

PREACHER-SHEPHERD
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COMMENTARY CORNER: DEVOTIONS IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK: A STUDY

SERIES #11 "THE SOWER AND THE WORD: AUDIOLOGY, CARDIOLOGY, AND POLMOLOGY" (#2)

"And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred" (Mark 4:20).

Jesus set forth a horticultural prescription for bearing fruit to the glory of God. If one asked, "how can I so live and work that my actions and labor are deemed by God as fruit producing?" Jesus answered that a person must hear the word of God. That same person must receive that word. And, finally, that person would bring forth fruit to differing degrees; some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred" (Mark 4:20).

Children of God today can similarly please God by bearing fruit. The prescription given in the days of Jesus is just as effective today. And we should not take lightly what Jesus instructed about any aspect leading to bearing fruit. The first necessity, then, is where one must begin. There is the need to hear. But not just anything, the person must hear the word of God. We have already examined the truth that people of God are blessed when they hear the word of God. There may be other narratives that are beneficial to life. For the child of God, however, there will be no fruit production to the glory of God unless that person hears the word of God.

Hearing the word, must be followed by reception of the word. This mandate must be understood as something more than merely knowing what was said, like, "love your enemies." A disciples quizzed about what a message was about can answer that the word taught encouraged that a child of God love his or her enemy. But to produce fruit, the person cannot just know the right words, that person must manifest and live the right actions. To receive the word, is to apply that word in a believer's life.

The church is often confused about

this aspect of fruit bearing. Adults are witnesses of the number of times children have reviewed before the church, giving all the right answers to barrages of questions hurled at him and her on a Sunday morning; or perhaps at a bible bowl. Parents and mentors smile at the depth of recall the young person has.

The young person who has heard can give the names of people, the names of places, the events resulting in victory, the proximity of God to pain and sorrow. And the adults are convinced that a beautiful life awaits the child so performing before the church. But the warm and congratulatory feeling comes to an abrupt disruption when it is discovered that the same child who has spent his or her formative years in the church has now renounced spiritual life and lives as if there is no God. We should remind ourselves that there is a difference between hearing and receiving.

The adult is snagged in the same scenario. In the hearing moment, the adult will hear what it is to have a devotional and spiritual relationship with the Lord. The adult can hear what is involved in being a godly spouse, and exemplary employee, an honest citizen, and a caring neighbor. The adult can repeat what the preacher said about being involved in ministry, giving toward the kingdom, sharing the gospel with the lost, encouraging the saints, and being faithful through life's circumstances.

But that same adult, however, who has heard the word preached and taught becomes caught up in an extra marital affair, criminal activity on the job, neglecting civic duty, and refusing to be

kind to a neighbor. Added to these ungodly behaviors is the ability for the person who has heard to be slothful in ministry, without purpose in giving, unconcerned about sharing the gospel, uncommitted to building up saints, and unfaithful when trouble comes. This adult is affected by the same hearing and receiving dysfunction as the young person who dismays adults who have invested so much in him or her.

There is a difference between hearing and receiving. And there is evidence and production when a person has heard and received. Jesus calls that evidence fruit. And we must remember not to equate fruit bearing with lip service. Which is what we have been examining. In the case of the young person, she knows everything that has been said to her in life. And can repeat it. In the case of the adult, that adult has been heard saying that he knows the Bible better than the people who come to church. What he means by this, of course, is that he has heard what was said. We underscore and embolden, again, however, that simply hearing is not what leads to fruit. The man and woman, the boy and girl must receive it. It must become a matter of the word informing the heart to the extent that the word governs the actions.

Jesus distinguished heart service from lip service with these words: "Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me" (Matthew 15:7-8).

~Continued



2020 THEME: "To Him Be Glory In The Church, By Christ Jesus..." (Ephesians 3:21)

CHURCH LEADERS

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



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MARCELLA KENDALL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

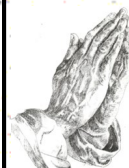


ZOOM MEETING

Our mid-week evening Bible study meets at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. Please visit us on Facebook at Carver Road Church of Christ to find link to join in our bible study each Wednesday evenings.

FACEBOOK: Take a moment to "like" and "follow" us on Facebook. Search for Carver Road Church of Christ. When sermons and virtual events announcements, and even our live Sunday services are posted and broadcasted live on our page, please be sure to comment as well as share on your personal page.

YOUTUBE: Be sure to visit our YouTube page, Carver Road Church of Christ to view past sermons. To subscribe to our page, simply create a free account on YouTube.



With Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the following members and their families in the loss of their loved ones: brother and sister George Leak in the passing of his brother, Charles Leak; brother and sister James Floyd in the loss of Tara's grandmother; brother and sister Adolphus Coplin and family in the loss of his father and to sister Aliyah Coplin in this loss of her grandfather; sister Lessie Williams and family in passing of her sister; brother and sister Leroy Nelson loss of Lillie's aunt; sister Laura Bellanger loss of aunt and to the Burgess and Woods family in this loss; and brother and sister William Scott in the loss of Regina's father.

May God continue to comfort each of them during their time of bereavement.

Welcome
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

All Visitors!
You Are Our
Honored Guests!



