

# The Mars Hill Messenger

October 10, 2021

<p><b>Sunday, October 10, 2021</b> <b><u>SOUND ROOM</u></b> Clay Winn <b><u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u></b> Gary Lambert <b><u>SCRIPTURE READING</u></b> Dan Blair <b><u>LEAD SINGING</u></b> Harmon Sawrie <b><u>LEAD PRAYER</u></b> Bob Johnston Rustin Barnett <b><u>LORD'S TABLE</u></b> Rodney Partee, b. Mike Widner, c. Doug Ellison, o. Byron Harmon</p>	<p><b>Wednesday October 13, 2021</b> <b><u>LEAD SINGING</u></b> Randy Riddle <b><u>LEAD PRAYER</u></b> Mark Mauney Harold Moody</p> <p><b>Bible Class Lessons</b> <b>Sunday, October 10:</b> Lesson #336: "Paul: 1 Corinthians 1-2" <b>Wednesday, Oct 13:</b> Lesson #337 "Paul: 1 Corinthians 3-4" <b>Sunday, October 17:</b> Lesson #338 "Paul: 1 Corinthians 5-6"</p>	<p>Carlton Clayton's eye surgery is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>. Stanley Gordon is in the Conway Baptist Rehab. Bob Johnston will undergo surgery on his hand in October 28. Mary Mcgonical's surgery is having many health issues. Rodney Partee's mother is having many health problems. Melanie Gordon will undergo aggressive cancer treatments. Tamara Wise will undergo surgery to remove cancer.</p> <p>Dale Haynie, Roy Bulice, Ova Lea Leighton, Bernice Wells, Martha Walker, Paula Stocks, Gladys Widner, Gunner Smith, Charlene Lasley, Steven Moore, Michelle Koone, Leroy Kirkland</p> <p><b>At A Glance</b> <b>October 11</b> – Preacher's/Leader's Meeting. 10 a.m. Greenbrier C of C. <b>October 12</b> – Fellowship Meal and Singing. 5:30 p.m. Greenbrier C of C. <b>October 17-21</b> – Gospel Meeting. Lapanto C of C. <b>October 22</b> – Pumpkin Patch Trip. Depart at 9:15 a.m. <b>October 30</b> – Fishing, Hotdog Roast, and Hay ride at Areopagus Grades 1-</p>
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**Sympathy:** Nick Barker, Carey and Kim Wells' son-in-law, passed away this week. Our love and sympathy are extended to the family.

**Wednesday Meals:** Everyone is invited to enjoy a meal each Wednesday at 6 p.m. If you would like to help with this effort see Bob Johnston.

**Fellowship Meal and Singing:** Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the building of the Greenbrier congregation. Everyone is invited to attend. If you plan to attend, please let David know so a count can be turned in.

**Pumpkin Patch Trip:** Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Depart at 9:15 a.m. Children are paid for. Adults: \$2 for hayride and anything else they would like to purchase. Bring a sack lunch and we will eat at the pumpkin patch. Please sign up today!

## The Other Cheek! Really?

"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth. But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also' (Matthew 5:38). Shallow discussions of turning the other cheek hardly do justice to these important words of Jesus. And they tend to get it wrong. So, let's spend a few moments listening again to Jesus.

First, "eye for eye," or the law of retaliation, was not only an Israelite law but one throughout the ancient world, where a slap on the face could quickly escalate to a deadly blood-feud. This law, however, limited retribution. It might result in the victim's death but that is as far as it went.

Jesus seems far more concerned about the hearts of His disciples, and that determines eternal destination. He is not giving a lecture on pacifism or non-violent civil disobedience, but upon how His disciples (You, and I) respond to evil people we may encounter.

Jesus speaks of the slap on the right cheek. In this example a right-handed person gives the back of his hand to you as an insult. Slapping with the back of the hand was considered twice as offensive as the palm of the hand. So, this is not a call to not defend yourself or your family against a serious assault, but a call to respond in love to an insult given in hate.

Is Jesus telling us to do nothing when confronted in this way. NO! Let me repeat, NO! Turning the other cheek is a positive response of love. It is appealing to the evildoer to reconsider. The offer of the left cheek demonstrates that we will not compete in an angry exchange. We will not view relationships as win or lose competitions. We will not take the bait, either in person or on social media. Disciples of Jesus seek to give an opportunity for our "enemy" to repent and become our friend in returning love for hate. They may not, but we have followed Jesus. And that is what a disciple (follower) of Jesus does!

~David