

The Mars Hill Messenger

August 4, 2019

Doing or Not Doing

Little Johnny asked his teacher, “Can I be punished for something I didn’t do?” The teacher answered, “No, of course not. That wouldn’t be fair at all!” Johnny replied, “Oh, that’s good, because I didn’t do my homework.”

All joking aside, we empathize with the teacher who assumed Johnny meant not doing something bad. And we certainly agree that punishing someone for a bad thing they didn’t do is terribly unfair!

Some teach that God holds babies accountable for Adam’s sin. But God’s own law under Moses forbade punishing children for their parent’s sins (Deuteronomy 24:16). Fairness is part of God’s nature!

In days past, actually committing sin (i.e. doing something God has forbidden, such as murder or stealing) was called a “sin of commission.” We need to realize, though, that God can and does hold us accountable for not obeying what He has told us in His word. These were commonly called “sins of omission” (i.e. omitting, or leaving out, what God told us to do).

In Matthew 21, Jesus told the parable of the two sons. Their father commanded both, “Go work today in my vineyard.” The first son initially refused, but later “regretted it and went.” The second “answered and said, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go” (vv. 28-30). That second son committed a sin of omission. Jesus applied that parable to the chief priests and elders who claimed to be faithful to God, but rejected Jesus and had turned up their noses at John the Immerser.

We don’t hear much nowadays about “sins of commission” and “sins of omission.” But regardless of terminology, both are sins we and to avoid.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday	
Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:15 a.m.
Evening Service	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	
Bible Class	7:00 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION

P.O. Box 185
Vilonia, Arkansas 72173
Phone: (501) 796-2052
www.churchofchristmarshill.org

Elders

Curtis Sawrie	849-2365
Steve Shock	328-7072

Deacons

Dan Blair	519-1173
Ralph Hunter	428-0466
Rodney Partee	328-7380
Clay Winn	472-5928

Evangelist

David Riley	796-2052
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Youth Minister

Dan Blair	519-1173
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Missions

- **Ted & Barbara Knight (U.S.A., Romania)**
- **Main Street Church of Christ (Stuttgart, Arkansas)**
- **Youth Outreach University Youthoutreachuniversity.com**
- **Truth For Today World Mission School**
- **Gospel Chariot (Africa)**
- **Gospel Gathering (Local)**
- **Camp Areopagus**

At A Glance

August 10 – Singing. Mabelvale C of C. 6-7:30 p.m.
August 11 – Congregational Lunch. Peyton Creek Fish House following the a.m. worship
August 17 – Ladies’ Sewing Day at Camp Areopagus
August 25 – Contribution to the Building Fund
August 25 – Elders/Deacons Meeting. 3:30 p.m.
September 29 – Potluck Meal after a.m. service. Early evening service
September 29 – Elders/Deacons Meeting. 3:30 p.m.
September 29-October 2 – Harding University Lectures. Theme: Fan the Flame
September 29 – Contribution to the Building Fund
September 29 – Potluck Meal following the a.m. service. Early evening service.
November 16 – Fund Raiser for Camp Areopagus. Time: Noon. Lunch and Painting holiday door hangers.

Bible Class Lessons

Sun., August 4: Lesson #168 – 1 Kings 7
 Wed., August 7: Lesson #169 – 1 Kings 8
 Sun., August 11: Lesson #170 – 1 Kings 9
 Wed., August 14: Lesson #171 – 1 Kings 10

August 4, 2019

Nursery

Winnie Joslin

SOUND ROOM

Caleb Shock

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clay Winn

SCRIPTURE READING

Ethan Johns

A.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Thomas Martin

LEAD PRAYER

Ralph Hunter

Colton Hunter

LORD’S TABLE

Rodney Partee, b.

Jerrod Partee, c.

Rodger Harlan, c.

Dennis Kirkland

Sean Vines

Mike Widner

P.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Caden Johns

LEAD PRAYER

Michael Hunter

Thomas Martin

LORD’S TABLE

Jerrod Partee

Rodger Harlan

August 7, 2019

LEAD SINGING

Bob Johnston

LEAD PRAYER

Harmon Sawrie

John Foster

DEVOTIONAL

Harmon Sawrie

August 11, 2019

Nursery

Winnie Joslin

SOUND ROOM

Caleb Shock

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clay Winn

SCRIPTURE READING

Mike Widner

A.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Curtis Sawrie

LEAD PRAYER

Michael Hunter

Thomas Martin

LORD’S TABLE

Stanley Gordon, b.

Jade Smith, c.

Harmon Sawrie, c.

Clay Winn

Tom Hedrick

Gus Smith

P.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Bob Johnston

LEAD PRAYER

Rodger Moore

Dennis Martin

LORD’S TABLE

Dennis Kirkland

Sean Vines

August 14, 2019

LEAD SINGING

Harmon Sawrie

LEAD PRAYER

Wade Haynie

Bart Davenport

DEVOTIONAL

Gary Lambert

Those involved in providing our devotional time on Wednesday evenings are asked to please help us be ready to begin our Bible Study time by 7:15.

