

Announcements and Church News

Our Sick

Joyce Feazell had breathing issues but is feeling better; Yashika Williams for covid 19; Tim Adams treatment for bacteria in lungs; Teresa Broyles for cancer trmt and liver biopsy this week; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Sandy Caldwell, Fran Barclay and Nancy VanWinkle for health issues.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

Tom George—awaiting hernia surgery; Mattie Simmons niece Melissa Hicks is out of ICU with covid-19; Kim Taylor's relative Melody for heart issues; The Follis's friend Ed for kidney transplant; The Bernhardt's relative Dustin/colon issues; Dianne Stewart's brother, Bobby Goodfield; Van Stewart's aunt Linda Parsons for health issues; The Stingles niece's baby; Paula Davis niece for lupus; Carol Mitchell's mother, Mary; Pat Ledford's brother Tom; Jim and Val Clark request prayers for Delilah and Larry Roberts and Tyra Tackett.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER:

Edna Cudal's cousin Jeannette Greer; The Herman's friend Debbie Cherryholmes; Debbie Methvin's friend Debbie Decker; Van Stewart's sister Tracey and cousin Paula; Penny Bevaqua's sister Pam; Ronnie Sommerville's dad, Ron; Kim Taylor's mother, Jayne; Chad and Tiffany Broyles neighbor Neil; Joyce Feazell's sister Donna; The Harris' daughter Kim; Mattie Simmons friend William; Sandy Caldwell's bro-in-law Larry.

INMATES:

Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

OUR SERVICE MEN:

Sam Wagner and cousin Mark Wagner (Navy)
Austin Reyes (Marine Corp)

Remember Our Shut-ins

At Home: Winston Sandlin

Activities

Ladies Bible Study— On Tuesday, April 27th at 7PM Live Stream through the Facebook Group: FSOP Ladies Class. Flyers are in in the foyer.

Placed Membership—We welcome Dyianna Thompson to our family at Central. Please add her information to your directory: 11945 143rd St, Unit 7124, Largo, FL 33774-2953; Phone: 727-307-5701.

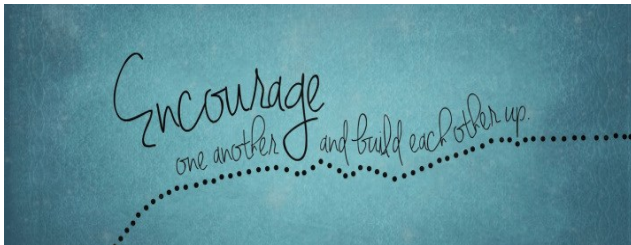
Sympathy—We were saddened to learn that Ken Taylor passed away last Sunday evening. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Kim Taylor and all of the family. A memorial for Ken will be held at the building on Saturday, May 1st at 4:00pm.

Sympathy— Our deepest sympathy to winter visitors Ron and Tydie DeLong for the loss of Tydie's sister, Linda Smith on April 17th. Their address can be found on the Christian Service List.

Foyer Table—The *Calendar* and *The Schedule of Those To Serve* for May can be found on the foyer table, also the *Financial Report* for March.

Spiritual Sword—The latest issue just arrived and can be found on the foyer table. The theme of this issue is: *A Soul Winner For Jesus*. Please be sure to pick up a copy.

Reminder—The weekly sermons are available on CD, our website and also livestream on Facebook Sundays at 10:30 and 5:00pm and Wednesday at 7:00pm. If you need the Bulletin, Christian Service List, Calendar or the Membership Directory please call the office — 727-446-4808.



CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 25, 2021
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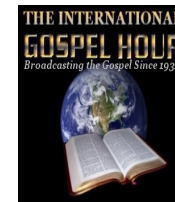


Gospel Broadcasting Network
http://gbntv.org

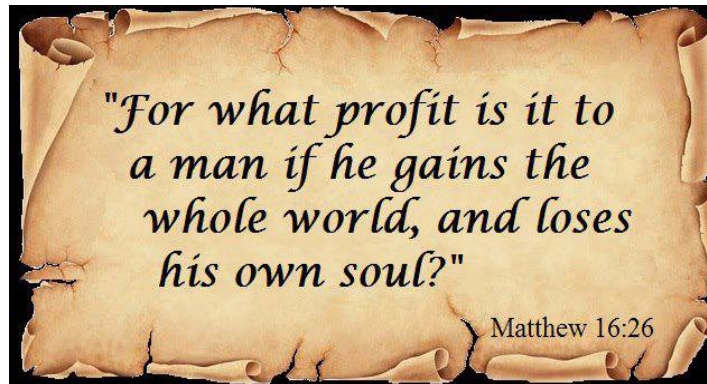
Bi-Monthly Publication



TV Channel 44 (WTOG) at 7:30am Sunday watch & hear Phil Sanders - Speaker.



WTIS (1110 kHz) at 7:30 am Sunday hear Jeff Archey as speaker.



