

# THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

Volume 2, Issue 8  
August, 2012

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

### Daily Scriptures:

Week of 8/5:  
Mon – Matt 6:19-34  
Tues – Matt 7  
Wed – Matt 8:1-17  
Thur – Matt 8:18-34  
Fri – Matt 9:1-17  
Sat – Matt 9:18-38

Week of 8/12:  
Mon – Psalm 130  
Tues – Luke 15  
Wed – John 9  
Thur – John 21  
Fri – 1 Timothy 1  
Sat – 2 Corinthians 5

Week of 8/19:  
Mon – Matthew 18  
Tues – Luke 4:1-13  
Wed – Luke 22:1-34  
Thur – Luke 22:35-62  
Fri – 1 Timothy 6  
Sat – Exodus 20:1-21

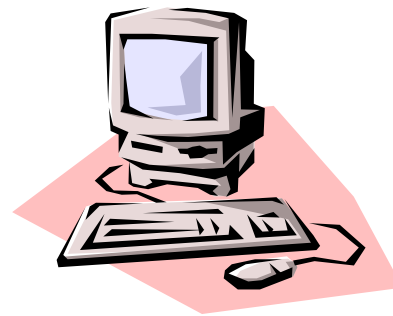
Week of 8/26:  
Mon – Num 14:1-19  
Tues – Num 14:20-45  
Wed – Psalm 5  
Thur – Psalm 27  
Fri – Nehemiah 1  
Sat – Nehemiah 2

### PRAYER

<sup>7</sup>And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup>Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. (Matthew 6:7-8)



Aug 5 - Approaching the Throne  
Aug 12 - Asking for Needs  
Aug 19 - Accepting Forgiveness  
Aug 26 - Avoiding Temptation



Check us out online:  
[www.fccmtncity.org](http://www.fccmtncity.org)

## What a Mighty God we Serve!

In the midst of our busy lives, we can lose track of how great God really is! We have had an exciting year as a church, and we are now in a new year of service for the Lord.

During this church year, I would like for us to be on purpose with our service for the Lord, but I also want us to take the time to remember just how Mighty God is!

During the month of August, we will be going through the Lord's Prayer for our sermon series. In this model prayer, there are 4 parts that can help us grow in our prayer life. As we go through this series, let us make a point to pray to God like we know He is hearing us! We need to have the confidence that our Mighty God is able and willing to answer our prayers!

On Wed nights, I will be teaching some topical lessons on the Spiritual life of Jesus. We know He was fully God, but did you know that He set the example for us through the Spiritual disciplines?

Let's grow together!  
-Earl Winfrey  
[Earl@mkdisciples.org](mailto:Earl@mkdisciples.org)

[4] "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. [5] You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. [6] And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. [7] You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deuteronomy 6:4-7)

While at the North American Christian Convention, Earl and I attended a workshop led by Dave and Beth Stone, along with two of their three children. The workshop was about raising children who love the church. There were a lot of ideas that I learned, but one stood out and I want to share that with you. Earl and I want Wil and Michaela to grow up, going to church not because they have to but because they WANT to! I believe that it is safe to say that whether you are a parent or grandparent, your longing is the same!

Children will either grow up to love the church, hate the church, or be completely indifferent to church altogether. We are raising our next generation of church leaders and church goers so it is imperative that we instill this love now!

So...how do we get our children to love the church? The most important thing is, if we want our children to love the church, WE HAVE TO LOVE THE CHURCH! What do our children see on Sunday mornings or Wednesday afternoons? Do they see us grumbling about having to wake up so early and get everybody ready? Do they see us talking under your breath about how this person is acting or what that person said? Are we excited about getting to go to church and worship with fellow believers? Our children will pick up on our attitude and begin to equate church with either grumbling or joy! Proverbs 22:6 says, "Point your children in the right direction-when they're old they won't be lost." Which direction are we pointing our children regarding church? - Michael

### **Attention!!**

We will be starting our Women's Bible Study at the beginning of September. We will be doing "A Woman After God's Own Heart" by Elizabeth George. It will be a 10-week study and the workbook for the study is \$10.00. We will have one study in Franklin at Sara Berg's home. This study will be held on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month, starting at 10:30. We will also have an evening study at the church. This study will be held on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month, starting at 6:30. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship hall if you would like to participate. Please sign-up and give Michael the amount for the workbook by Aug 19th.

