

WICK LIST:

HEALTHCARE CENTERS:

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Ed & Bettie Barrett, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Bessie Files, Cynthia McMeans, Henry McDonald, Brenda Rushing, Kenneth Windham, Sue Lockhart, Kim Haynes

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Kimberly Wilcox, Sonya Parnell, Anna Turner, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Larry Drummond, Jim Murrell, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, Esther Sutton, Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Dicey Wright, Michael Pope, Wanda Williams, Robert Turner, Kristee McDonald, Wonda Ivie, Bobby Wright, Misty Aldridge, Gregory Morris

WM - BEN WRIGHT - RELATIONSHIPS IN THE BRIDE OF CHRIST

WM - BEN WRIGHT - ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE SOLDIER OF CHRIST

**OUR CAMPAIGNERS HAD A VERY SUCCESSFUL TIME IN WILSON, NC. 1,980
CALLS WERE MADE WITH OVER 260 CORRESPONDENCE COURSES SET UP.
THANKS TO ALL THOSE THAT WENT AND DID SUCH A WONDERFUL JOB.**

OUR GOSPEL MEETING IS AUG 5-8 WITH WADE WEBSTER

BIRTHDAY:

July 25: Ann Myers

27: Adyson Preston

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

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

SIRS, WHY DO YE THESE THINGS? (Acts 14:16-18)

J.K. Gossett

Paul asked the above question of the people of Lystra as they prepared to worship the apostles. It was erroneously assumed, because a man was healed, that Paul and Barnabas were gods, and therefore, worthy of worship. Of course, the apostles were not gods, and no apostle of Christ ever accepted worship. When Cornelius fell down at the feet of the apostle Peter and worshiped him, the apostle said, “Stand up; I myself also am a man” (Acts 10:25-26).

Religious teachers and leaders of today are not gods, and like the apostles, are not to be worshiped. Long robes, ecclesiastical titles, and sanctimonious tones of voice may obscure the fact that they have “feet of clay.” To all who would idolize preachers and others, Paul’s response is still appropriate: **“SIRS, WHY DO YE THESE THINGS?”** “We also are men of like passions with you and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein...and with these sayings, scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them” (vs. 5-18).

By the action of the people of Lystra and Paul’s question, I am reminded of the fact that many things are done by religious people concerning which it would still be appropriate to ask: **SIRS, WHY DO YE THESE THINGS?”**

Consider: the use of preacher titles and special clothing for religious workers. Parents have water sprinkled on their little babies. Sinners are taught to pray the sinner’s prayer. Professional musicians are hired to perform during worship. Sinners are called upon to “confess that God for Christ’s sake has pardoned their sins” before they have done what the Lord said in order to be saved. Then there are those who claim to love the Lord by only worshiping when it is convenient. Some spend lavishly on themselves but give “crumbs” to the work of the church. Finally, efforts are made to keep the Sabbath from the old covenant. Yes, these and a thousand other practices cause us to raise the apostolic question: **“SIRS, WHY DO YE THESE THINGS?”**

From my perspective, there is only one reason for believing anything regarding religious matters: God had revealed it in the Bible. There is one reason for hoping for anything from God: He has promised it. “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

WENDELL AND BETTY WINKLER’S ADVICE ON MARRIAGE

Neal Pollard

Several years ago, I asked the Winklers to pass along advice for married couples on how to have a successful, happy marriage. They were very kind to comply and I have the material, in brother Winkler's easily distinguishable handwriting, in my files. Their suggestions were broken into two categories, the first being positive things couples can do for their marriages and the latter being habits, actions and attitudes that hurt a marriage. Here are the answers from a couple who seemed so happily married as any two people I have known (Wendell Winkler passed away in 2005).

Positive Things:

- . Put your companion first.
 - . Build the confidence of each other, never making the other feel inferior.
 - . Maintain a beautiful togetherness (laugh, cry, plan vacations, and work together).
 - . Adjust to your companion's interests (if he fishes, she learns to fish; if she loves to shop, he learns to shop).
 - . Be united in your goals and aspirations (for your children, for your retirement).
 - . Cooperate with each other (in disciplining your children, etc.).
 - . Make your companion a partner in all things.
 - . Be open, free and uninhibited in your communication.
 - . Close each day on a positive note.
10. Practice 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.

Things To Avoid:

- . Excessive debt.
- . "Me" and "I" syndrome instead of "we."
- . Suspicion and distrust.
- . Failure to understand what is involved in "headship" and "submission."
- . Misarranged priorities.
- . Failure to be commendatory.
- . Failure to notice and apply the little things.
- . Refusal to eliminate annoyances.
- . Failure to keep romance in the marriage (never become too old to hold hands).

This material was written down by brother Winkler on February 14, 2004.