

A PRICELESS PURCHASE

Among the words of wisdom a father passed on to his son are these of Solomon: “Buy the truth, and sell it not” (Prov. 33:23). Surely no advice could be more practical than this. What lessons may we derive from these words?

First, we are reminded that truth is priceless. Obtain it at whatever the cost. Scientists have given their lives in pursuit of scientific truth. Governments ideally have sought to establish a peaceful society upon the basis of truth. Patriots have shed their blood to defend the truth. Martyrs have perished rather than renounce the truth. Truth is among our most valuable assets.

We are also reminded of the fact that the truth is priceless—“Sell it not.” May we not be an Esau who devalued his birthright to the point of selling it to his brother, Jacob, for a bowl of bean soup. Some sell truth through willful sin, ignoring the laws of God. Others, do it by substituting human traditions and doctrines for divinely revealed truth. The apostle Paul prophesied of those who would “not endure sound doctrine,” but would “turn away their ears from the truth,” and would be “turned unto fables” (2 Tim.4:3-4).

Truth does not originate within ourselves. The truth of God is not inherent in our nature. It must be sought from God, whose “word is truth,” (John 17:18), as Jesus declared in His prayer the night of His betrayal. The word of God, as revealed in Scripture is inspired of God (2 Tim.3:16-17). For the embodiment of truth, we must seek it in God’s Son, Jesus Christ, who affirmed, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh to the Father but by me” (John 14:6). What greater treasure could you find in life than this?

(Ron Bartanen,, via Arthur Church of Christ website)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

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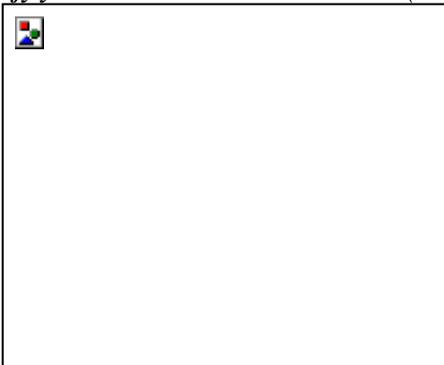
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“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”(Matthew 5:16)



MEETING PLACE OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Johnny Law
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Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)
Andy Rutherford
(615-418-5050)
Dusty Whitaker
(615-709-1086)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Worship

9:00 A.M.
6:00 P.M.
12:30 P.M. last Sunday of month

Bible Study

Sunday Morning
10:15 A.M.
Wednesday Evening
7:00 P.M.

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson
615-735-2462)

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
(615-735-0114)

For Transportation to Services
615-735-0114 or 615-418-6637

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Fax Number: (615) 735-0131

Website: www.carthagechurchofchrist.net

Sunday & Wednesday Services broadcast on Facebook & YouTube

FREE Bible Correspondence Courses, Tracts or Home Bible Study/ Videos.
(615-735-0114 or 615-735-2462)

“VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME”

PATIENCE PAYS

We’ve seen it often: “Lord, Give Me Patience, But Please Hurry!” It does seem to be in short supply these days. “Road Rage”, which is far too frequent in the nation (it should never happen), is but the fruit of a lack of patience. We are an impatient people always in a hurry, rushing to get somewhere we may not want to go to do something we may not even enjoy doing!

However, the Scriptures reveal that it does pay to be patient. This should not surprise us seeing as how we serve “the God of **patience** and consolation” (Rom. 15:5). The context deals with bearing “the infirmities of the weak, and not pleasing ourselves”, but seeking the “edification” of others (vs. 1-2). Jesus is cited as our example, “For even Christ pleased not Himself...” (v. 3)

The word “patience” translates the Greek *hupo*, under, and *meno*, to abide, thus, to abide under (Vine, 167). James used it in James 1:3 – “Knowing this, that the trying of your faith works **patience.**” We must be patient in the face of suffering and adversity, bearing up under the load, not giving in or giving up! It is worthy of note that James uses the prophets and Job as examples of patience (See James 5:10-12).

