FEBRUARY 23, 2020



PREACHER-SHEPHERD DR. JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR



COMMENTARY CORNER: GIVING SERIES 2020: "WHEN GRACE ABOUNDS—2: THE GOSPEL OF CHIRST AND LIBERAL DISTRIBUTION" For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men" (2 Cor. 9:12–13).

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esus spoke with admiration of many people who came to him while he walked this earth. These admired and commended persons were especially noteworthy because they often were not those whom we ordinarily expect to be lauded and praised. Their behaviors, however, resulting from an encounter with the man who is still today the focus of the gospel, became exemplary for their generation and ours.

A Syrophenician woman did not come to Jesus as one believing she was worthy of his presence and concern. But she was willing to ask for his mercies in behalf of her daughter who was victim to a demon (Mark 7:25–26). She approached Jesus, falling at his feet. And when Jesus suggested that the children of Israel, first, were the children to whom he commented: "for the children of this had come, she explained that the dogs eat world are in their generation wiser than of the crumbs that fall from the children's the children of light (16:8). table (Mark 7:28). Commending her saying (7:29), Jesus assures her that the demon had gone out of her daughter. Who would have expected such insightful faith and persistence from this woman?

A soldier, a centurion, also expressed great understanding and faith. He had a servant who was sick. When Jesus said that he would come and heal him, the centurion asked that Jesus only speak the word and his servant would be healed (Matt 8:8). He explained to Jesus, "For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it" (Matt 8:9). When

Jesus heard the man he marveled saying, "I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel" (Matt 8:10). Again, extraordinary faith and confidence are expressed in Jesus by both the Syrophenician woman and the centurion. More than this, Jesus responds to them, according to their great faith (Matt 8:13; Mark 7:29).

Jesus even found occasion to agree with the commendation of an unjust steward. This steward settled his lord's books by giving discounts to his lord's debtors (Luke 16:5–7). It appears that the and that one should be thanked and glounjust steward was better at assuring himself friends than he was at keeping up with his own goods. Interestingly, though the steward settled the accounts for less than what was owed, he was commended for doing wisely (Luke 16:8). And Jesus

A Syrophenecian woman, a centurion, and a steward will be joined by a Samaritan in the category of being unexpected recipients of blessings and commendations. Jesus entered into a certain village and was accosted by ten lepers pleading for the mercy of healing (Luke 17:13). Jesus tells them to go and to show themselves to the priest. As they journeyed to follow his directions, they noticed that they were cleansed (Luke 17:14). Exceedingly thankful, one of the lepers, a Samaritan, turned back. The text reads, "And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with terms of who is receiving. We need to a loud voice glorified God, And fell down think about what our giving says about on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan" (Luke 17:15-16).

Jesus noticed the oddity of this event. He asks, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger" (Luke 17:17-18). This man, too, was assured that his faith made him whole (Luke 17:19). It is certainly fair to make a distinction between being cleansed, healed, and blessed, and having faith. Ten men were cleansed, but only one is described as having faith. Faith recognizes that there is one who supplies rified.

In truth, the believer's mission in life is to help others to learn to glorify and to thank God. This is the teaching that Paul shares with the Corinthians. We are all blessed by God, but there are times when our blessings are shared with others. This serves the purpose of ensuring that everyone can give abundant thanksgiving. This is one of the realties associated with the impact of the gospel in the world. The gospel makes a difference in how people live. It changes their perspective on God, on life, on others. And one of the greatest evidences of this impact of the gospel is shown in the willingness to give.

When Paul wrote to the Corinthians about their giving for the saints in Jerusalem, he wanted them to understand that this giving was not simply to supply the want of the saints (2 Cor 9:8). And giving today should not be thought of solely in



CHURCH LEADERS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PREACHER-SHEPHERD JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR.

ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER RICHARD JONES

MINISTER EMERITUS CLOYS R. CECIL SR.

