

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OCT 11, 2015

SICK LIST:

HEALTHCARE CENTERS:

Ruby Harrison

HOME: Fred & Romaine Elliott, Robin Busby, Wilma Brown, Brandi & Charlie Richardson, Jill Roden, Lynn Honeycutt, Sandra Hunt

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Robert Turner, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, J.D. Dailey, James Horsley, Brenda Holloway, Jake & Diane Chambers, Donna Laratta, Kathy Windham, Arthur Mason, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Debbie Jackson, Diane Townley, Elesia Wright, Margie Thomasson, Micah Earnest, Vonciel Phillips, Roger Deihl, Wanda Self, Katie Griffies, Bruce Windham, Raymond Johnson, Raygan Dickson, Joyce Jacobs, Morgan Calhoun

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "JOB DESCRIPTION OF A HARVEST LABORER"

PM - BEN WRIGHT - "ENCOURAGING NEWS"

**REMEMBER OUR GOSPEL MEETING NOV 1-4 WITH THE 1ST SUNDAY WALKER
COUNTY SINGING NOV 1 AT 2 PM**

THE THEME FOR THE MEETING IS "TRUTHS THAT DETERMINE DESTINY"

**PATRICK MORRISON - ACCEPT THE TRUTH THAT THE BIBLE IS GOD'S INSPIRED
WORD**

TODD CLIPPARD - ACCEPT THE TRUTH OF CHRIST'S AUTHORITY

VANCE HUTTON - ACCEPT THE TRUTH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT'S WORK

LARRY FIFE - ACCEPT THE TRUTH OF THE ONE BODY

BIRTHDAYS:

Oct 11: Fred Elliott

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HWY 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
Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213
David Preston 300-1927
Kevin Richardson 295-8864
Chris Robbins 388-1354
Vince Roden 924-4062

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

JOB DESCRIPTION OF A HARVEST LABORER
(Matthew 9:35-38)

I. We must be _____ (Matthew 9:35).

- A. This trait is at the _____ of what we all are to be if we are laborers in the harvest of souls.
- B. This means you and I must _____ what we are to teach.
 - 1. Not any _____ will do.
 - 2. We have to know the gospel of the _____ in order to be teachers of it.
 - 3. This is the _____ set forth by Paul to Timothy (2 Timothy 2:2).
- C. We can't be _____ by the world around us.
 - 1. The best teachers we've ever had have been those who get _____ in the subject they are teaching.
 - 2. There are always _____ in life.
- D. We have to want people to _____.

II. We must be _____ (Matthew 9:36).

- A. How many times do we just go about our daily lives and _____ to look at the people with whom we are interacting?
- B. People all around us are _____ and in miserable spiritual condition.
- C. Jesus had compassion on them, which indicates feeling sympathy but also with a _____ to do something about it.
- D. You and I must be compassionate on others because compassion has been _____ to us.

III. Have the heart of a shepherd (Matthew 9:36).

- A. As Jesus looked out on a crowd that was spiritually bowed over with suffering, He knew part of the reason for their problems: lack of _____.
- B. The time in which Jesus lived, as far as the _____ of the day went, was much like that of the time in which Ezekiel wrote (Ezekiel 34:1-6).
 - 1. The shepherds were _____ the flock.
 - 2. Numerous times the leaders were rebuked by Jesus because of their treatment of the people they should have been _____.
- C. A shepherd takes his sheep to be _____ and _____.
- D. A shepherd tends to his sheep by taking care of their _____.
- E. There are people who will follow us to Jesus if we will _____ them to Him.

Coal or Diamonds?

T. Pierce Brown

It is generally understood that coal and diamonds consist of the same basic carbon compounds. The difference is said to be that the diamonds are formed under conditions of extreme heat and pressure for some period of time. This suggests a principle which we find in the Bible and in our own experience.

James says it this way, "Count it all joy, my brethren, when ye fall into manifold temptations; knowing that the proving of your faith worketh patience. And let patience have its perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking in nothing" (James 1:2-4). In my own years of growing up in poverty and hardship, going barefooted in the snow and having nothing to eat except popcorn balls or hominy for several days, I am aware that hardships and testings of various kinds may be valuable in helping to form character. However, I have discovered another truth, perhaps of equal value. The wind that causes one tree to be stronger and have deeper roots may uproot and destroy another. The difficulties, adversities and tests that help to make one person strong may break another. What is the difference?

It seems apparent that one of the things that make a difference is what was there in the first place. If you do not have certain qualities present in the raw material, the end result will not be the same. The things that caused Pharaoh to harden his heart might well have caused a person who had any respect for Jehovah to soften and repent. The same sun that shines on a stick of butter, causing it to melt will shine upon a piece of clay and cause it to grow hard.

If, by God's grace, you have learned to love God, all things, including hardships, testings, pressure, difficulty, disaster, danger or death will work for your good (Romans 8:28). If not, they may well be your downfall. Whether the pressures of life and the heat of battle cause you to be a diamond or merely a lump of coal depends to a large degree on what was there before those pressures and heat were applied. Our primary concern should be to make sure that loving God and glorifying Him are more important than anything else in our lives.

Jesus and Paul taught that the righteous shall suffer persecution, and that we are blessed when we suffer for the sake of righteousness. It is possible, however, for us to suffer rebuke or alienation because of our bullheaded, obstinate, hateful attitudes, or self-righteous, opinionated, arrogant assumptions and responses. In our blindness, we may then whine and complain because everyone else is wrong and we and Jesus stand alone against the rest of the world. Whether you turn out to be coal or diamonds may well depend on what you were before the pressure and heat were turned on.