

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 15, 2012



MAINTAINING OUR SPIRITUAL FIRE

by Kevin Cauley

This past week I saw a video on the news of a man stepping outside with a boiling pot of water, tossing the water into the air and its instantaneously changing into snow. He was near the top of Mount Washington in New Hampshire and it was thirty-five degrees below zero. My first reaction was, "Hey, that's kind of cool." Then I thought, "Wow, that's really cold." And finally, "That guy's crazy going outside in that kind of weather." Consider that water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit; water freezes at 32 degrees Fahrenheit. That's so cold that the water cooled down 180+ degrees in less than a second. The water froze because of a failure to maintain the fire. What can we do to maintain our spiritual fire?

Lesson #1: Much energy was needed to warm the water; but very little was needed to cool it. In order to boil water one must have a significant energy source. It takes 398 BTUs to change frozen water to boiling water. Energy is required! To the contrary, however, to cool water down takes practically no energy at all. A flick of the wrist and the boiling...

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 on 1st & 3rd Sundays at 4:15 p.m.

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

Coldwater, MS 38618

(662) 622-7951

emailus@coldwatercofc.com

www.coldwatercofc.com

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

...water was frozen. This reminds me of Paul's words to the church in Ephesus to endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3). Paul also said to the Galatians (5:6) that what avails is faith working (the Greek word ENERGEIO – energy!) through love. Even spiritually speaking, energy/effort/work is required in order to stay warm; but what is required to freeze? Just do nothing. Work, that is, the input of energy, is important to maintaining our spiritual fire.

Lesson #2: Together the water was warm; separated, it became cold. Those trillions of water molecules in that boiling pot stayed warm so long as they were in close proximity to each other; they kept warm off each other's heat. However, once they dispersed they quickly cooled not having the company of their "brethren" to keep them warm. Ecclesiastes 4:11 says, "Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?" The story is told of the preacher who visits the un-attending member and, without a word, while sitting in front of the fireplace, merely pulls a coal out of the fire to watch it slowly die. Yet, putting it back in, the coal warms to a soft red glow again. We need to exhort one another daily and not forsake our assembling together! (Hebrews 3:13, 10:25) Togetherness is important to maintaining our spiritual fire.

Lesson #3: Someone "stirred" the pot. That water didn't become snow without someone agitating the pot! If the pot had been left on the fire it would have stayed warm, but it was moved, stirred, agitated. This resulted in the decrease of heat and the increase of cold. Agitation in the church often has the same results. Paul told the church at Philippi, "Do all things without murmurings and disputings" (Philippians 2:14). He said in Colossians 3:13 "Forbearing one another, and forgiving..."

...one another, if any man has a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." Instead of murmuring and quarrelling we need to practice forgiveness to keep ourselves warm and lively. Forgiveness is important to maintaining our spiritual fire.

We all know what it means when a body has "assumed room temperature." Warmth equals life. Cold equals death. Let us do all to avoid assuming room temperature and do everything in our power to maintain our spiritual fire!

This Week's Daily Bible Reading:

Sunday:	Proverbs	7 – 9
Monday:	Proverbs	10 – 12
Tuesday:	Proverbs	13 – 15
Wednesday:	Proverbs	16 – 18
Thursday:	Proverbs	19 – 21
Friday:	Proverbs	22 – 23
Saturday:	Proverbs	24 – 26

Sermon Review

Unity in a Prayer (John 17)

- I. Our Lord's Prayer for Unity
- II. The Possibility of Unity
- III. The Power of Unity

Unity in the form of Peace (Ephesians 4:1-3)

- I. The God of Peace.
- II. The Prince of Peace.
- III. The Kingdom of Peace.
- IV. The Gospel of Peace.

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Tim Wilkes, Sr. & Tim Wilkes, II as they travel **Wiley & Betty Tuggle**; Wiley has been experiencing iron complications with his blood, among other health problems.

Herbert & Helen Bowman;

**OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions**

Family & Friends

Sigman Family, we express sympathy in the loss of Dale Sigman; Dale was Leigh's 2nd cousin. **Jimmy Holden** family in his passing. **Lauren Jackson**, has been told she has some form of cancer, awaiting a second look and potential radiation. **Joy Angel**, Clifton's older sister, has been experiencing some serious pain in her feet, possible circulatory problems. **Gemma Winchester** has stage 4 stomach cancer and is not doing well. **Carla Carlson**, the doctor has told her that her cancer has returned. **Matthew Canada** (5), has down syndrome, but was also diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. **Franklin Taylor**, friend of Daniel's, has cancer. **Eli Williams**, and his battle with cancer. **Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler; **Hilton Jefferies**; **Ray Maples**; **Wayne Collinsworth**; **Andrew Hagewood**; **Janie Brister**; **Chuck Tharp**; **Renee Loya**; **Aubree Harris**; **Virginia Mayfield**; **Peyton Harville**; **Bob Spurlin**; **David Bragg**.

July Birthdays

7/3 Ruth Brister	7/7 Bill Easley
7/4 Inez Neyman	7/13 Seth Daniel
7/4 Jimmy Sowell	7/14 Jason Bayless
7/5 Layla Johnson	7/19 Carson Kinney
7/6 Cali Bayless	7/22 Maira Davis
7/7 Aemon Ratliff	7/24 Jayce Brown

Get Involved!

Daily Bible Reading Calendar 2012

Let's continue to read and study together!!

Nesbit VBS -- July 16-20

7:00 - 8:30 each night

Central Avenue Gospel Meeting -- July 16-20

7:00 pm each night

POWER Youth Rally -- July 20, 21

See flyer on bulletin board in foyer

POWER Lectureship -- July 22-26

See flyer on bulletin board in foyer

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, July 15

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jason Bayless
Song Leader	Caleb Baker
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jared Brown
	Jim Jackson
Assist	Payton Jackson
	Jerry Davis
Opening Prayer	Andy Ratliff
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Ron Johnson

Evening

Song Leader	Caleb Baker
Opening Prayer	Seth Daniel
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jared Brown
	Payton Jackson
	Jeffrey Ferrell
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, July 18

Song Leader	Caleb Baker
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Joe Owen