

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Lannie Key

Opening Prayer: Josh Berryhill

On the Table: Head - David Key
Servers - Ralph Burleson
Greg Lowery
Blake Eddy

Closing Prayer: Charles Berryhill

Preparing the Lord's Supper Katie Berryhill

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Leonard Key / David Key

Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

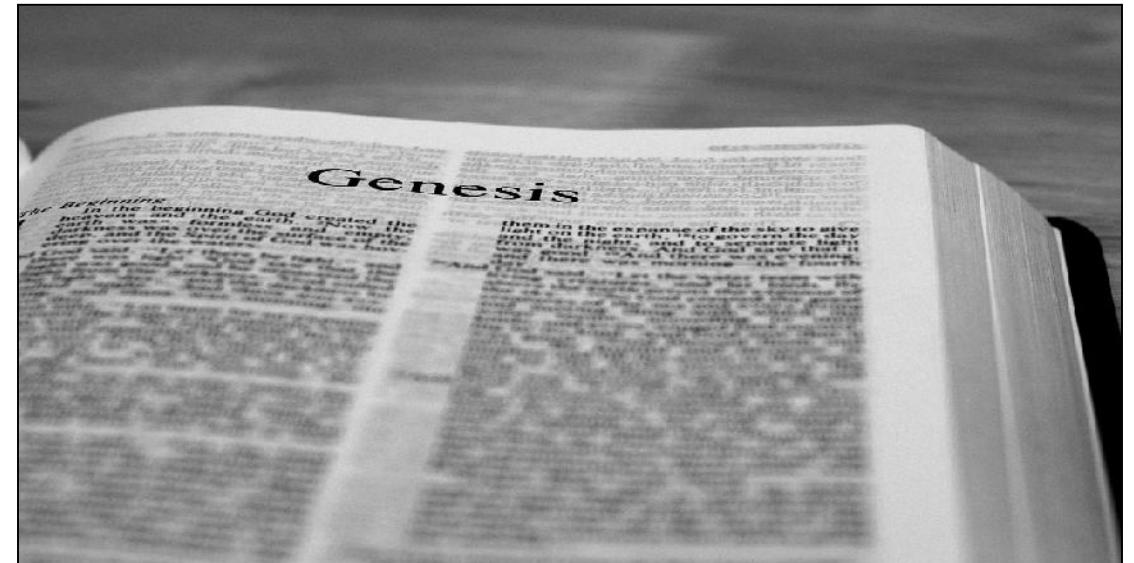
Minister: Greg Lowery

Contact Information:

Phone: (205) 465-9142

Brilliant Church of Christ
930 Main Street
P.O. Box 222
Brilliant, AL 35548

Remember The Rainbow



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



Don't Take it Personal

By Kevin Cauley

Have you ever felt like you just cared too much? Sometimes we do better when we are disinterested in than when we deeply care. Why? This is an emotional phenomenon known as attachment: when we identify with it to the point of ownership. We take everything said or done about the subject “personally.” If a decision is made against our desires, it deeply offends us, and we find ourselves obsessing. Instead, we need to be detached understanding that we can still care without letting it become personal.

Something like this happened to Samuel when the Israelites asked him for a king. First Samuel 8:6-7 says, “But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, ‘Give us a king to judge us.’ So Samuel prayed to the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.’” God’s response teaches us a couple of things.

First, we should not be so upset over losing something that we get depressed about it. Christians must rejoice in the Lord (Phil.4:4) and let Christ’s joy remain in us (John 14:11). We can’t do that if we allow earthly defeats to push out our joy.

Second, God wants us to remember that all things belong to Him. Psalm 24:1 states, “The earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.”

There is nothing that I truly possess in this life; it all belongs to God. I can never really lose anything, and there’s no reason for me to “take things personally.” Rejoice always because God is in control.

Obtained at: www.churchofchristarticles.com

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Patty Berryhill: having problems with a hernia, please pray that the doctors can help her with this problem

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Buddy Frazier: undergoing cancer treatments, please keep him in your prayers

Hunter Coal Corkren: treating his kidney problem with medicine, please be praying that this problem clears up with this treatment

Felicia Berryhill: she is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that she will be able to receive the right medical treatment to help her

Angie Ganey Gardner: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

David Warren: he is fighting cancer, please be praying that his cancer will be defeated

Bobby Sanderson: continues to improve, please pray he has no further problems

Gunner Pendley: recovering from severe brain injury, please keep him and family in your prayers

Janet Spann: has severe COPD and other health problems, please keep her and her family in your prayers

Tommy Housh: diagnosed with bladder cancer, please pray that they will be able to successfully defeat this cancer