SHEPHERDS

JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR.
JOHN FOXWORTH
ROY OLIPHANT
WALTER WEATHERS, JR.

ELDER EMERITUS

FRANK W. DULIN LEROY NELSON

DEACONS

MICHEAL CURRY JAMES E. GADSON GEORGE MCNAIR BERNARD TERRY JOE WILSON

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MARCELLA KENDALL



All Visitors! You Are Our Honored Guests!

Heritage **Pro**gram

16TH ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES OF

CHRIST: Today, we are excited

to have *Dr. Edward J. Robinson* of Tyler, Texas as our guest speaker on this special occasion. Dr. Robinson is a lifelong member of the Church of Christ and has been preaching the gospel for over thirty-five years. He is a graduate of Southwestern Christian College in Terrell, Texas, and holds advanced degrees from Harding University Graduate School of Religion in Memphis, TN, and the University of Illinois. He earned a doctorate from Mississippi State University. Dr. Robinson and his wife, Toni, have three daughters: Clarice, Ashley, and Erika.



THOMAS STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST WINTER FELLOWSHIP MEETING February 23, 2020

The guest speaker is brother Herbert Moore of Hapeville, GA. Services at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Lunch will be served. (Location: Salisbury, NC)



ATTENDANCE DAY

DRIVE: Our goal is to reach 275 or more on Sunday, March 15 2020.

Remember as always we look forward to seeing you.

CHORAL ENSEMBLE: Calling all singers! Calling all singers! The Choral Ensemble of Carver Road is looking for enthusiastic singers to join our group in 2020. We are looking forward to participating in various events this year and we need your voice to help us reach our 2020 singing ministry goals. We meet each Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. Come join us as we sing praises to Glorify our Lord and edify each other in the Spirit. Please contact sister Alinda Gadson, Choral Director at (336)414-6586 if you are interested.

CORNELIUS CORNER: If you served in the Southwest Asia or Afghanistan theater of military operations, you may suffer from illnesses or other conditions related to service in this region. Find out if you can get disability compensation or benefits. Go to www.va.gov/disability/eligibility for information.

Youth Sunday Today



"FAITH, FRIENDS, & FAMILY" WEEKEND: MARCH 6TH - 7TH, 2020

Guest facilitators will be brother and sister Leroy Butler of Valdosta, GA. Please mark your Calendars for this special event. We look forward to seeing you!

NATIONAL TEACHERS' WORKSHOP

APRIL 16TH – 18TH, 2020

HOST CONGREGATION
SHELDON HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST
A SUFFICIENT CHRIST: AN EFFICIENT WORD IN
AN INFFICIENT WORLD

WEBSITE: www.nationalteachersworkshop.org Location: naperville, il

READING SAFARI

Reading Safari will meet Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. For any additional information please con-

tact sister Felecia Caruthers at (336) 575-2972.

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FEBRUARYBIRTHDAYS

2nd Candice Rumph; 4th, Richard Jones; 5th D'Tondja Foster, Michael Foster, Willie Massey; 8th Ruby

Reaves; 13th Lessie Williams, Angela Miller, Regina Scott; 15th Brianna Crim, Reginald Nichols; 16th Alfreda Howell; 17th Cheryl Smith; 18th Alvin Eaton; 19th Mary Hargraves, 21st Detrice Ingram; 22nd Frank Dulin, 23rd Jewel Johnson, Kevin McLaurin, Lillie Nelson, 28th Rosalyn Evans, Jacalyn McCloud



1st - Rodney S. & Cheryl Evans (1 Year)

14th - Thomas & Diane Blakely (3 Years)

16th - Bobby & Twana Roebuck (12 Years)

19th - Micheal & Monique Curry (28 Years)

22nd - Richard & Wanda Jones (37 Years) 23rd - Ollie & Thelma Carpenter (68 Years)

