

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Mar. 2, 2014



Someone we know has been in jail multiple times, and we say, "They'll never straighten up." Someone we know has a poor work ethic, and we say, "They'll never learn the importance of work." Someone we know keeps going back to the bottle, and we say, "They'll never stop drinking." Someone we know has been through an unscriptural divorce, remarried, and claims it is God's will, and we say, "They'll never repent." If ever we have said things like this in situations like this, we have exhibited the exact opposite of love.

You see, love "hopeth all things" (1 Corinthians 13:7). Biblical hope requires desire and expectation. Godly love requires that we hope even when evidence points to hopelessness. It does not mean that we are gullible; it does not mean that we are ignorant; it does not mean that we are unwise. It means we love God, we ...

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

VISITORS, WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for
all ages & Pew Packers
each Sunday at 12:30

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... love like God, and we therefore hope for the best in every situation and concerning every person.

If you study the etymology ("facts of the origin and development of a word;" www.etymonline.com) of the word "hope," some have suggested it is connected with the word "hop." Their conclusion is that hoping involves actions, not just acknowledgements. Because we have desire and expectation, we hop to the opportunity at hand. If we have the love of God, which "hopeth all things," we don't just say, "I hope that criminal cousin of mine will straighten up;" rather, we go to him and sincerely seek to help him and show him what he means to God. If we have this kind of love, we don't just say, "I hope that lazy friend of mine gets a job;" rather, we learn to approach them with kindness and help them to see the error of their ways. If we have this kind of love, we don't just say, "I hope my alcoholic co-worker will stop drinking;" rather, we go to them when they are sober, show them our concern, and help them to see the futility of their actions. If we have this kind of love, we don't just say "I hope my sister will learn the truth about marriage, divorce, and remarriage and repent;" rather, we kindly seek to teach her about God's authority revealed in His Word and the powerful teachings of Jesus, like those found in Matthew 19. Love hopes all things.

The story is told of a special needs teacher sent to teach children confined to hospital beds. To one little boy, she was sent to teach nouns and adverbs; however, she was not told that he was severely burned from head to toe. She left that session feeling as though she accomplished nothing. The next day, a nurse approached the teacher in extreme curiosity as to what she had done to the boy. The nurse said, "He was going downhill fast, but after your session with him, he has begun to improve and respond to treatments like never before." Two weeks later, the boy had improved enough to communicate, and he explained that he had lost all hope until the teacher came to him. He explained it this way, "You don't teach nouns and adverbs to a dying boy, do you?"

Love hopes all things. How is your love measuring up? Let's grow in love.

—written by Clifton Angel

HELPING OR HONKING?

You've probably heard the story of the lady whose car broke down in the middle of a busy intersection. Of course, that would be a nightmare for any of us. But this lady kept her head and was doing her best to restart the car.

However, after several unsuccessful attempts at restarting her car, the driver immediately behind her began to mercilessly honk his horn. His honking just escalated an already stressful situation.

So, after enduring several moments of his incessant "honking," this woman exited her car, walked back to the man in the car behind her and politely said, "Sir, I seem to be having trouble starting my car. If you would be so kinda as to help me get my car started, I would be more than happy to sit here and honk for you." Well, needless to say, the honking stopped!

Friends, how would you characterize yourself and your relationship to the church? Are you a "helper" or a "honker?" Sure, problems will arise from time to time. That's just part of dealing with imperfect people. No church is without problems. But more than likely, where you see a problem or an inefficient program at church, you'll also find godly men and women at wits end doing the very best they know how to fix the problem.

Next time you see a problem at church, please don't honk. It really doesn't help, and usually frustrates those who are trying to fix the problem. Instead of "honking" why not lend a hand and help?

—written by *Steve Higginbotham*
from *Speaking from the Heart*

Sermon Review

Preparing for Worship

- I. Reasons to Prepare for Worship
- II. Routes to Preparing for Worship

DVD SERIES

America's Most Press Concern
Lesson 4 - "God did it!"

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Jerry Davis, successful hip replacement surgery, at home recovering; **Jared Brown** and family; **Wiley & Betty Tuggle**; **Sue Cobern**; **Helen Bowman**.

Far East Missions
Fishers of Men
NetCasters

Family & Friends

Vanwinkle family, mother of Philip Vanwinkle died unexpectedly; **Laura Swayne**, Patrick Swayne's mother, uterine cancer; **Bob Jones**, back trouble, and recent illness leading to hospital visit; **Barry Hatcher**, improving and recovering; **Chris Shipley & family** in loss of his mother; **Tasha Higginbotham**, in need of a kidney transplant, now on donor list; **Steve Geeslin**, brain tumor; **Jason Spencer**, health complications; **Lauren Harrell**, young mother with breast cancer; **James Cooper**, Jan's brother, cancer; **Marie Sims**, Ashby Johnson's mother, cancer; **Janet Colvett**, continuing chemo treatments; **Frederick Bland**; **Renee Loya**, Ruth's niece, Parkinson's, MS, & dystonia; **Charles Savage**, prostate cancer; **Paul Perkins**, Mischel's father; **Eli Williams**, cancer returned, receiving chemo treatments; **Vicki Angel**; **Ray Maples**; **John & Anita Simpson & family**; **Martha Hatfield**, Lynn's grandmother, stage 4 cancer; **Virginia Johnson**, stage 4 lung cancer; **Joy Angel**, various health problems; **Linda Perkins**, leukemia; **Mac Owen**; **Bob Spurlin**; **Ally Jo Kelly**, toddler with leukemia; **Brad & Sheri Daniel**, in efforts of adoption of baby Faith; **Carly Wright**, 3 yr. old with liver cancer; **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, and their sons, Charles and Chris; **Carla Carlson**.

Birthdays

3/9 Jan Daniel
3/9 Ginger Bayless
3/18 Betty Duke
3/21 Ella Brown
3/24 Johnny Bayless
3/29 Payton Jackson
3/31 Beverly Hayes

Get Involved!

DVD Series -- Lesson 5 -- TODAY -- 1 PM
America's Most Pressing Concern, Dave Miller

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- TODAY
Between services

Providence Place Devo -- Mar 9 -- 2 PM

Game Night & Midnight Bowling -- March 7
Game night for all at 6 PM, bring finger foods
Midnight bowling for older youth at 9 PM, \$15 each

Bible Bowl -- March 15 -- Coldwater, 10:30 AM
Genesis 28 – 30

Memphis School of Preaching Lectureship
March 30 – April 2, see flyer on bulletin board

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, March 2

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Seth Daniel
Announcements	Jason Bayless
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Billy Bland
Assist	Dalton Owen
	Payton Jackson
Opening Prayer	Jim Jackson
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Afternoon

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Clifton Angel
Sermon	DVD
Lord's Supper	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Payton Jackson
	Jeremy Moore
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, March 5

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Ron Johnson
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Joe Owen