

Good News

From Getwell

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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

Study upon Psalms 10 this week.

- ¹ Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?
- ² The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.
- ³ For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth.
- ⁴ The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.
- ⁵ His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.
- ⁶ He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.
- ⁷ His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity.
- ⁸ He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: his eyes are privily set against the poor.
- ⁹ He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net.
- ¹⁰ He croucheth, and humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones.
- ¹¹ He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it.
- ¹² Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up thine hand: forget not the humble.
- ¹³ Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it.
- ¹⁴ Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless.
- ¹⁵ Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness till thou find none.
- ¹⁶ The LORD is King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of his land.
- ¹⁷ LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:
- ¹⁸ To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress.

Ron Wallace

RON'S REMINDERS



You Should've Seen What Happened SUNDAY!

The view from the pulpit is often interesting. People are so used to watching unresponsive TV, computer screens, tablets, and phones that they forget preachers can see them. After a while, the unexpected becomes common, and he is able to keep his composure through unusual circumstances.

When Christians gather for worship on the Lord's day, something special happens. Their common bond is strengthened as they pour out their gratitude to their Savior. It is a time to worship (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2), rejoice (Psalm 118:24), examine (2 Corinthians 13:5), and fellowship (Acts 2:42-47).

It is the week's beginning and its highlight—nothing else in the next six days equals it. We understand why Paul delayed a journey for seven days so he could worship the Lord on the Lord's day with the Lord's people (Acts 20:6-7).

People of all ages are usually present: babies, children, teens, young adults, families, singles, empty-nest couples, seniors, widows, and widowers. Each comes to express a common love for an uncommon God; each feels a universal thirst for eternal truth. While worship is formal and congregational, it is neither cold nor impersonal—it is "in spirit" (John 4:24).

Since personalities are involved, it can get interesting. This past Lord's day we had an uncommon service. You should have seen what happened.

A BABY CRIED

Occasionally someone frowns when a baby cries in services, but most of us smile. Parents recognize the need to take a child out to avoid disturbing others, but they should never feel self-conscious. We are glad it happens!

What if no baby had cried Sunday? It would have meant there were no babies there, for all babies cry. No church wants to be that quiet—a tomb is quieter than a nursery, but no one wants to worship in a cemetery. A church without children is a church with its best days behind instead of ahead. If no baby had cried Sunday, it might indicate that parents saw no need to train the next generation in the Lord's way (Ephesians 6:4). Good parents want children to learn about God from their first Sunday on planet earth (Matthew 18:1-3; 19:13-14). They do not want them to be able to remember the first time they came to worship. We know they will eventually learn to be quiet, but for now we are glad to hear them.

A SISTER LEFT EARLY FOR WORK

In a perfect world, all businesses would close on Sundays so all could exalt the name of God in worship (Psalm 34:3). We will be completely free from distractions from worship in heaven, but it is not that way on earth. Christians are sometimes forced to make decisions. This sister had to be at work before the service ended.

What to do? She could have skipped the service and told others she had to work. She could have slept in, so she would have plenty of time to get ready and to eat before her shift.

Instead she chose to get up early, be in Bible class, sing God some songs, open her heart in prayer, thank Him for Christ's sacrifice in communion, give Him part of last week's check, and listen to His Word. She sat toward the back to avoid disturbing others when she got up a few minutes before the end. Few saw her priorities (Matthew 6:33; Colossians 3:1-2)—but the preacher did.

PAGES RUSTLED

As the messenger preached the word (2 Timothy 4:2), hearers “searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11). Far from offending him, it was music to his ears. Jesus found the “place where it was written” (Luke 4:17), and so should we. We may joke that the best words in a sermon are “in conclusion,” but most Christians thirst for the word (1 Peter 2:2) and hunger for righteousness (Matthew 5:6). They bring their Bibles, read their Bibles, mark their Bibles, memorize their Bibles, and live by their Bibles.

A SISTER NODDED

No one except the preacher probably noticed, but a faithful sister nodded in agreement with a sermon point. She would not speak out to say “amen” like her husband (1 Corinthians 14:34; 1 Timothy 2:11), but she encouraged the preacher just as much without saying a word. Nods also help others know that the sermon is expressing both the preacher’s convictions and those of other Christians.

A CHILD DREW A PICTURE

Any parent knows that out of the mouths of babes come profound statements. Often a little child has led God’s people (Isaiah 11:6). Most churches can point to young people whose faith is worth imitating by those much older (1 Timothy 4:12).

Last Sunday a child was interested enough to draw a picture of what the preacher was discussing (1 Timothy 3:15). There is nothing so unusual about that— when a visual presentation is made, little eyes always pay attention, and little hands copy words from the PowerPoint.

They may not yet fully comprehend the concepts, but the seed is planted, the foundation is laid, and the base color is on the canvas. One day fruit will ripen, a structure will stand, and a painting will be perfected.

These very notes may become fresh classes and sermons for another generation’s children. Some in pulpits now occasionally use notes written with childish letters on yellowing paper. These lessons have been born again for those who were not born when the notes were taken. The truth never ages; it only needs recycling.

A CHRISTIAN WORSHIPED FOR THE FIRST TIME

Baptized on Tuesday, a young man offered God worship for the first time. God cleansed him from sin, set him in the church, and watched with interest as he bowed his soul in adoration (Acts 22:16; John 4:24). If the Lord delays His return, and the new Christian’s days are prolonged, that is probably only 1 of 6,000 times he will publicly worship his Creator (Hebrews 10:25). It was a beautiful step on a long journey, a first note in a grand symphony.

THOSE FROM “EIGHT TO EIGHTY” COMMITTED TO READ THE BIBLE

Christians may resolve in January to read through the Bible in the New Year, but by June some have fallen behind. On Sunday, more than a hundred agreed to renew their effort. The youngest reader is under eight, reading it for the first time. Perhaps this is the first of fifty or more times this mind will have the cleansing Water of Life purify its recesses. The oldest is past eighty and may be reading it for the last time (Hebrews 9:27; James 4:14).

TEARS FLOWED

Christian love often expresses itself in tears (Luke 19:41; Acts 20:37). God’s word touched good and honest hearts (Luke 8:15). Souls responded to the Lord’s invitation. Joyful tears flowed over one sinner that repented (James 5:16, 19–20). What is going to happen this Sunday? Come and see!