

WICK LIST:**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison, Henry McDonald (Ridgeview, Rm 176), Bibby Myers (Shadescrest, Rm 104), June Hosmer

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Ed & Bettie Barrett, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Nellie Windham, Bessie Files, Cynthia McMeans, Bruce & Sheila Windham, Kenneth & Gail Windham

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Kimberly Wilcox, Sonya Parnell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Larry Drummond, Jim Murrell, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Joe Windham, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, Esther Sutton, Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Dicey Wright, Michael Pope, Greg Myers, Wanda Williams

AM - BEN WRIGHT - FOCUS ON FAITH

PM - BEN WRIGHT - MESSAGES FROM MOSES

BIRTHDAYS:

Mar 6: Brenda Rushing

7: Frank Brown

9: Jamie McDonald

10: Hoyt Sims

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
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TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

BIBLE CLASS 9:30

WORSHIP 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827
Carlton Myers 221-0637
Leil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

FOCUS ON FAITH

(Hebrews 11:1-6)

Faith _____ **(Hebrews 11:1).**

A. The first descriptive word we have is “_____.”

1. This word literally means “_____.”

2. It carries the idea of undergirding or _____.

B. What it does is lay the foundation for belief in the things for which Christians

_____.

C. The second descriptive word for faith is “_____.”

1. This literally means “_____.”

2. There is conviction that what is _____ is real based on evidence.

D. There is evidence even for the _____ in which we have faith.

E. In spiritual matters, there is only one _____ for faith (Romans 10:17).

F. God has left us _____ enough for faith.

G. There are _____ reasons for having biblical faith.

H. There are _____ reasons for biblical faith.

I. Faith _____ (vs. 2-5).

A. Biblical faith is now shown to be conviction in the accuracy, existence and truthfulness of God and His word that _____ one to live a life of faithfulness to God and His word.

B. By faith, a life of faith, the elders, the forefathers of the Jews, obtained _____ from God, which is the meaning of “good report.”

C. It is by faith that we understand the _____ of the world.

D. Faith is based on God’s word, as noted earlier, thus God had _____ Abel as well as Cain what was to be offered to Him.

E. Enoch _____ with God (Genesis 5:21-24).

F. Faith is belief _____ obedient action (James 2:17-18)

II. Faith _____ (vs. 6).

A. This verse tells us the _____ of faith.

B. You and I must have faith, which is belief plus obedient action, in order to be _____ to God.

1. It is _____ to please God without faith.

2. Which tells us that it is _____ to please God with faith.

C. Some think that pleasing God is _____.

D. God does not demand perfection, just _____.

E. We are to walk by faith and not by _____ (2 Corinthians 5:7).

F. When we live in such a manner, just as these great examples in the “Hall of Fame of Faith,” we _____ God.

G. It is _____ possible to please God and if Enoch could do it in the world in which he lived, we can in the world in which we live.

GOING FOR THE PRIZE

Tim Archer

I know guys that are into “bling” as people like to say. Guys that are into gold and jewelry. Some more than others. Matter of fact, I heard of a man last year that gave up millions of dollars for a ring that he wanted. You may have heard of this man. His name is Karl Malone, and he was a basketball player. In the 2002-03 NBA season, he made over \$17 million dollars playing for the Utah Jazz. Then he went to play for

the Los Angeles Lakers for “only” \$1.5 million. Why was he willing to take this cut in pay? He wanted a ring. A championship ring. And he (mistakenly) thought he could get one by going to Los Angeles.

On a recent Sunday, dozens of grown men fought it out in the Super Bowl for the right to wear a ring. Sure, there will be money involved. But what these men will remember, and be remembered for, is the ring.

What would you give up for a ring? Probably not millions of dollars. What would you do for a gold medal? In his book 100 Greatest Moments in Olympic History, Bud Greenspan tells this story:

Volleyball was introduced as an Olympic sport in the 1964 Tokyo games. A Japanese women’s team was chosen to represent their nation for the event. Hirofumi Daimatsu, their coach, put the women through a grueling training program that resembled a Marine boot camp. The six day a week training program was quite brutal on the women both physically and mentally.

The training, however, did pay off and they eventually did win the gold. When they stood to receive their medals every woman was crying.

“It was a glorious moment,” said team captain Masae Kasai. “We all cried for two reasons. We had won the gold medal and had fulfilled our expectations and that of the Japanese people. Even more, we cried because this would be our last game together, and even though we had been through so much pain and anguish it was worth it. I’m sure we would all do it again.”

What would you give up for a crown of leaves? That’s what Olympic champions used to receive. It probably wouldn’t motivate us that much. What would you give up for a crown? What would you give up for the crown of life, the crown that goes to those that overcome by their faith? Is there any sacrifice that is so great to exchange for eternal life? Paul wrote: “Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified or the prize.” (1 Cor. 9:24-27)

It’s interesting that our society accepts the fact that athletes will discipline themselves and put themselves through rigorous training in order to excel at sports, yet frowns upon Christians who want to do the same thing to excel in discipleship.

Let us not conform to the world. Let’s go into training, training for an eternal crown. Not for a ring, a medal or a laurel wreath. Let’s go into training for the crown of life. Then we will be able to echo Paul’s words to Timothy: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is laid store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.” (2 Ti. 4:7-8).

No sacrifice is too great. No price is too high. The prize is worth it. Don’t settle for second best or for second rate. We seek a crown that will not fade, a life that will not end. And we won’t settle for anything less.