

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
 Study Sunday 10:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

Preacher / bulletin editor:

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“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household,”

—Ephesians 2:19

**Servants during June:**

Songleader: Stanley (2), Larry (9), Dwight (16), Stanley (23), Larry (30)

Reading: Larry; Stanley

Announcements: Larry

Table: Marty, Stanley, Larry

Wednesday Lesson: Stanley (5) Kris (12), Larry (19), Stanley (26)

Lawn Mowing (week starting): Larry (2), Kris (9), Marty (16), Stanley (23), Larry (30)

Area Meetings: Jackson Drive, 6/16-25, John Isaac Edwards; East Albertville, 6/23-28, Greg Gwin; Tri-Cities, 6/23-28, various; Midway, 6/23-28, Jason Shackelford

Hays Mill church of Christ

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The Bible . Examiner

“Examine everything carefully...” —1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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What God Expects of His Family

by Micky Galloway

There is no greater blessing for disciples of Christ than to share together family life as brothers and sisters in the household of God.

Often in the Scriptures the relationship of the family is used to illustrate or describe the church. For example, in Ephesians 2:19 we learn that the Gentiles in Christ were “no more strangers and sojourners, but ye are fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.” Indeed, the church is the family or household of God. There is much to be learned from this analogy.

Different Roles

God is the Father in this spiritual family. It is not an accident that the apostle Paul begins nearly every epistle with the expression, “Grace to you and peace from God our Father,”

cf Rom 1:7; 1 Cor 1:3. Those who have complied with His terms gain entrance into His spiritual family as children. Paul said, “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ,” Gal 3:26,27. As children, we have the relationship to each other as brethren. This demands mutual responsibility, Gal 6:1.

Different Stages Of Growth

Members of God’s family are to “long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,” 1 Pet 2:2. Growth is both commanded and expected, 2 Pet 3:18; Eph 4:14. If we fail to outgrow this baby stage, we will die spiritually. However, as we grow in

Christ, there are some attributes of a child that must be cultivated. Jesus said, "Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven," Mt 18:4. Humility is essential to our growth in Christ.

There are those in God's family who are old enough to know better than what they do. The apostle Peter becomes a classic example. In Acts 2:21, Peter quoted the words of Joel, "...IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." In Acts 10:34,35, Peter had learned "...that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him." Then again in Jerusalem, Peter defended the conversion of the household of Cornelius saying, "The Spirit told me to go with them without misgivings," Acts 11:12; cf 15:7-9. A short time later however, when Peter was at Antioch, Paul "...opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned." Paul explains Peter's hypocrisy, "For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision," Gal 2:11,12. Wasn't Peter old enough to know better than to make such distinction?

In God's family some are weak. Those who are strong are to encourage the weak, Rom 15:1; 1 Thess 5:14. One of our mutual

responsibilities to one another is to build up and encourage. This is one of the purposes of our worshipping together, cf Heb 10:24,25.

Common Characteristics

Perhaps the most common characteristic in the physical family is love for one another. This should be true in the spiritual family, the church. Love of the brethren is commanded by Jesus as a badge of discipleship among disciples, Jn 13:34,35; cf 1 Jn 4:19-21. This unselfish love one for another manifests itself with identifiable characteristics, cf 1 Cor 13:4-7.


Problems

Most families have problems from time to time and so does the family of God. The real issue is what to do when these problems occur. Begin by examining self! This is the instruction to preachers, 1 Tim 4:16, and to elders, Acts 20:28. In fact this is the instruction to all of us. Jesus said, "Be on your guard! If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him," Lk 17:3. Paul said, "Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!" 2 Cor 13:5. Pray about the problem. Indeed, we must pray for one another with the assurance that "The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much," Jas 5:16. Work to restore the one who is the source of the problem, Gal 6:1. Above all, don't spread what you think about the problem. This is nothing but gossip, cf Jas 3:5ff, and makes you a part of the problem.

Blessings of Family Life


To be in the family of God is to be an heir to the riches of the blessings. Paul said that if we are children, then we are "...heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ..." Rom 8:17. James tells us we are heirs of the

kingdom, Jas 2:5. Peter says that we become heirs of eternal life, 1 Pet 1:4,5. Can there be any greater blessings than family life in the spiritual family of God?

—via *Biblical Insights*, Vol. 5, No. 2, Feb. 2005. 

The Importance of Bible Study

by *Frank Himmel*

- The sacred writings are able to give us the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus, 2 Tim 3:15.
- The Scriptures make us complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work, 2 Tim 3:16,17.
- Faith comes by hearing the word of God, Rom 10:17.
- The gospel is God's power to salvation, Rom 1:16.
- Treasuring God's word in our hearts helps us not sin against Him, Psa 119:11.
- Not knowing the Scriptures results in erroneous thinking, Mt 22:29.
- The things written are for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope, Rom 15:4.
- The word of God's grace is able to build us up and give us an inheritance, Acts 20:32.
- The word of God sanctifies us, sets us apart to Him, Jn 17:17.
- The truth contained in the Bible makes us free, Jn 8:32.
- The word of God lives and abides forever, 1 Pet 1:22-25.
- The words of Jesus will judge us at the last day, Jn 12:48 

Remember in Prayer

We thank God that **Hazel** continues to do better, and has been moved again; this time to Goldton in Athens, Rm "111 Market St W"! **Mike B** has had more tests, and may soon have information about a heart valve trial. Larry and Shane's daughter

Emily has had issues possibly related to a spider bite, but appears to be getting better.

Please continue to pray for those brethren we know and love, including **Carolyn; Betty; Kathy Mitchell; and the Pollard Family.** 