Keep Reading! For any additional information please contact sister Felecia Caruthers at (336) 575-2972.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st, Justun Green; 3rd, Stanley King; 5th, Eric Isaiah Nelson; 7th, Sandra Jones; 8th, Joshua Caruthers, AJ Crim; 10th, Kobe Williams; 11th, Heather King; 13th, Jericho Caruthers; 14th, George McNair; 17th, Adolphus Coplin; 20th, Cynthia Judge; 23rd, DJ Crim, Mary McLaurin; Ben Robinson; 28th, Kim McNair, Elizabeth Oliver; 30th, Robert Fowler



(41 years) Marion & Hazel Gordon - 17th



Southwestern Christian College

83rd Annual 2020 Southwestern Christian College Lectureship - A Virtual Event-November 21st—

25th, 2020. This special event can be accessed on the SWCC Facebook page and on The Church TV Network. Our very own Dr. Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr. will be one of the speakers. For detailed information please visit Southwestern Christian College website at swcc.edu and click on the announcement tab for the lectureship event.



Our Shut-ins

OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN

sis. Beverly Crim, bro. Frank W. Dulin, bro. Alvin Eaton, sis. Magdalene Fleming, bro. Barry Harper, sis. Dorris Jones, bro. Amos Lewis, bro. Leroy Nelson, sis. Martha Reynolds, sis. Mattie Richardson, Bobby Robinson, sister Carol Weathers

RESPONSIVE READING

Revelation 3:13-18

READER: He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

CHURCH: And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

READER: I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

CHURCH: So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

READER: Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

UNISON: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

PRAYER

Father in heaven, we acknowledge our need for gold tried with fire, a white raiment, and eyesalve. Make us rich, clothe our nakedness, and help us to see. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

PRAYER REQUEST

sis. Diane Foxworth, sis. Heather King, bro. Thomas Loyd Sr., bro. Artis Rucker, bro. Roy Oliphant, bro. Adolphus Coplin, bro. Bernard Wallace, sis. Hazel Gordon, sis. Linda Burgess, sis. Alfreda Howell, bro. Jones, bro. William Scott



SHEPHERD ON CALL FOR NOVEMBER

Brother Walter Weathers Jr.
(336) 785-2520

ORDER OF WORSHIP



8:00 A.M.

SONG LEADER
SERMON

Adolphus Coplin
Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr.

10:00 A.M.

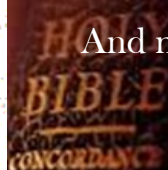
ANNOUNCEMENTS
INVOCATION
SONG DIRECTOR
SCRIPTURE
RESPONSIVE READING
PRAYER
SERMON
OFFERING
LORD'S SUPPER
CLOSING PRAYER
GUESTS PRESENTATION

Joseph Wilson
George McNair
Adolphus Coplin
Juan Williams
Artis Rucker
Javar Jones
Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr.
Isiah Black
Bernard Terry
Ollie Carpenter



**COMMUNION REFLECTION
(JOHN 10:42)**

And many believed on him there.



COMMENTARY CORNER

The heart becomes a dispositive factor. We emphasized the cardiological aspect of fruit bearing in our first installment of this series of lessons. Fruit bearing must take into consideration audiology, the ability to hear, and cardiology, which is also the ability to hear. It is the right audiology and cardiology that lead to the ability to engage in polymology, which engages the physical and spiritual sciences of fruit bearing.

Let us note that there is a difference between physical hearing and spiritual hearing. Physical hearing is limited to our ears. Our ears, in simple construction, are able to perform by way of the outer ear, the tympanic membrane. The outer ear is aided by the middle ear, the tympanic center. But

the outer ear and middle ear cannot perform their function for hearing unless there is the inner ear, the cochlea. In short, then, the outer ear transmits sound to the middle ear which transmits sound to the inner ear. But there is yet another factor in hearing. The ear can capture sounds, but it takes the heart, the mind, to discern meaning in the sounds.

Our study is not about the physical heart in this instance. It is not about four chambers of the heart that involve two upper chambers, the left and right atria. It is not about the two lower chambers, the left and right ventricles. Neither is the discerning heart the four valves: the tricuspid, pulmonary, mitral, and aortic. These chambers and valves can be functioning at optimum level and one still not be spiritually healthy.

What Jesus has reference to is not whether our ears and heart function on a physical level. What Jesus illuminates is how our minds receive the word of God. The truth is that my inner ear, the tympanic membrane, the tympanic center, and the cochlea can all be functioning well. The left and right atria, the left and right ventricles, the tricuspid, pulmonary, mitral and aortic valves can all be functioning so as to please the doctor, and still I can be unhealthy, unproductive and unfruitful.

When I become fruitful in life is dependent on how my heart, my mind, my spiritual senses respond to the word of God. We shall explore this thought even further in our next installment. At this point, let us acknowledge that I must both hear and receive the word to be fruitful.

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Early Morning Worship.....	8 A.M.
Bible School.....	9 A.M.
Morning Worship.....	10 A.M.
Evening Worship.....	6:30 P.M.

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

Teachers' Meeting.....	9 A.M.
(1st Saturday)	
Clothing Bank.....	10 A.M.-12 P.M.
(1st Saturday)	
Youth Fellowship Meeting.....	10 A.M.
(2nd Saturday)	
Husbands & Fathers' Support Group... ..	10 A.M.
(3rd Saturday)	
Young Adult Ministry.....	6:30 P.M.
(3rd Friday)	

WORSHIP TO THE SICK & SHUT-IN

FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER
BROTHER ROY OLIPHANT



BAPTISMAL TEAM

Bro. Anthony Clinton
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

Will resume in 2021



NURSERY DUTY

Not Scheduled

GREETERS

Mary Terry

COMMUNION PREPARERS

Mary Terry

BAPTISMAL COMMITTEE

Rosalyn Evans/Shirlene Murray
Sherri Pilson



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)