Safe Prayers - We develop patterns and routines of prayer in our lives. While there is tremendous value in establishing the discipline of regular prayer, we can fall victim to praying the same phrases and words each day and lose the depth of meaning of what we are seeking God for. Have we allowed ourselves to be content with asking for immediate physical needs, blessings, and safety? While there is nothing wrong in praying for safety & protection, it does necessarily lead to an increase in our faith. We have neglected to pray bold prayers that seek the best & most of what God has to offer to us. If we have even a fundamental understanding of God's infinite power we should be seeking more of it. We have to move beyond the easy prayers for ourselves and the benefits to our lives and ask God to do miraculous things in our communities and in the Church. It is in this stretching of our safe-zone boundaries that we gain greater glimpses of God and see His Church's influence increase. This bold and desperate prayer reflects our desire to see more of the power of the Holy Spirit working in us even as it scares us to think what that might look like as God answers. - Craig Portwood (New Beginnings Blog)

"It's not the load that breaks you down, it's the way you carry it." - Lou Holtz

### Be the Church

As the Apostle Paul finished his first letter to the church in Corinth, he gave them some encouragement that could apply to us today. He gave 3 ways that the church can stay faithful as the Bride of Christ and stand firm until Christ returns. Let us remember to take this encouragement personal as we set out to continue what the Lord started.

[58] Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

#### I. Be steadfast (Firm)

This word comes from another word that means a seat or base. Being steadfast means that you properly sit, you are morally fixed, firm in purpose. In other words, you stay on course with your purpose, and for our church, the Great Commission is our purpose! So how are we doing with saving lost souls?

#### II. Be Immovable

As we set out to save lost souls, we need to stand our ground. The devil would love nothing more than to move us off our path so we spend too much time chasing our tails. We need to remember that if we do not stand for something, we could end up falling for anything! When a tree is planted, it will not survive unless it develops a healthy root system. In the same way, we MUST develop healthy roots in God's Word if we expect to produce good Spiritual fruit.

#### III. Be abounding in the work of the Lord

You cannot lead somebody where you are not willing to go. If you want the church to lead the community to Jesus, you have to first make up your mind that you are going to find Jesus. If you want people to love the church and help it grow, you have to love the church and help it grow. If you want the programs, Bible Studies, events, and anything else here at FCC of Mountain City to be successful, you have to do your part to make it a success.

You cannot lead somebody where you are not willing to go! Jesus wanted us to come to Him so we could make it to heaven. Jesus led us through the salvation process by going through the death, burial and resurrection as our Messiah, and now we have the opportunity to join Him through the process of Baptism!

In Matthew 28:20, Jesus promised us that He would be with us always until the end of the age. Can we as the Bride of Christ promise God that we will be with Him every step of the way? Can we commit ourselves to reaching the lost souls in our community? Can we be steadfast, immovable and abound in the work of the Lord? Will we continue searching until there are no lost souls left?

"We need to give the church back to its rightful owner." - Dr. Jerry Taylor

A child was asked to write a book report on the entire Bible.

I wonder how often we take for granted that children understand what we are teaching???

Through the eyes of a child:

The Children's Bible in a Nutshell

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas.

The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one, but I think He must be a lot older than that.

Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did.

Then God made the world.

He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden....

Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel.

Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments.

These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff.

Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore.

There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, 'As a matter of fact, I was.')

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats.

Jesus also had twelve opossums.

