

Sunday Sermon

AM - What Is Your Life - James 4:17 - Ray Pack

PM - A Fire Tested Faith - Daniel 3:1-30 - Ray Pack



South Jackson Beacon

"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Vol IX

January 10, 2016

No. 2

South Jackson Events

Today

Youth Devo

Jan 12th

Dorcas Class Begins - 10:00 a.m.
(Remember that if schools are closed
we do NOT meet)

Jan 17th

Men's Business Meeting

Jan 24th

Forest Cove Devo - 2:30 p.m.

Feb 7th

Forest Cove Devo - 2:30 p.m.

Feb 14th

Youth Devo

Feb 20th

Ladies Day here at South Jackson

Feb 21st

Men's Business Meeting - 3:30 p.m.

Those Privileged to Serve

Jan 10th - MORNING WORSHIP
6 A.M. Les Farough

Announcements: Marion Thomas

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture: Costel Ghimpu

Opening Prayer: Joseph Johnson

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Jeff Cogdell

Communion:

B. Richardson, Q. Green, P. Hatcher
L. Farough, B. Landers, S. Lewis

Greeters: M/M Stennis Lewis

Nursery Att: A.M. Bonita Staggs

P.M. Carol Swader

Jan 10th - EVENING WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas

Opening Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Seth Newell

Communion:

Ray Pack, Gaylon Cooper

Jan 13th - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas

Opening Prayer: Ray Pack

Invitation: Seth Newell

Closing Prayer: Ken Ross

Pantry Item - Macaroni & Cheese

A publication of the South Jackson Church of Christ

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~News and Notes~

Weekly Record

6 a.m. Worship	4
Sun. Morning Bible Study	83
Sunday Morning Worship	140
Sunday Evening Worship	80
Wed. Bible Study	84
Contribution	\$3505

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Jeanette Morris had surgery on Wednesday of last week. She is now at home.

Freddy Callis, husband of Carolyn, was in the hospital with chest pains last week; he is at home with meds for high blood pressure.

Members: Ron McDonald, Iva Hopper, Teresa Yearwood, Mary Bolen, Ted Lingren, Inez Rigsby, Helen Avent, Freddie Stewart, and Cindy Kidder

Edit Your Calendar

Please add Sharon Turner to your birthday calendar on January 27th.

Update Your Directory

Gail Crabb has a new phone number. It is 731-927-0308 (Cell)

Those Privileged to Serve

Jan 17th - MORNING WORSHIP

6 A.M. Ray Pack, Gaylon Cooper

Announcements: Marion Thomas

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture: Jeff Cogdell

Opening Prayer: Ken Ross

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: James Eddleman

Communion:

B. Richardson, Q. Green, P. Hatcher

L. Farough, B. Landers, S. Lewis

Greeters: M. Montgomery, B. Mosely

Nursery Att: A.M. Paula Wadley

P.M. Gail Crabb

Jan 17th - EVENING WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Les Farough

Opening Prayer: James Eddleman

Sermon: Chad Thompson

(Apologetics Press)

Closing Prayer: Charlie Richardson

Communion:

Ray Pack, Gaylon Cooper

Jan 20th - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Les Farough

Opening Prayer: Joseph Johnson

Invitation: Ken Ross

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Boredom is...

a sickness of the soul.

~Anon.

It's Your Life, You Know

Dee Bowman

Life is filled with perplexities, puzzlements of various sorts. It has odd turns: seemingly insignificant things sometimes turn out to be terribly significant; things that aren't supposed to work out, but sometimes do; and things that seemingly should work out, but don't. Life is a tangled web, a knotty, mostly inexplicable web. Man seeks to describe it, to explain, and he can't. All he can do is live it.

But don't despair. There is more to life than just an inexplicable maze of unrelated and uncontrollable events. Actually, God made life, and it is to Him that we must turn for information concerning its proper management. Life can be a zesty, fulfilling experience, even in the face of difficulty or adversity, if it is lived in accordance with the designs of the Maker. Otherwise it's just an empty shell lived without meaning and with little genuine happiness attached to it.

First, let it be carefully observed that a life divorced from God has little meaning. Solomon paints a sordid picture of life in Ecclesiastes. He says that the sun rises and goes down over and over. He says that one generation comes and another passes away. He says that the weather forecast really doesn't change that much -- that one cold front follows another, that "that which is crooked cannot be made straight and that which is wanting cannot be numbered" (Ecclesiastes 1:15). Paul the Apostle echoes the same sentiment when he exclaims, "If in this world only we have hope, we are of all men most miserable" (I Corinthians 15:19). So let it first be noted that a good life begins by getting in touch with God.

Life has meaning when it generates service. Service is the essence of life. To put oneself at the disposal of others is to bring meaning to life, to be a part of society, to bring honor to the Creator. We are "all members one of another" (Romans 12:5). That means we're joined in service to one another. We don't all have the same talent, but we all have some talent with which to serve. Want a fulfilling life? Put yourself at the disposal of others. Get out of yourself and get involved in serving others.

Life has meaning when it is motivated by love. Love is the divine energizer. It brings things about. It generates the motion necessary for everything from good marital relationships, to good congregations of God's people. Actually, what is not motivated by love is of little value in the ultimate reality. Love broadens, softens, actuates, disciplines, clarifies, joins, repairs, and is behind every sort of human happiness. Love and you'll be blessed -- even when things go wrong.

Furthermore, life has meaning when it is pointed in the right direction. "I am the way, the truth, and the life," is Jesus' way of saying, "point your life toward Me or it will have no meaning." The Hebrew writer must have had this concept in mind when he said we should run the race "with patience, looking to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith." To look in the wrong direction is disastrous! You will have a wreck for sure.

Finally, faith is the substance for giving life real meaning. A life that has been lived without any connection to the life hereafter is foolish indeed. More than that, it's a terrible waste! Even the light affliction worketh for us a far greater and eternal weight of glory, while we look not at the things which are seen. For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal (II Corinthians 4:17,18). You should know by now that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Our faith is the basis for our hope. If we look in the right direction, we will see -- off in the distance there -- eternal life. Now that's a life worth living!

