

"The churches of Christ salute you" Rom. 16:16

Warners Chapel Church of Christ

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A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU

December 22, 2019

They Are Talking About You

God told Ezekiel the prophet the people were talking about him (Ezekiel 33:30). Ezekiel was God's prophet to the captive Jews in Babylon. Ezekiel prophesied a message of Jerusalem's impending destruction, and a message of repentance and return to God. The reaction of the people to Ezekiel's preaching says a lot about them (Ezekiel 33:30-32). The ones who had heard him speaking were talking about his preaching and telling others they need to come and hear him. The people would then come and hear Ezekiel, but they would not apply the words they heard. They were happy to hear Ezekiel preach God's Word, but they refused to obey. Even after having been taken into captivity for their sin, they were stubbornly seeking their own gain. They loved to hear Ezekiel preach but they had no intention of doing anything he said.

If the people were so caught up in pursuing their own gain to actually make application of Ezekiel's preaching, why was it they were so interested in hearing him preach? God said to Ezekiel, "You are indeed to them as a lovely song of one who has a pleasant voice and can play well on an instrument; for they hear your words, but they do not do them (Ezekiel 33:32). They loved to hear Ezekiel preach because he had a pleasant voice that he played like a nice instrument and sounded like a lovely song. They were listening to be entertained rather than to make application. Here were a group of people that loved to hear the preacher but who had no intention of ever doing anything he said.

People like that are still around. Sometimes people enjoy listening to someone who is a good speaker, but they have no intention of making personal application of the sermons heard. Some people can listen to the truth, the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures, the Gospel of Jesus Christ for hours, months, years, decades, and (Continued on page 2)

it not make much impact upon them. When the word of God is preached, we need to listen with the purpose of making personal application. It is far easier to humble oneself and repent now, than it is to stand before the Lord on the Day of Judgment and hear him say, "Depart from Me I never knew you".

The preacher must apply the Scriptures to his own life even as he is studying and preparing for his sermons. Those who listen to the preacher must listen with focus on God and a determination to do whatever God asks of them. When a preacher is preaching the Bible, he is God's spokesman and messenger. If he is preaching the Scriptures he is preaching God's message to man. That is, the Creator's message to His creation. Nothing could be more important. I am sure Ezekiel would rather have seen the people of his day repent than to hear them boasting about his melodious voice. I am sure he would have preferred ten in attendance who would listen and apply the message, than one thousand who just loved hearing his voice.

God lets Ezekiel know there is a time coming when the people will realize there has been a prophet among them (Ezekiel 33:33). That time would be when Ezekiel's prophecies regarding the destruction of Jerusalem were fulfilled. There is coming a Judgment Day upon which all will know that any and every true Gospel sermon they heard was a plea from God to live for Him. On that day, there will be people who would love to have another opportunity to hear one more sermon and apply it to their lives.

Listen to the words, when the preacher is preaching. If the message is from the Word of God, then apply the message personally. Listen in love for God. Listen out of love for the truth. Listen out of love for your own soul. Listen out of a desire to go to heaven. Listen with the intent of gaining wisdom and knowledge. Listen with a desire to find the treasures of God's revelation that make your life better and help you go to heaven.

~Kevin V. Rutherford



READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2019

December 23 - Revelation 14

December 24 - Revelation 15

December 25 - Revelation 16

December 26 - Revelation 17



December 27 - Revelation 18

December 28 - Revelation 19

December 29 - Revelation 20

OUR SICK

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Dora Lundgren underwent surgery for Ovarian Cancer recently. The surgery was successful and she is expected to be released from the hospital on Friday (Dec. 20th). Please pray for Dora. She is expected to begin chemo in the near future.

Todd Hinson's surgery went well. The doctor was able to remove the mass from his right kidney. He feels it was cancerous but that the mass is gone. Should receive the Pathology results next week.

Prayers are requested for **Alberta Jackson** of Susan St. church of Christ in Florida. She has been diagnosed with cancer. She is the sister of Mattie Pharr.

Prayer Request for **Steve Weeks**, Gene Southern's brother-in-law. He is in Forsyth Hospital with congestive heart failure and other complications. If he is able to leave the hospital, he will be going to long term care. Also keep my sister **Peggy** in your prayers.

Please continue to keep Karen Clemmons' brother, **Eric Drews**, in your prayers.

