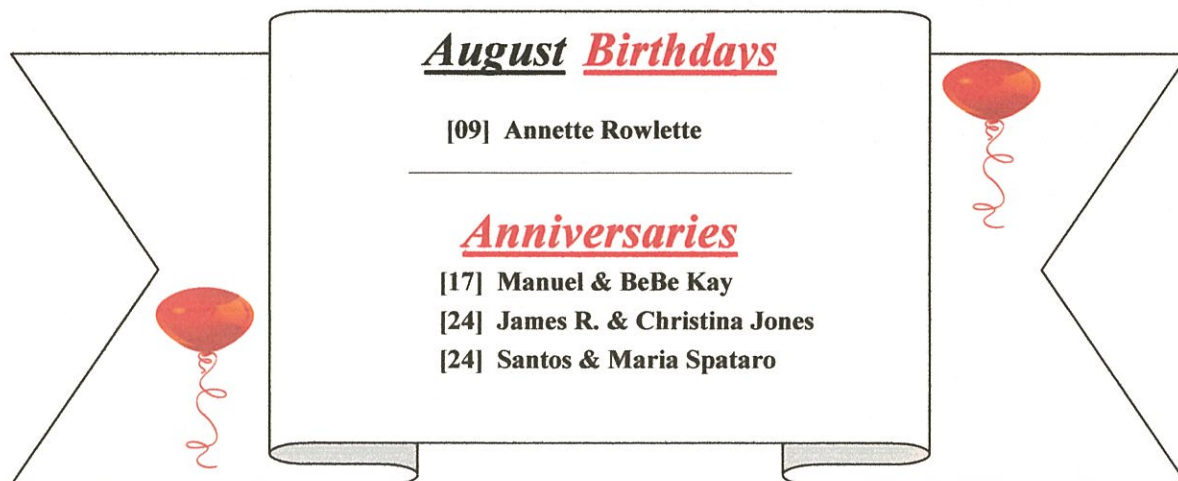
## UPDATES:

1. **Mackafield** (Ashley Allen's father) passed away (02 Aug)
2. **Mattie Stafford** surgery was successful (03 Aug) with her recovering at home

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## Upcoming Activities/Announcements

1. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.



**August Birthdays**

[09] Annette Rowlette

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**Anniversaries**

[17] Manuel & BeBe Kay  
[24] James R. & Christina Jones  
[24] Santos & Maria Spataro



# Sermon Notes

**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:

**Scripture Reference:**

[illegible]

## LESSONS FROM A LEPER

### 2 Kings 5:1 – 19

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. There are at least three (3) lessons to learn from this text:
  - A. Be like the little maid by taking advantage of opportunities to tell others of God's Power.
  - B. The lesson of obedience to understand [water] baptism and why so many people expect more than being immersed in water [as instructed] is needed in order to be saved.
  - C. Naaman's request of pardon and how Elisha's handled that interesting question.
    1. Many will see the truth and confess it, **BUT** fail in application of what they learn.

#### BODY:

1. **TELLING OTHERS OF THE POWER OF GOD (2 Kgs 5:3, 4)**
  - A. God's Power, today, relates to the soul saving power of the Gospel [we] preach:
    1. Mk 16:15, 16; Rom 1:16, 17; Eph 1:13; Jas 1:21; 1 Pet 1:23-25
  - B. [We] need to bring people to the "Great Physician" for the taking away of their sins:
    1. Jesus is the only "Great Physician" (Mk 2:17; Jn 14:6; Ac 4:12).
    2. He came to save (Mt 18:11).
    3. He brought life through the Gospel (2 Tim 1:8 – 10).
2. **GOD SAID TO WASH IN WATER (2 Kgs 5: 10, 11)**
  - A. Naaman was told to wash seven (7) times in the Jordan, **BUT** expected more.
    1. Wash in water to have one's sins remitted (Jn 3:1-5; Ac 2:38; 8:36-38; 22:16).
      - A. [We] are to walk by faith, **NOT** by sight (2 Cor 5:7).
        1. Miracles in the New Testament confirmed God's Word (Mk 16:20).
          - A. **BUT**, that time has ended (1 Cor 13:8 – 10).
  - B. God's plan is simple.
    1. God said it, [we believe it] and that settles it (Gal 1:6 – 9).
      - A. Naaman obeyed and was cleansed (2 Kgs 5:14).
      - B. Obeying God's plan will cleanse us, also (Rom 6:1 – 6; Col 2:12, 13).
3. **CONFESS WITH YOUR MOUTH (2 Kgs 5:15 – 17)**
  - A. Naaman realized God's power and with his mouth confessed there is only **ONE** God.
    1. [We] must be willing to confess with our mouths (Mt 10:32, 33).
      - A. There is only **ONE** God (1 Cor 8:5, 6).
  - B. After praising the Lord, he asks for pardon to bow his knee in submission to idolatry.
    1. Idolatry is clearly condemned by God (Deu 5:6-9; Lev 19:4; 1 Cor 10:14).
    2. Quickly displays what he saw, felt and heard, **BUT** did **NOT** realize God's Power:
      - A. Sometimes [we] are this way (Tit 1:16).
    3. In the case of Naaman, [we] see Isaiah's inspired statement is correct even as Paul referenced Isaiah in the New Testament (Ac 28:24 – 27).
  - C. Elisha's response to Naaman's request (2 Kgs 5:19).
    1. "Go in peace" is better defined as: "Go in safety, good welfare".
      - A. Elisha did **NOT** answer the request of pardon; **BUT** simply bid him a safe trip.
        1. This was a proper response to one whom God revealed to them, **BUT** still would **NOT** submit (Mt 7:6; 10:14; Ac 13:42 – 52).
        2. Waste of **TIME** continuing to teach someone **NOT** wanting to be taught.
          - A. Rom 16:17; 1 Cor 5:4-13; 2 Th 3:6, 14; 2 Tim 3:5; 2 Jn 1:10