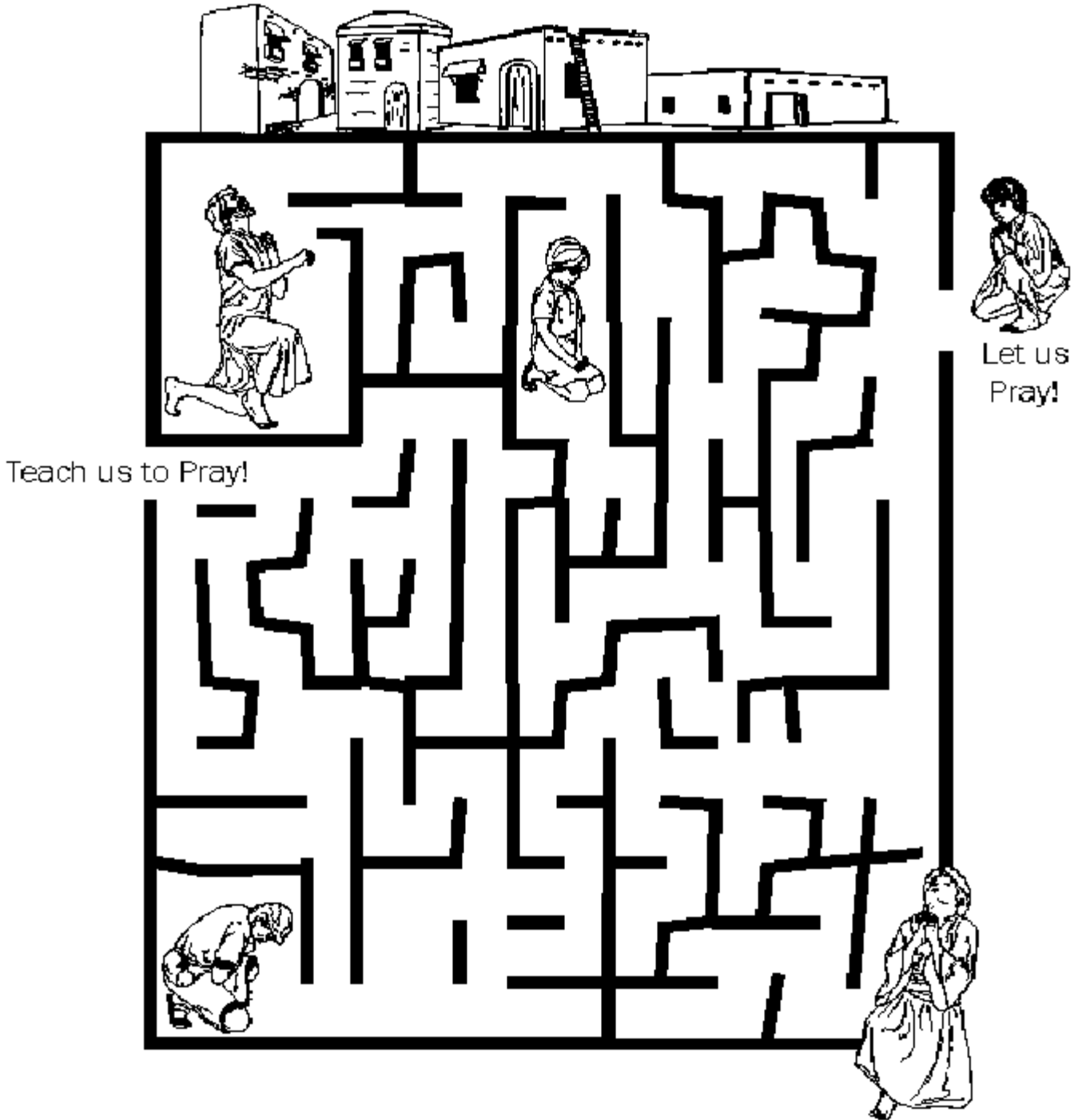
The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him.

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount.

But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead.

Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

“But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 19:14 ESV)



[9] Pray then like this:  
“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. [10] Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. [11] Give us this day our daily bread, [12] and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

[13] And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [14] For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, [15] but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. (Matthew 6:9-15)

*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12 (NIV)*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Thursday - Food Pantry 4:30-5:30 pm  
 Aug 3 - Craft Day  
 Aug 4 - Work Day 9am  
 Aug 5 - Fellowship Meal after Worship  
           Elders Meeting after meal  
 Aug 8 - Elders/Deacons meeting 5pm  
 Aug 17 - Game Night  
 Aug 17-18 - Men's Retreat  
 Aug 28 - Deadline for Sept Newsletter  
           Men's Night 6:30pm  
 Sept 2 - Fellowship Meal after Worship  
           Elders Meeting after Meal

Servers for August:  
 Morning Prayer - Luke Turner  
 Offering Prayer - Tom Labbie  
 Server - Ernie Smith  
 Communion Meditation - Lee Lantzer  
 Communion Preparation - Michael Winfrey



Please keep us informed of any address changes so we can keep our records up to date.

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General Prayer Items for the month:

(Please see the weekly bulletin for the church prayer list.)

- Church Leadership
- Ministries of the church
- Members
- Visitors
- Lost Souls
- Those needing work/Home sales
- The persecuted church
- Missionaries
- Future Kingdom Workers
- Those serving in the Military
- Government
- Schools

**Evangelistic Opportunities:**

Does your neighbor go to church?  
 Does your neighbor know that you go to church?

**Partners in Ministry**

**Don't forget to pray for those churches around us and near our hearts!**

- FCC of Franklin, NC
- Toccoa Christian Church
- Providence Road Church of Christ (Charlotte, NC)
- First Christian Church of Fairburn, GA
- Coastline Christian Church (New Smyrna Beach)
- Southlake Christian Church (Groveland, FL)
- Christian Church at Deleon Springs, FL
- Tomoka Christian Church (Ormond Beach, FL)
- N. Citrus Christian Church (Citrus Springs, FL)

If anyone knows of any churches that need to be added to this list, be sure to let Earl know.

Our annual Men's Retreat will be August 17-18 at Tellico Christian Camp in Franklin NC.  
 Our guest speaker for the retreat will be Paul Carrier who has over 55 years of ministry experience.  
 Paul is now retired although he still cares for the shut-ins at Christian City. He will also be preaching the following Sunday, August 19 for our morning worship service! Be sure to mark your calendar!

In the sentence of life, the devil may be a comma,  
 but never let him be the period.