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Tammy Dodd: recovering from recent stroke, please pray she makes a full recovery

Jeff Upton (Donna Martin's Co-worker): weakness in his legs, please pray that this will improve

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please pray that she will improve

Ren Garrison (Donna Martin's Nephew): is still dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that this issue will be dealt with successfully

Tyler Upton: is now home recovering, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Winfred York: doctor said he was able to remove all the cancer from his bladder, please continue to pray for him and Mrs. Vertie

Larry Eads: (member at Carbon Hill) diagnosed with stage 4 esophagus cancer, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Jack Willis (Meg Rutledge's Father) is fighting cancer, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

Carl Dunlap: seizures under control and now he can get help for his back, please continue to keep him in your prayers

Celia Grace Hamlett (3 year old): biopsies came back cancer they are doing blood studies to confirm; let us pray that the results are negative and that she is cancer free

Nelle Fraizer (Lellie's Sister); she has some ongoing health problems

Dawn Cagle (Donna Martian's niece): waiting for results to see if she has breast cancer

Never changing, forever changed

“Two things you need to carry with you all your life: God is, and God loves you. No matter where you are or what you are doing, these two things will always remain true.” This was advice I gave my oldest two weeks ago in some precious one-on-one time. He repeated it back to me today without prompt, and told me he was trying to work to remember it.

I share this to remind us all that there are things that will never change. Over the history of the universe the one constant is God.

The great psalm of the law-giver speaks of God's never changing nature:

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God (Psalm 90:1, 2).

God's nature does not alter. He will always be the everlasting God. He does not tire, he does not weary of our petitions, and he does not get short with us after a frustrating day (see Isaiah 40:28; 1 Timothy 1:17; 2 Timothy 2:13).

God's mind does not waiver. His word, which was settled in his mind before man existed, stands forever (Psalm 33:11). While our minds may change from day to day, God's never will (Proverbs 19:21). Because God can declare the end from the beginning, he is never surprised (Isaiah 46:10).

And because of God's unalterable nature, and unwavering mind, his promises never fail. God's faithfulness to his people endures forever (Psalm 119:90). Have hope for God cannot lie (Hebrews 6:18); therefore, “He who promised is faithful” (Hebrews 10:23).

While we can take great comfort in our never changing God, we ourselves must change.

The Christian life is in many respects about change. I remember Jody Apple saying the Bible's message can often be reduced to these three statements: “Here is where you are. Here is where you need to be. Move!”

The Christian walk begins with change. Many are the passages which describe a new life or a new creation (see 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:1-10).

In addition to the immediate change that occurs when one puts on Christ, the Christian is commanded to grow. It is the will of God that each Christian grow, and by that growth each congregation will grow (Ephesians 4:11-16). Peter’s last admonition was an encouragement to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus (2 Peter 3:18).

God expected that we should grow using the word of God to direct us. But it would be foolish indeed to ignore circumstances that might help push us toward this growth.

Are there lessons to learn and benefits to behold in this new reality? I believe there are many. Before all this is over, I pray that we will find as many lessons as possible. Here are a few that you might consider.

May we return to an unhurried life.

Our lives are full. We stuff them full of activities, responsibilities, and distractions. Often, that results in anxious living. We rush from one thing to another. Jesus lived a purposeful but unhurried life. May we see what is truly important and devote ourselves to it (see Luke 10:38-42).

May we maintain a prayerful life.

Have your prayer habits changed over the last week or two? I will admit that mine have. It is natural for uncertainty to cause us to turn to God. But when these troubling days end will our prayer life end as well? Let it not be! Jesus prayed alone and in groups, earnestly and consistently, and occasionally he prayed throughout the night (see Mark 1:35; 6:46; Luke 6:12; John 17). We are told to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17). May we continue to be a people devoted to prayer.

May we sustain a shared life.

The church in the first century cared for one another daily, not just on Sunday. While the circumstances surrounding the actions of the early church in Acts 2:42-47 and Acts 4:32 are not parallel to the circumstances of today, the differences may not be as stark now as they were a month ago. As this crisis is driving people to isolate themselves from others, I believe the church is demonstrating true love and compassion for others. I see Christians communicating more now than three weeks ago. Concern for our elderly has increased. Offers to shop, to care for children, to run errands, or to help around the house are flowing on social media.

I pray that we are forever changed in our relationships with one another. When the days come when we fill our lives full, may we fill them with the priorities of God. When the days come when this present danger has passed, may we continue our prayers. And when the days come when we can embrace again, may we take full advantage and never take for granted the blessing.

Many strange days are ahead. The situation changes from day to day. Rest in God’s unchanging grace, and be forever changed by the lessons we learn.

Obtained at: www.forthright.net

For Your Notes