Jaxson Wall - child in daycare where Nancy Minor works, has returned home after having a shunt put in his head. He is doing well but has a long road of treatment ahead.

Please continue to remember **Susie Steen**, the mother of Sandra Church's son-in-law. Please continue to pray for her and **Andy Goodwin**.

Prayers are requested for **Lucy Hilburn**, a member at the South Fork church of Christ.

SHUT-INS

Mary Ellen Dull D. J. Harrison Ernestine Martin Carolyn Minor

Please remember the shut-ins in your prayers

~IN SYMPATHY~

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Bill Knost**, who passed away on Thursday, December 19th.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, December 21, 2019, from 5-7 p.m. at the Hayworth Miller Funeral Home (Kinderton), 108 E. Kinderton Way, Advance, NC 27006.

The funeral service will be held on Sunday, December 22, 2019 at 2 p.m. at the Warners Chapel church of Christ with burial in the church cemetery directly following the service.



WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING. WE INVITE YOU TO RETURN THIS EVENING AT 6:00 P.M. FOR THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE AND AT 7:00 P.M. EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING FOR THE MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY.

WARNERS CHAPEL EVENTS

Bible Study will be moved from Wed., January 1st. to Tuesday night, December 31st. We will have our song and prayer service for the New Year and then have a fellowship over in the Annex afterwards.



SOUTHWEST FOOD PANTRY

Suggested Items for the month of **December**:

Canned Meat: chicken/tuna

*Laundry detergent, hand dishwashing liquid, and soap would be greatly appreciated at any time.

FOR A CONTENTED LIFE

HEALTH enough to make work a pleasure.
WEALTH enough to support your needs.
STRENGTH enough to battle with difficulties and overcome them.

GRACE enough to confess your sins and forsake them. **PATIENCE** enough to toil until your goal is accomplished.

LOVING KINDNESS enough to see some good in everybody.

LOVE enough to move you to forget yourself.

FAITH enough to make the unseen things seem real to you.

HOPE enough to remove every fear that is within you.



FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study - December 15, 2019	149
Sunday Worship Service:	164
Contributions for December 15, 2019	6,704
Daily Bible Readers:	39
Chapters Read:	580
Sunday Evening Worship Service:	129
Wednesday Evening Bible Study, Dec. 18, 2019	107

Lord's Day Appointments For December, 2019

Serving the Lord's Table For December

Steve Tesh

David Elam Allen Cooper Tommy Ridings Gina Harper Andy Santiago Clayton Workman

Preparing Communion for December: Making Announcements on Sunday: Making Announcements on Wednesday:

Lord's Day Appointments - December 29, 2019

DEVOTIONS: OPENING PRAYER: SONG LEADER SCRIPTURE READERS

Scripture - Walter Cruz Morning - Todd Hinson A.M. - Gene Southern Song Leader- Jason Allen Evening - Tommy Rose P.M. - Charley Belch P.M. - Gene Southern

Prayer - Jim Harrison Tues. - Nathan Roy

Greeters for January, 2020
Brad and Betty Hoots

Opening and Closing Building:

Sunday: - December 29 ~ Mark Minor

Tuesday: - December 31 ~ Mark Minor

Lord's Day Appointments - December 22, 2019

DEVOTIONS: OPENING PRAYER: SONG LEADER SCRIPTURE READERS

Scripture - Gene Ruark Morning - Charley Belch A.M. - Steve Tesh A.M. - Darryl Cook Song Leader - Gene Southern Evening - Aldine Cloud P.M. - David Shoaf P.M. - Mark Clemmons

Prayer - Caleb Rutherford Wed. - Song Request Gene S. & David S.

Opening and Closing Building: <u>Greeters for December:</u>

Sunday: - December 22 ~ Randy Warner

Wednesday: - December 25 ~ Randy Warner

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES - Nursery open for small children during all services.

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 10:50 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY: Mid-Week Service 7:00 PM

"GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE" at 10:30 p.m. each week night on Cable 8 SEARCH PROGRAM - Sunday Mornings at 7:30 a.m. on Cable 68

WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST 8999 LASATER ROAD CLEMMONS, NC 27012

ELDERS DEACONS

Tim Allen
Todd Hinson
Steve Tesh
Andy Santiago

Andy Santiago

Randy Warner
Keith Warner
Mark Minor
Jason Allen
Jody Everett

Gene Southern
Shawn Thomason
Mark Roy
Adam Warner
Jacob Woodbury