

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
FEBRUARY 9, 2020

SICK/TEMPORARY: Suzanne Brown (pneumonia), Kaylie and Paislei Hadley, Shelby Peyton (cyst behind knee), and Ray Stanford (flu) were struggling with health problems this past week. Olivia Byars (niece of Garrett Young) ran a high fever due to the flu for a week. She is only a year old. Tish Clarke (wife of MSOP director, B.J. Clarke) is awaiting results of tests on some spots of melanoma. John Raines (friend of the Hadleys) is awaiting news regarding cancer in his lymph nodes.

PROTRACTED: Janice Bailey—Alzheimers; Paul Baldwin—diabetes; Scooter Birmingham (friend of Destiny Clayton); Brian Brown (Paul Brown's nephew)—epilepsy; Shelly Cates—fibromyalgia; Gladys Marie Elrod (Mary Ray's son-in-law's mother)—congestive heart failure; Addliae Farrow (Tabatha Clayton's great niece)—heart; Bubba Farrow (Emma Farrow's son)—Alzheimer's; Jerry Floate (of this community)—liver transplant; Kaylie Hadley—UCTD; Brook Hale (Tracy Roberts' niece)—Grave's Disease; Paula Harrison—Meniere's Disease; Wanda Jackson—a-fib; Brenda Jones—Lupus; Stan Jones—Meniere's Disease; Garrett Lentz (son of a co-worker of Cody Hadley)—seizures; Becky Munns (Tabatha Clayton's aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; Robert Rawson (preacher at Crockett)—diabetes; Ray Reynold's (Sheila Massey and Mary West's dad)—memory trouble; Brett Rutherford (Dan Cates' friend)—MS; Dan Sandidge (Syble Embrey's son-in-law)—Grave's Disease; Tammy Turner (a preacher's wife whom we support)—dementia; Francis Wallace (friend of Mary Ray); and Madison Young—laryngomalacia.

CANCER: Clifton Angel (preacher at Coldwater)—thyroid; Sherry Brown (retired MSOP secretary); Robin Brueck (niece of Allene Baldwin and Syble Embrey)—breast; Alicia Busby (from the community); Earl Carlton (son of a friend of Syble Embrey)—esophageal; Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Brenda Davis (a grandmother of Edra and Ryan Farrow); Debbie Farrow; Orville Fowler (father of the Browns' neighbor)—stomach; Tom Gordon (Cody Hadley's grandfather); Nathan Jones (the Hounshell's neighbors' 16 year old family member)—brain; Sara Kiestler (an FHU student)—Hodgkin's; Wade Loggins (member of congregation in Elkmont, AL); Dorothy Mosher (wife of an MSOP instructor); Carol Ogelsby (family of Sonny Stewart and the Browns)—stomach; Tommy Pierce (the Browns' friend); and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

SHUT-IN: Marie Crockett (home), Emma Farrow (in a care facility in Sardis), Orelia Ferguson (home).

SERVING: Dylan and Maggie Cooper (Air Force, Offut AFB, Neb.), Cameron Hadley (Grayson Hadley's dad—Marines, Camp Lejeune, NC), Jacob Petrowski (grandson of former members here—Marines, Romania). Also, please continue to pray for Kyle Embrey (Syble Embrey's grandson—policeman) and all other military [especially who are going or remain abroad] and for all those in authority that we might live "quiet and peaceable" lives (I Timothy 2:1,2).

Independence Church of Christ
8543 Highway 305
Coldwater, MS 38618

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Informer



8543 Highway 305

Coldwater, MS 38618

662-560-8045

www.independencechurchofchrist.org

Services: Sunday 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 4:45 p.m. (pew-packers), 5 p.m.
Wednesday 7:15 p.m.

Ministers: Every Christian

Elders: Dan Cates (662-560-8045)

Carl Hounshell (812-653-2358)

Evangelists: Dan Cates (662-560-8045; dsmccates@yahoo.com)

Garrett Young (334-663-2509; gty021@gmail.com)

Missions [the latest reports from these works are on the bulletin board in the foyer]

Independence Mission Fund (next: tbd)

Memphis School of Preaching (Jonathan Jenkins)

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Jim and Tammy Turner (Fairfield, North Carolina)

Trent Kennedy family (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India [Providing Bibles]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

Pablo Horna (Costa Rica) [Overseeing funds]

Many one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

MANY WILL BE LOST AND FEW WILL BE SAVED

Aaron Dodson

Perhaps the greatest tragedy in our time is that many think they are right with God and they are not (Matthew 7:21-24). Looking at the Bible objectively it is clear that many have practiced things religiously professing to be God's people but were not and were not pleasing to God (Luke 6:46; Matthew 15:8-9; 23:13-36; Acts 17:16, 22-31). Jesus said many will be lost and few will be saved. Listen: "*Enter ye in by the **narrow** gate: for **wide** is the gate, and **broad** is the way, that **leaders** to **destruction**, and **many** are they that enter in thereby. For **narrow** is the gate, and **straightened** [confined] is the way, that leads unto **life**, and **few** are they that find it*" (Matthew 7:13-14 ASV).

