

# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Apr. 7, 2013



## Involvement

"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were. Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee..." (John Donne, 17th century poet and preacher).

The first question that we have recorded in the Bible that man asked God, has been answered by God throughout the pages of the Bible with a resounding yes. Man's question is: "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:9). Jesus made it abundantly clear that if we are not involved in the lives of others then we are not involved with Him (Matthew 25:41-46).

In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-35): There was a road between Jerusalem and Jericho where a man was traveling when he fell among robbers, who robbed him and beat him and left him half dead. Then the religious came twice in first the priest and then in the Levite, who both saw the man, who needed help, and passed by on the other side. But, finally the righteous came in a certain Samaritan who saw the man, who needed help, and had compassion for him and gave aid to him and took care of him. This parable was taught to an expert of the law of Moses, who wanted to know what he had to do to have eternal life. What was written in the law was the answer to his question, and the man knew what was written, and Jesus told him to do it and he would live (Luke 10:25-28). This included loving his neighbor as himself, for which the man asked Jesus to justify himself: "And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:29). When he heard the parable of the Good Samaritan he was given the answer to his question. For Jesus asked him: "Which now of these three thinkest thou, was neighbor..."

*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

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### ELDERS

Billy Bland

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

### DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

### PREACHER

Clifton Angel

# “Do I Have To?”

There are many things in life of which men do not desire to do. For some, they do not enjoy doing various household tasks. I know that I have never met anyone who looks forward to filing a yearly tax return, and I do not believe that I ever will. There are some things in life which people often raise the question: “Do I have to?” The worrisome truth is that **someone may approach his or her spiritual life by asking: “Do I have to?”**

- “Do I **have to** repent?”
- “Do I **have to** be baptized?”
- “Do I **have to** pray every day?”
- “Do I **have to** give of my means?”
- “Do I **have to** tell others about Christ?”
- “Do I **have to** go to the worship service on Sunday night or the congregational Bible Study that meets midweek?”
- Etc., etc., etc.

When one asks a question such as these, often times the case is that he simply **does not want** to do that which he is questioning. Therein lies the problem.

- He may not want to repent. That’s a problem (cf. Acts 17:30).
- He may not desire to be baptized. That’s a problem (cf. Acts 2:38).
- He may love the treasures which he has collected that he simply does not want to give back to the Lord. That’s a problem (cf. 2 Cor. 9:7).
- He may not want to be with the saints more than he “has to.” That’s a problem (cf. Heb. 10:24-25).

There are two primary reasons why this attitude is wrong:

1. We should always be willing to do the will of the Lord before our own will (cf. Luke 22:42).
2. Our love for God should always be our motivating factor for any area which we can serve Him. Jesus said, “If you love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15).

Instead of approaching our spiritual lives as a checklist of burdens, let us approach it with gladness. Every opportunity which we are afforded to serve God and display our love for Him should be welcomed with cheerfulness.

**Let us never feel that we “have to”; rather, let us want to!**

“Serve the LORD with gladness” (Psa. 100:2a).

—written by **Barry Gilreath, III**  
[www.gilreathpreachersonline.com](http://www.gilreathpreachersonline.com)

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**(Involvement continued...)**

...unto him that fell among the thieves?” (Luke 10:36). And the man responded: “He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise” (Luke 10:36-37).

It is not so much to be declared what person is my neighbor, as it is to be declared to whom am I a neighbor. I am the neighbor of all that I will be involved with, and I am to be involved with everyone as much as I have the opportunity (cf. Galatians 6:10).

Let not fear (cf. Revelation 21:8), selfishness (cf. Luke (9:23), and indifference (cf. Revelation 3:14-22) cause us to not be involved. The priest and the Levite could have also been robbed and beaten and left half dead if they did not hurry on pass the man in need. The priest and the Levite possibly had important things to do, such as the possibility they may have been on their way to go worship as to why they needed to pass by the man in need. In the end, however, the priest and the Levite simply did not care about the man in need to just simply pass by him and not get involved to help him.

—written by **Jimmy Simmons**

### *Sermon Review*

#### **The Message in the Napkin**

(John 20:7)

The Napkin...

- I. ...Was Left
- II. ...Was Separated
- III. ...Was Rolled

#### **Let the Lower Lights be Burning**

- I. Matthew 5:13–16
- II. Matthew 28:18–20
- III. James 5:19–20

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Several** of our number have been battling colds, flus, flu-like symptoms, and such like.

**Daniel Owen**, elbow injury, deep bruise.

**Wiley & Betty Tuggle**, Wiley continues to have various complications; Betty to have laser eye surgery on April 16

**Sue Cobern; Helen Bowman**

Tim Wilkes, II & family, traveling.

**OpenDoor Ministry**

**Fishers of Men**

**Far East Missions**

## Family & Friends

**Annette Cates**, wife of Curtis Cates, to have heart valve repair surgery; **Noah Judd**, premature newborn of friends of Brown's; **Kenneth Webb**, Krystal's grandfather, melanoma, hoping to be able to try a new medication; **Carly Wright**, 3 yr. old with stage 3 cancer in liver area, inoperable, receiving chemo; **John Simpson and family**, John hopes to have trachea tube removed so that he can use his voice; **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, Christian residents at Providence Place, they have also requested prayers for their sons, Charles and Chris; **Nicholas Franks; Frederick Bland; Barbara Denton**, friend of Molly, stage 3 cervical cancer. **Brigman Family; Janice Jenkins**, co-worker to Beverly Hayes, rare form of cancer. **Carla Carlson** and her battle with cancer; **Greg Myers, Matthew Canada; Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, cancer; **Doris Easley; Curtis A. Cates; Eli Williams; Ray Maples; Wayne Collinsworth; Andrew Hagewood; Janie Brister; Chuck Tharp; Renee Loya; Aubree Harris; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.**

## April Birthdays

4/1 Joe Owen  
4/6 Ainsley Moore  
4/14 Krystal Myers  
4/20 Aubrey Ratliff

## April Anniversaries

4/4 Ashby & Tammy Johnson

## Get Involved!

**Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- TODAY**

**VBS Meeting -- TODAY**

**Bible Bowl -- April 13 -- 5PM**

Genesis 13-15

Potluck style meal, Everyone invited!

**Providence Place Devo -- April 14 -- 2PM**

**Camping -- May 10**

**Ladies Day at Southaven -- May 16**

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday, April 7

#### Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jim Jackson
Announcements	Billy Bland
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jeremy Moore
	Jeffrey Ferrell
Assist	Ron Johnson
	Jerry Davis
Opening Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Seth Daniel

#### Afternoon

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Joe Owen
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Ron Johnson
	Jason Bayless
Closing Prayer	

### Wednesday, April 10

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Wiley Tuggle