

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday evening*  
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

**Preacher / bulletin editor:**

Kris Vilander, (256) 472-1065

**E-mail:** kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org

**Website:** www.haysmillchurchofchrist.org

*“Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!”*

—Romans 7:24,25a

**Servants during July/August:**

**Songleader:** Dwight (7/28), Stanley (8/4), Larry (11), Dwight (18), Stanley (25)

**Reading:** Mike M (Jul); Larry (Aug)

**Announcements:** Stanley (Jul); Marty (Aug)

**Table:** Larry, Marty, Mike M (Jul); Mike M, Larry, Stanley (Aug)

**Wednesday Lesson:** Larry (7/31), Stanley (8/7), Kris (14), Larry (21), Stanley (28)

**Lawn Mowing (week starting):** Larry (7/28), Kris (8/4), Marty (11), Stanley (18), Larry (25)

**Area Meetings:**

**Piney Grove,** 28-31, Bryan Gibson;

**Parkway,** 28-8/2, Terry Benton;

**Jennings Chapel,** 28-8/2, Bill Hall;

**Sandlin Road,** 7/31, Tony Hudson

**Hays Mill church of Christ**

21705 Hays Mill Road  
 Elkmont, AL 35620

# The Bible . Examiner

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

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## STRUGGLE

*by Terry Francis*

The verb “struggle” is defined as “to proceed with difficulty or with great effort.” The noun “struggle” is defined as “an act of strong motivated striving.” That’s a good description of life—or at least my life. We spend our lives struggling with life.

I struggle with being a good person. I struggle with being a good husband, father, neighbor, friend, and Christian example. I don’t always say the right things. I don’t always do the right things. I don’t always do what I know I should or even what I say I will do. It’s not that I want to fall so short. I just do. And that causes more struggle. That sounds somewhat familiar though...

“For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells

within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin,” Rom 7:18-24, ESV.


Paul struggled just like me. He was frustrated with his struggle... just like me. It even appears there were days that he almost felt like the struggle was too much... just like me.

Paul asks the question, “Who will deliver me?” Thankfully, he provides the answer: “Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I

serve the law of sin,” Rom 7:25. Thankfully, there is hope. Through Jesus I can overcome my struggles.

It is important to remember when we are lost in the “struggle” of life that God loves and cares for us, 1 Pet 5:7. He wants to help us overcome the struggle and even works in us to accomplish that task,

Eph 2:8-10. There are days Satan uses our emotional response to our struggles to cause us to forget these important truths. But we must always remember God is on our side. He wants us to overcome.

As you go through the struggle of life, cling to God. He will see carry you through. 

## Did I Say That?

by Teddy Horton

Sometimes folks say things that just make you want to scratch your head and wonder if you heard or read correctly. Here’s but a few examples of those kinds of remarks that tend to demonstrate the dangers of ill-advised articulating.

- “I’ve now been in 57 states—I think one left to go.” —*Barack Obama*
- “I have opinions of my own—strong opinions—but I don’t always agree with them.” —*George Bush*
- “Don’t fear the terrorists. They’re mothers and fathers.” —*Rosie O’Donnel*
- “If you’re killed, you’ve lost a very important part of your life.” —*Brooke Shields*
- “If we do everything right, if we do it with absolute certainty, there’s still a 30% chance we’re going to get it wrong.” —*Joe Biden*

- “I think religion is a neurological disorder.” —*Bill Maher*
- “I stand by all the misstatements that I’ve made.” —*Al Gore*

Miriam-Webster defines “misstate” as “to state incorrectly: give a false account of.” Now, given that a “misstatement” is “incorrect” or “false”, I’ve got to hand it to the former VP for pure gumption. Sure seems to me that any statement that’s “incorrect” or “false” would be pretty hard to stand by; Might just be there’s some considerably harder than others.

Take the apostle Peter, for example. He will forever be (in)famous for “misstatements” such as, “Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended,” Mt 26:33, and following that right up with the equally misstated, “I do not know the man,” v72.

But way before then, in a less troubled time, circumstance, and

place, Peter was responsible for another really big “misstatement”. Maybe not one so well known as some others but still one more than worthy of consideration. The scene was the Mount of Transfiguration and Peter, along with James and John, was witness to Moses, Elijah, and Jesus standing together. He saw three of the greatest men of God in one spot and came up with a not so good (really bad) idea.

“Peter said to Jesus, ‘Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tabernacles, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah,’” Mk 9:5.

And then Mark threw in the fact that Peter said this because... “he (Peter, that is) did not know what to answer;” Mk 9:6a, and that they (Peter, James and John) “were terrified,” Mk 9:6b.

Not knowing “what to answer” and “terrified” notwithstanding, Peter may have uttered his greatest


“misstatement” of all by wanting to give Moses, Elijah, and Jesus equal treatment. God provided the answer Peter didn’t have.

“Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, ‘This is My beloved Son, listen to Him,’” Mk 9:7!

Now, you might rightly argue for your own choice of the greatest “misstatement” of all time whether it be Al Gore’s, Peter’s, or whoever else’s you choose.

You cannot, however, argue about the place of Jesus. Moses and Elijah cannot take it. Neither can Mohammad, Buddha, or Confucius. Nor can any other man who’s ever lived.

Peter made no defense. He made no excuses. He made no attempt to “stand by his misstatement.” He simply accepted the truth when he heard it from the mouth of the Lord.

How much better would the world be if everyone did just that? 

## Remember in Prayer

**Mike B** is considering heart surgery, and will shortly be starting a new round of chemotherapy.

Our nation, as well as our national, state, and local leaders, continue to stand in great need of prayer. Common sense does not seem common and integrity not as integral

as they once were in American society—but that doesn’t mean you or I personally are doing any better, Rom 7.

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