

# GOOD NEWS

*From Getwell*

Published by  
**Getwell Church of Christ**

1511 Getwell Road  
 Memphis, Tennessee 38111-7299

Phone: (901) 743-0464

Fax: (901) 743-2197

E-Mail: [mail@getwellchurchofchrist.org](mailto:mail@getwellchurchofchrist.org)

Website: [www.getwellchurchofchrist.org](http://www.getwellchurchofchrist.org)

**ELDERS**

Dewey Murray  
 Daniel P. Phillips  
 Ron Wallace

**MINISTERS**

Bradley Smith, Minister  
 Ron Wallace, Assoc. Minister  
 Daniel P. Phillips

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Alan E. Highers, Editor

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The Getwell congregation sends monthly support to the following:  
 Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN  
 West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN  
 Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY  
 Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

**SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY**

**SUNDAY**

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.  
 Worship.....10:20 a.m.  
 Worship.....5:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

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## ON THE HOME FRONT

As you may know, each year we collect items for Potter's Children's Home in Kentucky for Christmas. Usually, we ask for gifts. This year, however, Potter's has let us know that since we will not be buying for specific children, it would be better if we could donate money instead. Wynona Murray is heading up this effort. Please see her for more details about it.

As we transition into the winter months, please continue to be mindful of our pantry. We have different items listed on the back of the bulletin each week, as well as a few staple items that will always help, including:

- Canned Meat
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Soups

There will always be those who are in need of help, so let's continue to have this great resource available for those who need it. If you need some extra information about things that you could bring, please see Ron Wallace.

Bradley Smith



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## From The Desk Of Bradley Smith

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Please allow me to share these words with you which were written by Wendell Winkler in the October 1999 issue of the Spiritual Sword on how the church functions as a family.

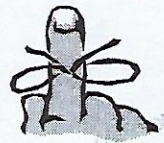
“(1) You will have the joys of a Christian home. You cannot have American life without America. Correspondingly, you cannot have a Christian home without Christianity. But, being a Christian and having membership in the church are contemporary states (Acts 11:26, church, Christians and disciples refer to the same people). A family united in Christ, as was Philemon and his family (Phile. 2), is the most beautiful picture on earth.

(2) In the church there are many blessings for you and your family. Your emotional needs will be supplied as brothers and sisters in Christ weep and rejoice with you (Rom. 12:15). Your social needs will be met as you enjoy constant fellowships and get-togethers, as you associate with the finest, purest and best people on earth (Acts 2:46, 47). Your spiritual needs will be provided as you receive edification, immunization and information. Your children will be associating with the purest and most spiritually minded young people anywhere; they will enjoy Bible bowls, Bible camps, retreats, youth meetings and such like as they are wholesomely influenced thereby. Additionally, in the church you have someone watching for all of your souls (Heb. 13:17). And, do we not all need all the help we can get in going to heaven?”

How great it is to be a member of the Lord's church! We see the proper love and care that we should have for one another. Let us always strive to show our love toward each other in our daily lives.



# RON'S REMINDERS



## Rejoice, and Be Exceedingly Glad

Matthew 5:12 - "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in Heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Jesus concludes the section of Scripture known as the Beatitudes by encouraging those who are spiritually blessed to rejoice and be exceedingly glad in that fact. Much has been written in the New Testament regarding Christian joy. And much of this writing ties joy/rejoicing together with persecution/trials.

Romans 12:12 describes Christians as those who ought to be "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer." James wrote, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience" James 1:2-3). Paul, writing from a Roman prison, wrote, "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!" (Philippians. 4:4).

Have you ever met someone who was "exceedingly glad?" Someone who, no matter what it seems, was always in a pleasant mood and uplifting to be around? These are some of the most pleasant personalities to encounter, and by all means, we should most often encounter them in the church!

And yet too many times, is it not the case that brethren let the trials and ups and downs of life suppress or conceal their joy? Using James' expression, "My brethren, these things ought not so to be!"

In tying rejoicing/exceeding gladness to persecution, Jesus mentions our reward in Heaven, and also the fact that the prophets before us were also persecuted. We must remember that the suffering that we must go through in this life pales in comparison to the abundance of the blessings that we will enjoy in Heaven! It will all be worth it. Of this we must be assured!

In the remainder of this article, let us consider some examples of persecutions that the prophets (and others) endured for the Lord's sake, and let us ask ourselves if we would be willing to do the same? Hebrews 11:37 informs us that they:

- Were stoned (See 2 Chronicles 24:20-22; Zechariah the son of Jehoiada, not to be confused with Zechariah the prophet; still, this Zechariah was a man of God, stoned for speaking truth),
- Were sawn asunder (Purported by many to be the prophet Isaiah),
- Were tempted (In a multitude of ways you can be sure),
- Were slain with the sword (See Jeremiah 26:20-23; Urijah the prophet; also, the many prophets who were slain by the sword by Ahab and Jezebel, 1 Kings 19:1-10),
- Wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins (How's that for comfortable/fashionable clothing?!),
- Were destitute (Think penniless),
- Were afflicted (Think severe pain and suffering),
- Were tormented (Remember that ancient methods of torment were absolutely gruesome).

This is just one verse that shows how terribly they were treated! And yet, these faithful men of God could hold on to the hope that they would be found faithful, and would enter into the joy of our Lord in Heaven! If they could find hope and joy in those circumstances, then certainly we can find hope and joy, being exceedingly glad, in the various trials that come our way too!