

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:

Kris Vilander, (256) 472-1065

E-mail: kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org

Website: www.haysmillchurchofchrist.org

“But put on the Lord
Jesus Christ and
make no provision
for the flesh in
regard to its
lusts,”

—Romans 13:14



Servants during March:

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

Reading: Stanley

Announcements: Larry

Table: Mike M, Marty, Stanley

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

Area Meetings:

Hwy 157 (Cullman), 2-5, Ken Sils;
Capshaw, 2-5, Jason Shackelford;
Westview (Hartselle), 2-5, Brody Gill;
Jackson Drive, 16-21, Steven McCrary;
Anderson, 16-19, Bill Hall;
Danville Road, 16-19, Jared Hagan

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road
Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

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

Volume 7

March 2, 2025

Number 39

“Make No Provision for The Flesh”

By Frank Himmel

How do we win the fight against fleshly lusts? Several answers come to mind. Pray. Fill your heart with God’s word. Fill your time with spiritually beneficial activities. Associate with people who will influence you for good. In Romans 13:14 Paul identifies another key: “But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.”

To make provision for something is to think ahead, to make plans, to provide opportunities. Paul’s word literally means forethought. Its other occurrence is in Acts 24:2, where

the lawyer Tertullus praised Felix, the governor, because through his “providence” beneficial reforms were occurring throughout the land.

Obviously, making no provision for the flesh requires that we not plan ways of fulfilling illegitimate carnal lusts. But it goes beyond that. It requires that we think ahead and, when possible, avoid even the opportunity for such conduct. Here is the principle in action.

Teens, when you are planning a date, make no provision for fleshly lusts. Do not go to movies that glorify sensuality and

fornication, and thereby arouse desire. Stay away from dances for the same reason. Be selective about parties; skip those where alcohol is featured. Avoid dark, lonely sites that provide the occasion for unchaste behavior.

Parents, when arranging your homes, make no provision for fleshly lusts. It may make me unpopular in some circles to say so, but when you allow your kids to have televisions, phones, and internet-connected computers in their bedrooms, you are providing a world of possibilities for wrong conduct.

Families, when you are purchasing in-home entertainment, make no provision for fleshly lusts. If you don't subscribe to cable or satellite channels which air nudity and "adult" content, there will be no opportunity for any family member to watch it. If you refuse to listen to profanity, you will be much less likely to speak it.

Shoppers, when you are choosing your clothes, make no provision for fleshly lusts. Plenty of modest choices exist for those concerned about such things. Err on the side of caution. Don't underestimate the appeal of exposed or accentuated flesh.

Brethren, when you place membership at a congregation, make no provision for fleshly lusts. Realize up front that you won't always get your way; that others may be more talented than you; that we are all working together for the same cause. Remind yourself of that often and give thanks for your brethren.

If you want to know what this last point is doing here, read Paul's illustrations of fleshly conduct in Romans 13:13. Let's not deceive ourselves into thinking that strife, jealousy, and bickering are any less carnal or any less sinful than drunkenness or fornication. No matter the sin, make no provision for fleshly lusts. 📖

around you, regardless of whether it is favorable or not? Do you always demand the truth from those who preach and teach the gospel of Christ?

The truth pleased the rich young ruler until Jesus told him the one thing he lacked, Mk 10:17-22. Some would call such a declaration of truth unloving, but the Spirit called it love (note v21). How do we feel when someone courageously and honestly points out our shortcomings, Prov 27:6?

Some of the Jews who heard Peter on Pentecost appreciated the truth, though it indicted them. They chose repentance and baptism, Acts 2:36-40. Whereas those Jews who heard Stephen speak that same truth hated what was spoken. They responded by stoning Stephen to death, Acts 7:54-60. How do we respond to the truth?

The Galatians loved the apostle Paul—so much that at one point they were willing to pluck out their own eyes and give them to Paul. However, in the very next verse, Paul was compelled to ask if he had become their enemy because he told them the truth, Gal 4:14-16. Do we despise those who tell us what we need to hear?

Simply stated, unless we have a love of the truth, we will never appreciate the truths that hurt, 2 Thess 2:10-12. Unless we are willing to accept painful truths, we cannot know the sanctifying power of truth, Jn 17:17. Unless we obey the truth, we will be condemned, Rom 2:8.

How much do you appreciate truth? The answer is painfully obvious when we are confronted with agonizing truths that require change in our lives. Change hurts, but the truth saves. How will you respond the next time you are confronted with the truth? 📖

Don't forget: Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 9th!

Remember in Prayer

Mike B is in HH W&C ICU, but he is alert and no longer on a ventilator! **Mark Horton** has returned home after treatments for prostate and bone cancers.

Please continue to pray for

Barbara; Betty; Carolyn; Faye; Hazel; Joshua V; Vickie H; Kathy M; Kaylee and Violet; Deborah and Serenity; Pam; and the Pollard Family. 📖

The Truth Sometimes Hurts

By Jonathan Perz

How much do you appreciate the truth? The truth is easy to hear when it is flattering, encouraging,

and uplifting. However, the truth can sometimes hurt. Do you always desire the truth from those