It is apparent that patience is required to build and maintain Christian character: “But let **patience** have her perfect work, that you may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing” (James 1:4). Patience is never to be confused with lethargy, laziness, or lukewarmness. A reading of 1 Corinthians 13 shows that love is “loaded” with patience (1 Cor. 13:3-6). Consider its longsuffering; kindness; lack of envy and pride; seemly behavior; lack of selfishness; calmness; purity of heart; its source of joy; and its patience!

Patience is sorely needed in homes and families. Many marriages are stretched, strained, and eventually broken by spousal impatience. God still hates “putting away” (Mal. 2:16). Husbands and wives need to read and reread pertinent passages from the Scriptures: Gen. 2:19-24; Matt. 19:3-9; Eph. 5:22-33; etc. Patience *will* pay off if we stick with it.

Patience is also needed in the church. Philadelphia, one of the seven churches of Asia, is complimented by the Lord “because you have kept **the word of my patience**” (Rev. 3:10, Emphasis added). We can only bear fruit when we are patient (See Luke 8:15). Paul mentions “work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope” in the same verse of his epistle to the church at Thessalonica (See 1 Thess. 1:3). Surely patience is important! The ultimate “Pay Off” will come when “a crown of life” is received (Rev. 2:10)!

Edward L Anderson

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

A warm welcome is extended to our VISITORS! We are delighted you came our way. May your travels be safe and may God's blessing be upon you. Please return at you earliest opportunity. If you live in this area please consider assembling with us regularly. Free tracts and periodicals are available for your reading and study.

"Ladies' Day" was postponed due to the snow which arrived March 11-12. It has been rescheduled for **Saturday, April 2.** "Daughters of the Heavenly King" is the theme. The schedule will remain the same as before with registration beginning at 8:30. Kelly Bell, Kelly Edens, and Amanda Scoggins will be the speakers with classes for separate ages. Ladies, make plans to attend and please let Elaine know if you and friends are planning to be present. (See opposite column for more information).

As we follow the events in Europe, the words of Jesus come to mind: "You shall hear of wars and rumors of wars" Matt. 24:6). He also said in the same verse: "See that you are not troubled." Instead of wringing our hands in fear let us fold our hands in prayer. Pray fervently and in faith for the situation there (leaders, instigators, and victims), and for brothers and sisters in Christ in particular.

Josh Brown reminds us that he has a new list of newcomers and others to be visited. Be sure to let him know that you are willing to make a visit. We are grateful for his coordinating this part of our visitation program. There is an emphasis on contacting newcomers to the area. If we will but "lift up our eyes" and look upon the fields, opportunities for good are ever before us (See John 4:35).

Where has the time gone?! Another month has nearly passed and that means it is time for the fourth Sunday fellowship meal with a 12:30 PM service to follow the morning worship and Bible study periods. Please plan to bring some food and enjoy the meal with brothers and sisters in Christ.

We miss having the Hasslers with us on Sunday morning. Jeremy is now preaching for the Brush Creek congregation. Kristi, Makenna, Ainsley, and John Dallas are attending there on Sunday morning, too, but they all are with us Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Pray for them in this new work.

Barbara and I, along with Amanda and Aletha and their families, thank you for your love and concern shown to us during Barbara's knee replacement. She is recuperating with therapy, exercises, and doctor's visits. Every act of love and kindness is deeply appreciated. Please continue to pray for us.

I hope to see you Sunday morning. **Edward L. Anderson**

NEWS & NOTES:

RESTORATION: We welcome Eric Haynie back as he recently requested prayer for forgiveness and strength.

