

# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 10, 2011



## AND BECOME AS LITTLE CHILDREN

by Clifton Angel

A little girl and her mother were seated near the wing of a plane, on their way to Florida. The mother pointed out to little Rhonda that they flying were over the ocean. "Can you see the water?" the mother asked. "No, but I can see the diving board" (*Paraphrased from Reader's Digest Jokes & Funny True Stories*).

We love the things our children say. We love to hear of their perception.

On one occasion, Jesus' disciples came to Him and asked, *Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven* (Matthew 18:1-4).

Some in the church take this too literal, and act childish, but Jesus was focusing on the humility of the child. As we think about children, we can also think about their innocence, their honesty, and their lack of worry. Jesus said *be converted*, but likewise when we are "born again", we go back to that state of innocence we once had as a "little child".

According to the Bible, rebirth and conversion occur at the point of baptism (John 3:3-5; Acts 2:38; Acts 3:19). Belief, Repentance, Confession, and Baptism can make you a **child** of God today! But also, James 5:19, 20 tells us that conversion occurs when a child of God living in sin returns to the Lord. Do you need to become a child of God? Or, are you a child of God needing to return to the Lord?

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

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## VISITORS, WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

5:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for all ages & Pew Packers on 1st & 3rd Sundays at 4:15 p.m.

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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

# If God's Love Could Be Measured

Jason Hilburn

When Christians think about everything that God has done for us, everything He does for us now, and everything He has promised to do in the future, we may wonder if we will ever fully comprehend how much God loves us. Paul encouraged the Christians at Ephesus to think about how they should love and how much they were loved: "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:17-19). The love of God "passes knowledge," and can never truly be measured, but perhaps we could describe it in the following ways:

**THE BREADTH** – God's love has been extended worldwide to all men of all ages: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16); "Jesus Christ the righteous...is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:1, 2); "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28); "...whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17; cf. Hebrews 2:9).

**THE LENGTH** – Notice what lengths God would go to for our salvation: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13); "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us..." (1 John 3:16); "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8; cf. Philippians 2:5-8).

**THE DEPTH** – No matter how deep in sin one may be, God's love and mercy is available to all those who will repent and faithfully follow Him: "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief" (1 Timothy 1:15).

**THE HEIGHT** – God's love reaches from Heaven all the way down to Earth! He loves us so much that He wants us to be with Him eternally in Heaven after we leave this Earth! "But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city" (Hebrews 11:16); "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and

prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:2, 3; cf. John 3:13).

There is no greater love than the love God has for us!

## "NO WORRIES"

*by Kevin Pendergrass*

Setting the goal to have "no worries" is a lot easier said than done. But we must obtain!

When problems arise in our lives, usually someone tells us not to worry about them because everything will be all right. How true is this? In Matthew 6:25-34, the Lord tells us that we should not worry about things. In verse 26 Jesus tells us that God takes care of the birds. If He will care for a little bird then He will surely take care of us...right? We shouldn't worry about what we will eat or wear or what will happen to us tomorrow because the Lord will provide. Matthew 10:28 further exhorts us not to worry about the ones who can kill our physical body, but cannot kill our spiritual body. In other words, WE DO NOT NEED TO FEAR OR WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING, because God is in control. BUT, there is a catch...

In Matthew 6:33, the Lord commands, "Seek first the kingdom of God and all his righteousness." We must make sure that GOD is first in our lives. If we do this, everything else will fall into place. Romans 8:28 says "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

Everything will work out in the end if we will simply put God's kingdom and righteousness first in our lives!

### *Sermon Review*

#### **TODAY IS INDEPENDENCE DAY**

Romans 6

- I. FREEDOM FROM **SIN**.
- II. FREEDOM FROM **SATAN**.
- III. FREEDOM FROM **SELF**.

#### ***I SHALL NOT BE MOVED--PART 1***

- I. ROOTED IN **AUTHORITY** (Ps. 16).
- II. ROOTED IN **REDEMPTION** (Ps. 21).
- III. ROOTED IN **LOCATION** (Ps. 46).

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Carson Kinney** is better and it was good to see him back Wednesday.

**Wiley & Betty Tuggle; Nora Boling; Rebecca Brown & family.**

**Tim, Lynn, & Cali** in their upcoming travels and works.

**Tim II, Rachel, & Titus Wilkes** with full time mission work.

### Family & Friends

**Deb Peeler**, Nicci Leonard's mom, recently suffered several complications from a spider bite.

**Roosevelt Spencer**--died, former elder at Bay, AR congregation where Tim II preaches. He was one of only two in their eldership.

**Janie Brister**--Ruth's sister-in-law, has multiple health problems.

**Cathy Thompson**--has lupus.

**Luke Cantrell**--Andy's cousin, had a serious car accident, but is currently doing much better.

**Andy's grandmother**--had bypass surgery and doing well

**Lajuan Collums**--Billy Bland's sister, having some testing done to determine if her cancer is back.

**Ray Maples**--undergoing chemo-therapy for leukemia.

**James Angel**--Clifton's uncle; his cancer is back.

**Steve Angel**--Had surgery to remove the cancer from his kidney. He is doing well thus far.

**Carla Carlson; Leonard Family; Scott McNeer; Trey Hanks; Jimmy Young; Gloria Angel; Richard & Pat Allen; Wilton Wooten; Clay Collums; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg; Brianna Edwards; Steve Angel**

**Let us not forget to pray for the works being done through Fishers of Men, Far East Missions, and the Open Door Ministry.**

### July Anniversary

Shane & Angie Staten 7/17

### July Birthdays

3-Ruth Brister	14-Jason Bayless
4-Inez Neyman	19-Carson Kinney
4-Jimmy Sowell	21-Joyce Stephens
5-Layla Johnson	21-Sam Dickson
6-Cali Bayless	22-Maira Davis
7-Bill Easley	24-Jayce Brown
7-Aemon Ratliff	

## Get Involved!

**Monthly Providence Place Devo--July 10**  
2:00PM--Hope as many as can will participate.

**Southaven VBS--July 10-13**

See flyer on bulletin board.

**Looxahoma VBS--July 11-13**

9 - 11:30 AM, Ages 4 yrs - 6th grade.

**Glendale Singing--Friday, July 15**

See Jeffrey for more details.

**Maira Davis' Baby Shower--July 17**

Following AM Services

**Southaven Youth Day--July 22**

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday, July 10

#### Morning

Prayer Before Class

Jerry Davis

Announcements

Billy Bland

Song Leader

Andy Ratliff

Lord's Supper:

Preside

Jim Jackson

Assist

Jerry Davis

Ron Johnson

Payton Jackson

Opening Prayer

Jared Brown

Sermon

Clifton Angel

Closing Prayer

Wiley Tuggle

#### Evening

Song Leader

Andy Ratliff

Opening Prayer

Caleb Baker

Sermon

Clifton Angel

Lord's Supper

Jim Jackson

Payton Jackson

Closing Prayer

Shane Staten

### Wednesday, July 13

Song Leader

Andy Ratliff

Prayer

Johnny Bayless

Invitation

Clifton Angel

Prayer

Jeremy Moore