

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: David Key

Opening Prayer: Al Corkren

On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery
Servers - Eddie Dickinson
Bradley Box
Josh Berryhill

Closing Prayer: Ralph Burleson

Preparing the Lord's Supper Mary Eddy

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
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Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

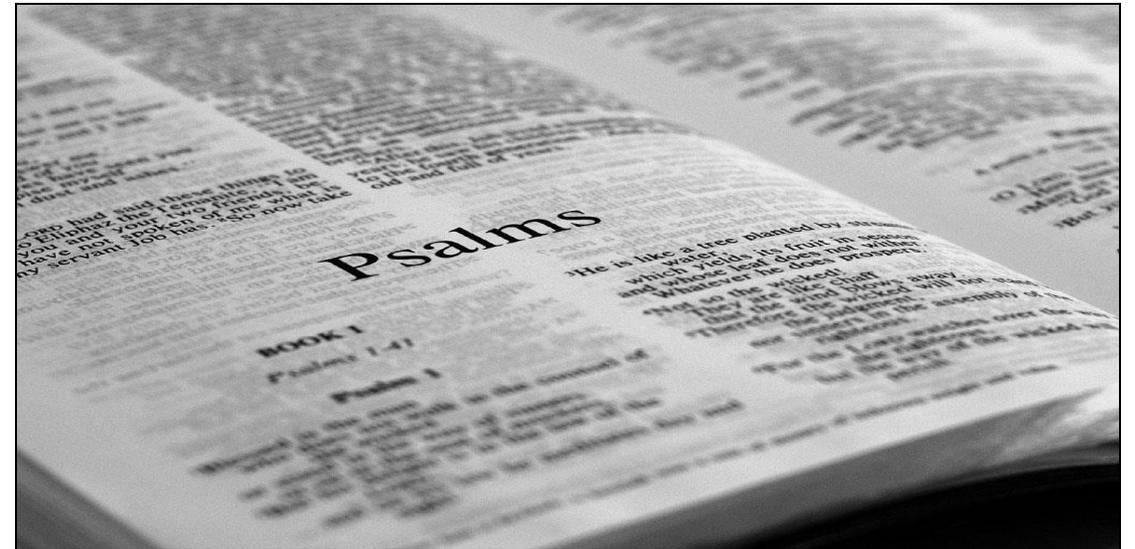
Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Minister: Greg Lowery

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Phone: (205) 465-9142

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Dwelling In The House of The Lord



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



God Will Be With You

By Robert Johnson

There’s no telling what a person carries within him or herself. No one really knows the pains one has experienced in life, how much one has suffered or how deep the hurt may go. No one knows through what a person is going while not giving up. If we are really honest, no matter the front we all may have before others, everyone has had matters in life that can be termed negative, hard, heartbreaking and discouraging. No one is immune to trials and temptations; how each one deals with what such brings to life is what makes us unique.

Those issues of life that bring such to a person may not always have to be life-threatening or fall in a severe category. We can be towers of strength at one time, but at another time, we may break down over similar matters. The cumulative effect of trials can wear one down as well. How much seems to be too much can depend on a great many factors, but it happens. Even some of God’s most faithful servants at times found themselves discouraged and in need of strength. Elijah needed God to help him regain a positive outlook on his ministry (1 Kings 19:4). The apostle Paul had times in his life when God encouraged him not to give up (Acts 18:9; 23:11).

Not letting go of God is a key ingredient in finding one’s way out of the struggles of life. Satan’s great tool of discouragement is often tied to the deception that God doesn’t care, that He isn’t faithful to His promises and that a person must go it alone. We will face defeat if we try to live only in our own strength, rather than in the strength of the Lord (Ephesians 3:16). Jesus is with us always (Matthew 28:20). God never leaves us or forsakes us (Hebrews 13:5). He gives us each other for support and encouragement (Hebrews 10:24). “The One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world” (1 John 4:4).

We must be careful how we approach others who wrestle with the issues of life as they seek to live the Christian life. We don’t know what it’s like to be other people, to have their life experiences, their feelings or their weaknesses. No matter how deep the pain may be or the degree of suffering one experiences, God is always there, offering His help to overcome. “If God is for us, who is against us?” (Romans 8:31).