PRAY THAT GOD LEADS US TO SOULS TO SAVE TODAY & THROUGH THIS WEEK



OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN

sis. Immogene Bray, sis. Gloria Brown, bro. Harold Brown, bro. Frank W. Dulin, bro. Alvin Eaton, sis. Magdalene Fleming, sis. Jessie Hall, bro. Barry Harper, sis. Dorris

Jones, bro. Amos Lewis, bro. Leroy Nelson, sis. Martha Reynolds, sis. Mattie Richardson

RESPONSIVE READING 2 Peter 3:15-18; 1 John 1:2

READER: And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

CHURCH: As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

READER: Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know *these things* before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

CHURCH: But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.

READER: That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

UNISON: (For the life was manifested, and we have seen *it*, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

PRAYER

Father in heaven, ever enable us to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

PRAYER REQUEST

Bro. Frank W. Dulin, sis. Athenia Pouncey, sis. Linda Studevent, bro. James Gadson, sis. Fran Thomas, sis. Alfreda Howell, sis. Sherri Pilson, bro. Horatious Bowen, sis. Valarie Coplin, bro. Amos Lewis, Shirley Lewis, sis. Trish Marsh, sis. Melody Ralls, sis. Aliyah Coplin, bro. Kobe Williams



SHEPHERD ON CALL FOR FEBRUARY

BROTHER ROY OLIPHANT (336) 765-3105



ORDER OF WORSHIP

8:00 A.M

SONG LEADER SERMON James Gadson

Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr.

10:00 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
INVOCATION
SONG DIRECTOR
SCRIPTURE
RESPONSIVE READING
PRAYER
SERMON
OFFERING
LORD'S SUPPER
READER
CLOSING PRAYER
GUESTS PRESENTATION

GUESTS PRESENTATION

Kobe Williams
Christian Alexander
Sean Penn
Tahjmel Brim
Javar Jones *Dr. Edward Robinson*A. J. Crim
Isiah Black
Javar Jones
Braxton King

Adolphus Coplin

2:00 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Adolphus Coplin Walter Weathers Ir INVOCATION SONG DIRECTOR Christian Alexander Arnold Thomas SCRIPTURE RESPONSIVE READING William Scott A. J. Crim PRAYER Dr. Edward Robinson **SERMON** Roy Oliphant **OFFERING** George McNair LORD'S SUPPER Ollie Carpenter CLOSING PRAYER

COMMUNION REFLECTION (JOHN 10:5)

And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.



USHERS

Isiah Black	Andrew Jackson	
James Cherry	Curtis Conner	
A. J. Crim	Sean Penn	
Javar Jones	William Scott	

EVENING USHERS

Braxton King Tahjmel Brim

Kobe Williams A. J. Crim

COMMENTARY CORNER

Accordingly, Paul writes that their giving resulted not only in what people received, but also in how people praised: "For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God" (2 Cor 9:12). How these Corinthians gave provided others the opportunity to thank God.

There is something more telling. Paul teaches that giving is insight into a believer's obedience to God: "Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men" (2 Cor. 9:13). For Paul, it was not simply a matter of whether one heard, believed, repented, con-

fessed, and was baptized that determined subjection to the gospel, answering in the affirmative about whether one had obeyed the gospel. It was also a question phrased in the present continuous tense: "Are you obeying the gospel?" And particularly, "Are you obeying the gospel in your giving?" Giving is thanks!

Subjection to the gospel, belief in the gospel, will result in wisdom, faith, persistence and gratefulness similar to that of the Syrophenician woman, the centurion soldier, the unjust steward, and the stranger who was a Samaritan. Who would have believed that these persons would be the focus of admiration for Jesus? Again, giving is thanks.

Who would have believed that gentile believers, once alienated from the commonwealth and the covenant, would see them-

selves as persons indebted to Jews in Jerusalem (Romans 15:25–27)?