Elders:

Joe Bonelli
Charles Broyles
James George

Deacons:

Max Herman — Jim Follis
Chad Broyles — Matthew Kropp

Preacher: **Charles Broyles**

Office: 727-446-4808 Cell #: 423-240-9075

Sunday Bible Study
Postponed
Charles Broyles

Sunday AM Worship—10:30
Facebook Live
Charles Broyles
You Can't Win When God Is Against You
Judges 2:1-2

Pew Packers
Postponed

Sunday PM Worship—5:00
Facebook Live
Charles Broyles

What Does It Mean to Follow Jesus?
Matthew 16:24-26

Ladies Bible Study
Postponed

Wed. Bible Study—7:00PM
Facebook Live



From the Preacher's Pen

BUILDING CHARACTER THROUGH TRIBULATION

“And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope.” Romans 5:3-4, KJV

It is interesting to read other translations on this section of verses. For example, “And not only so, but we also rejoice in our tribulations: knowing that tribulation worketh steadfastness; and steadfastness, approvedness; and approvedness, hope:” (Rom. 5:3-4, ASV). Again, “Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,” (Rom. 5:3-4, ESV). Regardless of how various translations translate the original words into English, there is a link of qualities here that show a benefit from the Christian suffering the pressures of life. Consider the three qualities mentioned and their strengths in building character.

1. Overcoming in Endurance. The first quality mentioned is “patience” (KJV), “steadfastness” (ASV) or “endurance” (ESV). The original word denotes the idea of to remain or abide under. Thayer says of the word “steadfastness, constancy, endurance; in the N.T. the characteristic of a man who is unswerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings” (Thayer, p. 644). It is what a child develops through the discipline of a parent (cf. Heb. 12:7). It is the quality that a runner has in order to finish a race (cf. Heb. 12:1-2). The Christian does not focus on the suffering but on the product that comes through the struggle. Any tough task or situation demands that the character of endurance be present. Quitting is not an option for the Christian. All must say like Paul “I have finished my course” (2 Tim. 4:7).

2. Obtaining Excellence. The next quality to arise is “experience” (KJV), “approvedness” (ASV), or “character” (ESV). The original word literally denotes the result of having been put to the test and found of passing quality. It is seen in metallurgy of the trying of metals. Peter writes of such, where he said, “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:” (1 Peter 1:7). Here is the refined life. Here is where one is made better through the training needed to improve the body, mind and soul. The Christian is here striving to be all that he/she can be through the grace and providence of God.

3. Optimistic in Expectation. The third quality is hope. This term involves an expectation to obtain what is offered to the faithful, enduring child of God. There are no doubts and wavering here. Thayer says of this original word translated hope, “expectation of good, hope; and in the Christian sense, joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation” (Thayer, pp. 205- 206). The Christian has such an attribute because his/her faith and confidence is in “the God of hope” (Rom. 15:13). Hope is a quality of one’s personal salvation (cf. Rom. 8:24). The child of God holds his head high through the trials of life knowing that God will make something of him in this life through the suffering and give

the faithful salvation in the end. It is no wonder that David wrote, “O love the Lord, all ye his saints: for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer. Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord” (Ps. 31:23-24).
—Jimmy Clark

TO FIND TRUTH—LISTEN TO JESUS, NOT THEOLOGIANs

Dan Jenkins

Centuries ago, theologians decided that little children are sinners, and therefore they must be baptized so their sins can be forgiven. When one believes this false idea, the obvious conclusion is that an infant who dies in his infancy and has not been baptized (usually by having water sprinkled on him) cannot go to heaven. This is not what the Bible teaches but is what theologians convinced many Christians to believe. Are children who die in infancy doomed to go to an eternal hell?

To see that this doctrine is not found in the Bible, consider the Bible definition of sin which separates one from God (Isa. 59:1-2). How does the Bible define sin? Listen to the words of God. “Sin is the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4, KJV). Using this definition, the obvious question to be asked is what sin had a newborn baby committed? Has he put some other God ahead of Jehovah God? Has he created a graven image to worship? Has he taken the name of the Lord in vain? Has he dishonored his parents? Is he guilty of being a thief? Has he committed adultery? Has that newborn told a lie or coveted anything? The answer is obvious. What law of God has a newborn broken?

The theologians realized that a helpless newborn could not actively violate God’s teaching, so as they developed their theology, they came to the conclusion that babies inherit the sins of Adam and Eve. They created a new concept—one not found in the Bible—that a baby’s sin is not an action but an inheritance.

What does the Bible say about this? God so clearly gives us the answer. The Jews in Ezekiel used a proverb about how a father ate sour grapes and his children had that bitter taste in their mouth. God rebuked them saying, “As I live you shall no longer use this proverb in Israel” (Ezek. 18:3). The father’s actions do not determine the destiny of the child. The theologians were wrong! “The soul who sins shall die...The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son” (Ezek. 18:4, 20). Ancient Jewish theologians were wrong as are more modern “Christian” theologians. The very basis of infant baptism is destroyed. Babies have no sin, and therefore do not need to be baptized for the remission of sins.

How does Jesus describe the spiritual nature of little children? “Of such is the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 19:14). To enter the kingdom of heaven we must “...become as little children” (Matt. 18:3). The greatest in the kingdom is the one “...who humbles himself as this little child” (Matt. 18:4). Oh, how our world would be drastically changed if religious people quit listening to theologians, priests, bishops and pastors as they tell their thoughts and just listen to Jesus!