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ruth Addison: ongoing health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Glynda Long: she is fighting stage 4 colon cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Don Lawrence: recovering from knee replacement, please be praying that he has a successful recovery

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Celia Grace Hamlett, daughter of Gary and Kassie Hamlett, was diagnosed with MLD(Metachromatic Leukodystrophy); planning on gene replacement treatment; please pray that these treatments will be successful.

Virgie McMillan (mother of Ann Box: dealing with complications from a recent stroke, please keep her in your prayers

Karen Chaffin: has had fainting spells, please pray that the doctors can determine what is wrong and that she will have no serious problems

Pray for all those dealing with COVID especially those of the household of faith.

Pam Braden: she is dealing with some ongoing health problems, please pray that those working with her can help her

Bill Berryhill: scans revealed cancer top of his hip; please be praying that treatments will be successful in defeating this cancer

Patty Berryhill: recovering from recent blockage removal, please pray that she has no further problems

We can find that help in prayer, in His Word, in serving, in worship, in fellowship and in all that keeps our focus on Him and eternity. Isolation, turning ourselves inward, only allows Satan to exploit our fears and doubts. We should never sever our relationship with God, who offers us His help if we come to Him, trust Him and take advantage of what He provides.

Our challenge in all this is to allow God be God in our lives. Don't be surprised that, if God isn't an integral part of your life, worldliness and discouragement will win battles you face. We weren't meant to go it alone. Even Paul, writing to Timothy in his last letter, awaiting what would turn out to be his demise, could say, "At my first defense, no one stood by me, but everyone deserted me. May it not be counted against them. But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me" (2 Timothy 4:16-17). No matter what, the Lord will stand with us. May we encourage each other to remain committed in our faith, to have confidence in God and each other, and to know He is working His purposes out in our lives, for that which will last an eternity. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; think about Him in all your ways, and He will guide you on the right paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Obtained at: www.gospelgazette.com

Light Shows the Way to Jesus

By Gary C. Hampton

Most people know the wise men saw a star in the East that caused them to go to Jerusalem seeking the child who would be King of the Jews. The chief priests and scribes were aware of Micah's prophecy that he would be born in Bethlehem. The star went ahead of the wise men to the town of our Lord's birth (Matthew 2:1-12).

Today, people do not find Jesus by following a star, but they should be able to follow the light to find the Savior. Paul directed the Philippian saints, "Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world" (Philippians 2:14-15). The word "lights" literally means "luminaries." Our light, like that of the sun, moon and stars, comes from God.

Jesus commanded His followers to let their lights shine through their good works so His Father would be glorified (Matthew 5:14-16). Paul said he was a slave in service to the Christians at Corinth preaching Christ Jesus the Lord. He went on to explain that he did it "for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shown in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:5-6).

Our task is to be a light for the many who are lost in the darkness of sin. We must proclaim the Gospel, telling about a Savior who died on the cross and was raised from the dead. Our message will only be heard and accepted if our lives demonstrate we have abandoned the darkness of sin and now shine by the power of our Almighty Father.

Obtained at: www.gospelgazette.com

Don't Grow Weary of Doing Good

By Thomas Baxley

Let's take a second and be honest about something: Doing good can be very hard. This is not to say that it's hard to know what "good" is, but simply that doing good things can be challenging. It's hard to find motivation to do a good job when the rest of your team doesn't care and doesn't try.

Unfortunately, you constantly get lumped in with everyone else's bad work. It's tiresome doing things for people who never say, "Thank you," and never return the favor, especially when you have gone out of your way to help. Times like these are when character and integrity are important. We do good because of who we are, not because of the people for whom we do good.

As Christians, we represent Jesus. We work hard and we serve others because of who He is and what He has done for us. What we always need to remember is that when we work, we do so for the Lord (Colossians 3:23), and when we serve others, we are serving Jesus (Matthew 25:31-46).

Don't grow weary in doing good. Keep things in perspective and keep moving forward. "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (Galatians 6:9 NKJV; cf., 2 Thessalonians 3:13).

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