What has not been considered to this point is that there were groups of people who believed that Jesus should have been commending them for their pedigree, their religiosity, their lukewarm attachments to him. These do not make the gospel story what it is. It is those who demonstrate genuine faith and appreciation for the Son God who are commended.

There will be people in our generation who by all measures should not be the ones who are examples for others. But by heaven's standards, Jesus will commend them. By faith they will not only thank God; through their giving faith they will cause others to thank God as well.

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Early Morning Worship	8 A.M.
Bible School	
Morning Worship	10 A.M.
Evening Worship	

WEDNESDAY-MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY 11 A.M. & 7 P.M.

MENS' & LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

5 P.M. (2nd & 4th Sunday) (September-May)

MEETINGS & MINISTRIES

(1st Saturday)
Clothing Bank
Youth Fellowship Meeting
Husbands & Fathers' Support Group10 A.M. (3rd Saturday)

WORSHIP TO THE SICK & SHUT-IN

Young Adult Ministry...... 6:30 P.M.

(3rd Friday)

FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY WALTER WEATHERS JR.



BAPTISMAL TEAM

Bro. Anthony Clinton Bro. Thomas Loyd, Sr. Bro. George McNair Bro. Walter Weathers. Jr.

Radio Broadcast Stations



Sundays @ 7:30 A.M. Thursdays @ 3 P.M. 1340 AM 1400 AM 103.5 FM

YOU CAN BE SAVED TODAY!

To be saved today, you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17; Acts 15:7). You must believe the gospel that assures us salvation through Jesus who is the risen Lord (Romans 10:9, 10). You must be willing to turn your life over to God through repentance (Acts 17:30; Romans 2:4). Those willing to live for God through repentance are ready for confession (Romans 10:9,10).

The person who confesses is baptized into Christ (Romans 6:3, 4; Galatians 3:27). In baptism, the believer is washed, sanctified, and justified (1 Corinthians 6:11). Christ saves the baptized person in baptism (1 Peter 3:21).

If you believe that Jesus died for you and was resurrected, if you will repent and confess, then you can be baptized into Christ and be saved. Come to Jesus today!

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

23rd Leah Adkins/Chanel Foxworth

MARCH SCHEDULE

1st Diane Foxworth/Michelle Conner 8th Wendy Thomas 15th Tiffany Seawright 22nd Marcella Kendall/Centrece Kendall 29th Chanel Foxworth

NURSERY DUTY

23rd Tamah Williams/D'Asia Williams

MARCH SCHEDULE

1st Sherry Woods/Tabbatha Burgess 8th Tamah Williams/D'Asia Williams 15th Yolonda Crim/Brianna Crim 22nd Edelina Oliphant/Sherri Pilson 29th Sandra Jones/Tamika Nelson

GREETERS

23rd Theresa Rucker/Kim McNair

MARCH SCHEDULE

1st Shuandra McLaurin/Tabbatha Burgess 8th Mary Robinson/Willie Mae Cherry 15th Alfreda Howell/Teresa Love 22nd Alinda Gadson/Carol Weathers 29th Edelina Oliphant/Meredith Boyd

COMMUNION PREPARERS

Geraldine Jackson/Lillie Holmes

MARCH SCHEDULE

Mary Robinson/Teresa Love

BAPTISMAL COMMITTEE

Lillie Holmes/Wanda Jones Shanita Green/Regina Scott

MARCH SCHEDULE

Diane Foxworth/Diane Blakely Wendy Thomas

ZONES

ZONE #1 Capt. Bro. J. Wilson (661-1312)

ZONE #4 Co-Capt. Bro. B. Terry (720-9694) ZONE #5 Capt. Bro. J. Gadson (650-9693)

Co-Capt. Bro. A. Rucker (924-5696)

ZONE #7 Capt. Bro. J. Foxworth (924-5029) Co-Capt. Bro R. Oliphant (765-3105)

ZONE #8 Capt. Bro. R. March (727-0052)