SICK: Great to have Patricia Brooks and Gordon and Barbara Jenkins back with us. Michelle Allen underwent hip surgery last Thursday. Carolyn Harris is at home after a stay in RRMC due to a fall and pneumonia. Barbara Anderson is recuperating from knee replacement. Donna Cowan, daughter of Don and Betty Carter, is dealing with heart issues. Richard and Brenda Bowman are better. Mary Jo Hackett is awaiting surgery. Andy and Davey Rutherford have been sick. Ted Gaw underwent heart surgery March 14. Mike Shoulders requests prayers as he deals with cancer and treatments. Jay Klamm is still limited in activities due to a broken toe. Julie Wright was sick Sunday. Lola King is able to be with us. Her husband Bobby (Buck) has not been feeling well. Faye Maberry requests prayers for her sister Laverne Hardee, who had surgery last Wednesday, and a niece Brenda Brawner (liver disease). Janice Hicks is still unable to be with us and requests continued prayers. Sally Russell is still unable to be with us. Wanda Fisher's nephew, Corbin Forrest, has surgery tomorrow (Thurs.), to repair a broken leg. Jerry and Mary Phillips are about the same. Prayers requested for Janice Wilson (stroke), mother of Todd (Allie) Smith who formerly attended here. Remember Dwight Fuqua (recurrence of cancer); Jimmy Key; Drew Gallagher; Barry and Teresa Harville; Scott Bane (cancer); Jerry Driver; Ciera Haffner Brenda Aikens (cancer); Janet Rose; Ruby Anderson; Joe Armistead; Wayne Hall (stroke); Brenda Forrest; Bea Davis; and Gary Vinson (cancer).

NURSING HOME/ ASSISTED LIVING/ SHUT-INS: Wilma Richardson; Judith Newberry; Mary Lou Smith; Ricky Branham; (SCHR); Lonetta Bains, Robbie North, Jane Whitley, Mrs. Jack Billington (Pavilion); Pat Paysinger (Shut-in).

IN THE MILITARY: Korrey King – USMC (Grandson of Bobby & Lola King); Jana Watson, Ann Carter's granddaughter (Army); Randy Carter's sons and Lacey Crockett's brothers, Derek (Army) & Landon Carter (Coast Guard); PFC Samuel Burton (USMC), Darlene Fariss' grandson; Benjamin Gentry (USMC).

SYMPATHY: To the family of Faye Maberry in the passing of her brother, James Nunley, on Sunday; to the family (Charlie and David) of Delores Raines West who passed from this life 3/9/22.

THANK YOU: A "Thanks You" note was recently received and read from the Morris family (Nick, Pam, Jodie, Josie, Jacie, and Julianna); and Janice Hicks.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Jacob and Hannah Bray on the birth of Oliver Townes Bray (3/8/22). Steve and Kim are proud grandparents!

APRIL BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Peggy Faustina (3); Faye Maberry, Jonah Mauldin (8); Steven Claywell (9); Hale Wright (12); Josh Brown (20); Brayden Blum (21); Michelle Allen (22); Janice Anderson (23); Bridget Austin, (24); John Dallas Hassler (26), Tammy Harper (28). Brian & Misty Smith (4/10/2010); Barry & Linda Cook 4/22/1996); Steve & Kim Bray (4/23/2009).

EVENTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November (as permitted by covid regulations), 2:00 PM; *Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional:* May 29, 2:00 PM; *Coffee/Fellowship:* First and third Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 AM; *Ladies Day:* April 2, with Kelly Bell, Kelly Edens; and Amanda Scoggins; *Fish Fry:* April 9, 4:00 PM; *Youth Unite:* May 15, 5:00 P.M.; *Vacation Bible School:* "Fisher's pf Men", June 6-9; *JSCYC:* July 17:23; *Annual Friday Night Singing:* August 5; *Gospel Meeting:* Gary Hampton preaching, September 18-21.

AREA EVENTS: *Ladies Day:* East Main (Murfreesboro), with Jania Otey, April 9, 9:00-11:30 with lunch afterward; Oak Grove church of Christ (Clay Co.), April 9 with Vicky Yocum; *SEIBS Lectureship:* (Karns, Knoxville), "A Call for Clarity in a Chaotic World", April 24-27, 2022 (Program posted); *Gospel Meetings:* Fountain Run (KY) church of Christ, April 3-5, with different speakers; Zion church of Christ, April 24-28. 7:00 PM, with Edward L Anderson.

RUN4DON: The Run4Don Committee is now accepting 2022 Scholarship applications from graduating seniors. Contact Josh Brown or Jeremy Hassler for more information.

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LADIES' DAY

Saturday, April 2, 2022
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Theme:
"Daughters of the King"

Speakers/Teachers:
Kelly Bell; Amanda Scoggins; Kelly Edens
Classes for Princesses of all ages!

Registration begins at 8:30 AM
A Catered Lunch Will Be Provided
RSVP by emailing carthagecoc@dtccom.net
Or by calling 615-735-0114