A Grandmother's Legacy

Phillip Eichman has written about a special book in his library: *I have a number of books but one of them in particular is very special to me. It is neither rare nor valuable as far as books go. It is obviously old and the pages are yellow and brittle and the cover is very worn. You can find better books at a garage sale or on the bookshelf at the local Goodwill store. The title might help you understand a little of its value. It is called The Story of the Bible and was written by Charles Foster. It is a children's book that contains a simplified summary of each book of the Bible...*

The value of the book for me lies in its original owner. You see, this book belonged to my great-grandmother. She died when I was a baby and I do not remember her, but I have heard stories about her. She and her family were Christians, but as a young woman she married a man who was not a Christian. It was not long, however, before he became a Christian through her good example.

As children were born she began to teach them about God and his Word. She must have literally worn out the binding of this book reading it to her children. At one point she repaired the binding with denim material no doubt taken from the sewing box and cut from a pair of men's overalls.

My mother lived with her grandparents when she was small and remembered her grandmother reading stories to her from the book and speaking of the God that she knew so well. My mother grew up, however, without obeying the Gospel that she had learned about from her grandmother. She too married and had children of her own. When we were small, however, my brother and I knew little of God, the Bible, or churches. Other children in the neighborhood often went to Sunday school, but we stayed home and wondered what it was all about.

Years passed and when I was twelve years old I had a bicycle accident that resulted in a serious head injury that kept me in the hospital for more than a week. As I lay in the hospital my mother realized from her early teaching that she was not in a relationship with God that would allow her to pray for me and that she needed to make some changes in her life.

After I had recovered sufficiently my mother began to take my brother and me, along with my grandmother, to Bible school and church services. Eventually both my mother and grandmother were baptized. My father, however, did not want anything to do with churches or religion. In time, however, he also became a Christian through the influence of my mother.

In a very real sense, I owe my own relationship with God to Bible stories read from this book to my mother when she was a child. I might easily have grown up and not known or cared about God had it not been for the godly influence of a grandmother. The simple act of reading Bible stories to children may not seem too exciting or important in our fast-paced world. The fact remains, however, that even though many years had passed, the seed that was planted eventually germinated in the heart of its hearer.

My prayer is that Phillip's account will encourage **YOU** to read and study the Bible, and then teach it to your children and your grandchildren. Read and study the Bible so that you and your family can come to know Jesus and what He did for us. He died on the cross for our sins so that we can be saved and live eternally with Him in heaven (Ephesians 1:7; Romans 6:23).

The Bible teaches that to receive this gift of salvation we must place our faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from our sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38). Then, as we continue to walk in the light of His Word, the blood that Jesus shed for our sins will continue to cleanse us (1 John 1:7-9).

Plant the seed of the Word of God in your heart and the hearts of your loved ones. It may bear fruit for generations to come. Just ask Phillip.

-- David A. Sargent

PRAYERS NEEDED

Curtis Sawrie has been very sick for the past week.

Kenneth Baxter is in Conway Regional Hospital room 413.

Clay Johns is recovering from knee surgery.

Chrissy Hawks, Kevin Hawk's sister, is recovering from surgery to remove brain tumors.

Extended Sick List: Roy Bulice, Amy Smith, Ronnie House, Dorothy Glover, Karen Lambert, Shelia Riddle, Nell Bostic, Paula Stocks, Martha Walker, Alex Lafferty, Nita Patrom, Mark Allen, Pam Webb, Barbara Fowlkes, Phillip VanWinkle, Charlene Lasley, Martha Green, Gladys Widner, Robie Permenter, Jerry Walker, Jerry Almond, Anna Kay Jones

FAMILY NEWS

Baptism: Zothan Lunsford was baptized into Christ on Thursday. We congratulate him on his decision and welcome him to the family of God.

Birth: Ellis Michael Shock was born on Tuesday to Caleb and Danielle Shock. Katie Mae is the big sister. Steve and Sue Shock are the grandparents. Stanley and Sammie Gordon are the great-grandparents. There is a Pack-and-Play in the foyer for gifts for the baby.

VBS 2019: Thank you to everyone had participated in our Vacation Bible School in any way. This was an excellent school. The teachers, skits, puppets, decorations, food, etc. could not have been better. A special thanks to Rodney Partee for the leadership he provided us. It is now time to begin working on next year's school.

Elders/Deacons Meeting: Today at 3:30 p.m.

Building Fund: Today's contribution will go toward our building payment. Please be as generous as possible.

Congregational Lunch: Everyone is invited to go to the Peyton Creek Fish House after services next Sunday morning.

Back-To-School Bonanza: 5-7 p.m. next Sunday for Kindergarten – 6th Graders. We will enjoy a special Kid's Konnection session at 5 p.m. followed by Roper's Pizza and a fun activity for the parents and their children. Let's start the school year off right by encouraging our children to do their best, to be the best, and to expect the best. Yes, invite your family and friends to join us as we encourage this age group toward a great school term!

Ladies' Sewing Day: Saturday, August 17th, at Camp Areopagus. A representative from Healing Hands International will pick up the sewn and collected items in September. If you would like to donate some supplies for MAGI Boxes there will be a tub under the table in the foyer in the old auditorium for that collection. Thank you for loving children. See Treva Widner if you have questions.

Back-To-School Bash: August 18th, 5 p.m. Meal to follow. Please help by signing up to provide food for the Bash. You will find the list on the table in the foyer.

Save The Date: Fundraiser for Camp Areopagus. Saturday, November 16th. Lunch and Painting holiday door hangers. More details to follow.