

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dec. 23, 2018



HOW TO FACE YOUR GOLGOTHA

PART 2

BY ALLEN WEBSTER

JESUS SOUGHT THE COMPANY OF CLOSE FRIENDS

Friends were important to Jesus. It is interesting that twelve of the sixteen times the word friend is used in the New Testament, Jesus either said it or it was used in His presence. He is the "friend who sticks closer than a brother" (Proverbs 18:24), and the "friend of tax collectors and sinners" (Luke 7:34).

We are not surprised to find that though Jesus sought solitude this dark night, He did not go far from His friends. He took the Eleven to the Garden and invited three close friends—Peter, James, John—into the Garden.

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 & fellowship
for lunch every Sunday!

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jerry Davis

Jeffrey Ferrell Chris Martin

Joe Owen Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II John Wofford

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

Jesus prayed alone, but He alternated between His Father and His friends. He wanted Peter, James, and John to stay awake and pray with Him. No doubt part of His reason was for their benefit, protection, and training, but it is safe to say that even the Son of God wanted friends around when the night was dark.

God did not create us to be soloists either. Solomon taught his readers to pay attention to friendships, for one day they will be needed: "Do not forsake your own friend or your father's friend, nor go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity; better is a neighbor nearby than a brother far away" (Proverbs 27:10).

Good friends make us better (Proverbs 27:17). A wise man does not keep his problems bottled up; he asks counsel of other wise men: "Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established" (Proverbs 15:22).

Our friends may be unable to offer a perfect solution or even to give suitable words of comfort—Jesus' friends let Him down that night—but speaking our mind is often a relief. "A joy shared is doubled; a burden shared is halved."

Lesson #2: Don't try to climb Golgotha by yourself.

JESUS SOUGHT COMFORT FROM HIS FATHER IN PRAYER

In Gethsemane, Jesus prayed as no man had ever prayed.

He wrestled with severe mental anguish (Matthew 26:37-38). Mark says He was "troubled" (*ekthambeo*, "astonish utterly; affright") and "deeply distressed" (*ademoneo*, "in distress of mind") (Mark 14:33).

If you had visited that spot at daybreak, you could have found a damp place

where His sweat dripped during those prayers. Many believe He prayed until His capillaries burst into His sweat glands and literally sweated blood¹ (Luke 22:44-45). If so, when you found the dampened earth, it would have been tinged red.

Think of the power of prayer. When God's child lifts his tear-stained face to heaven and says, "Father," the God of the universe turns His head and bends His ear to listen. Imagine! What a joy to know that "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1). He knows (Matthew 6:8); He cares (1 Peter 5:7).

Lesson #3: Don't try to climb Golgotha on your feet. Use your knees.

Endnotes

¹A rare medical condition called bloody sweat or hematidrosis. The blood loss was minimal, but the high stress level is tremendous.

Broken into parts for space

housetohouse.com



Tim Wilkes, II is collecting funds to provide the children of Skinner's Garden in India with some imminent needs: shoes, socks, and backpacks. The total cost will be approximately \$900. There are other needs, but these are the most imminent.

To help, see Tim II ASAP. The trip is coming up in January.

(Pictured: children of Skinner's Garden being silly for a "selfie" in front of my phone camera, in January 2018).

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Aiyana Meredith, having adenoids removed Thursday; **Seth Daniel**, recent fainting and hospital visit; **Cali Bayless**, had wisdom teeth removed; **Inez Neyman**; **Aemon Ratliff**; **Sarah Norris**; **Sammy Williams**; **Stephanie Bayless**; **Timothy Wilkes, Sr**; **Wiley Tuggle**; **Caleb & Elizabeth Baker**; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**.

[Far East Missions](#)|[Fishers of Men](#)|[NetCasters](#)

Family & Friends

Thelma Hayes, Rachel's mom, recovering from surgery; **Ricky Wilkes**, Tim Sr's uncle, stroke; **Dan Talley family**, he passed last week; **Becky Fleming**, doing great, scheduled to go home Dec 24; **Darrell Martin**, Chris' dad, leukemia treatment; **Brinson family**.

Birthdays

12/3	Kevin Miller
12/6	Sammy Williams
12/13	Michael Sykes
12/17	Kaiden Ferrell
12/22	Dalton Owen
12/23	Jeremy Moore
12/24	Daniel Owen
12/30	Renee Davis
12/31	Eli Martin

Anniversaries

12/2	Andy & Whitney Acklin
12/13	Jerry & Renee Davis

Get Involved!

Sen. Health & Rehab Devo: Dec 26, 10 AM
Jeremy Thornton preaching

Coldwater Singing Night: Dec 26, 7 PM

5th Sunday Service: Dec 30, 1 PM

Note: No Fellowship Meal Dec 30

You are welcome to bring food and eat at building, go out to eat, go home and eat, but we will still assemble again at 1 PM.

New Quarter Begins: Jan 6

See Jeffrey ASAP to teach

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, December 23

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jim Jackson
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Tim Wilkes II
Assist	Carl Honeycutt
	Russell Wadsworth
Opening Prayer	Chris Martin
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Tim Meredith

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Opening Prayer	Billy Bland
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Tim Wilkes II
Closing Prayer	Andy Ratliff

Wednesday, December 26

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Tim Wilkes II
Prayer	Joe Owen

TECH:	Davis Johnson
HALL:	Tim & Rachel Wilkes