Enter by the narrow gate for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction. The prevalent false doctrine of "faith alone" is not narrow. It's so common to hear religious leaders say things like "say this prayer," or "all you gotta do is believe and trust Jesus," or "faith alone is sufficient." **But the Bible does not teach this gross error** (James 2:24; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Matthew 10:32-33; Revelation 2:10). The false doctrine of "faith **alone**" excludes repentance, confession and baptism - **all of which King Jesus said we must do** (Luke 24:47; Matthew 10:32; 28:19). Truth is narrow/confined and excludes all that is false. On the other hand, error is common, popular and "easier." Most false teachers look nice, do good deeds, and smile a lot (e.g., Joel Olsteen, Billy Graham, Pat Robertson, Charles Stanley, etc.) They are wolves in sheep's clothing (Matthew 7:15-20)! But when their teachings are weighed in the balance of God's word, sadly they are found wanting (Daniel 5:27; 1 Thessalonians 5:21). Since error is not narrow but broad, is it any surprise that these popular religious leaders have huge numerical followings? **Ultimately the way of error leads to eternal destruction no matter how popular or humanly academic it sounds** (Exodus 23:2a; John 17:17).

There are many who go in by it...and are lost. Sadly, being married to "faith alone" and not to the teaching of Christ many are lost. Instead of teaching what Jesus commanded in the Great Commission, many are led to say the unbiblical "sinners prayer" and now have a false hope of salvation. Only God knows the untold millions who have **not** been taught the conditions of salvation found in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19 -20; Mark 16:15-17; Luke 24:47). The God ordained model for all time reveals that all those who obeyed the apostles' doctrine were added to "*the church*" (Acts 2:38,41,47; 5:11). They were not told to join anything. That's because they understood the two go together. Salvation is directly tied to being added by Jesus to Jesus' church, not a denomination. Not, "find a church you like."

Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way...few find it. When the planet was flooded only 8 souls were righteous (1 Peter 3:20). When Israel perished in the wilderness only two souls of that generation were righteous (Numbers 14:38; 26:65). There are some two plus billion self-professing Christians in the world today, yet most of them have not obeyed the Great Commission baptism, serve in unbiblical churches and don't think twice about it; yet Jesus taught one doctrine and died for one church (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 4:4-6; 5:23; John 14:6). This necessitates that we identify God's will in the passages of Holy Writ and follow it.

Not everyone who says "Lord Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven..." Ok, who will?? "**He that doeth the will of My Father who is in heaven...**" (Matthew 7:21-24). Jesus said **many** will say to Him on that day that He is their Lord, **but will be told to depart.** Jesus said whoever "*hears these saying of Mine and does them...*" (Matthew 7:24). **Why do so many refuse to "do" the will of the Father found in Mark 16:16?** Why do they set themselves to find every

way out of the necessity of Jesus' command to be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)? Why do so many deny the singularity of the church, the pattern for organization, worship and living as detailed in the Gospel? **Perhaps they find it in conflict with what so many "good" people teach or find it incompatible with what they desire?** Truly the way that leads to life is narrow and few find it.

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" (Ephesians 4:14,15)

BIBLE QUESTION:

This week's question: How often are Christians to exhort one another?

Last week's question: Who thought that he could purchase the power of the Holy Ghost?

Last week's answer: Simon (Acts 8:18)

SERMONS: Worshipping with Gladness (*Psalm 100:2*)

Garrett Young will preach this evening

DAILY BIBLE READING (February 10-16):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Leviticus	5-7	8-10	11-13	14-16	17-19	20-23	24-27

SCRIPTURE READING (FEBRUARY): Carl Hounshell (Psalm 100:1-5)

(MARCH): Garrett Young

PRESIDE LORD'S SUPPER MORNING AND EVENING (FEBRUARY): Thomas Massey

(MARCH): Dan Cates

ASSIST LORD'S SUPPER (FEBRUARY): Mark Peyton and Dan Cates

(MARCH): Cody Hadley and Ray Stanford

CLEAN BUILDING (FEBRUARY): Ella Darnell and Carolyn Stanford

(MARCH): Suzanne Brown and Katie Brown

PREPARE COMMUNION (FEBRUARY): Brenda Jones

(MARCH): Tabatha Clayton

PANTRY NEEDS: Please see the list of children's home's needs in the foyer. April 7 is pick-up.

UPCOMING EVENTS (For particular details, check the bulletin board for flyers):

March 28

Youth Day at Forest Hill beginning at 9:30 A.M.

March 21

Tentative date for the **clothing giveaway** which will be from 9 A.M. til noon

March 29-April 2

Lectureship at MSOP on *Magnify His Name*. We have been asked to provide 25 cakes for that Monday (March 30)

April 7

Tennessee Children's Home truck will be here

May 3-6

Gospel meeting at Nesbit

May 31-June 4

Vacation Bible School at Coldwater

June 7-10

Gospel meeting with Tom Wacaster