

Those Privileged to Serve

Dec 10th- MORNING WORSHIP
6 A.M. B. Richardson, M. Wages

Announcements: Gaylon Cooper

Lead Singing: John Smith
Read Scripture: Darrell Cunningham
Opening Prayer: Freeman Kidder
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Jeff Lewis

Communion:
 K. Ross, A. Vaughn, H. Davis
 E. Anderson, T. Williams, C. Richardson

Greet: Jeanne Buford &
 Reba Donaldson

Dec 10th - EVENING WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer: Mike Wages
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Joseph Johnson

Communion:
 J. Venable, F. Kidder

Dec 13th - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer: Darrell Cunningham
Devotional: Mike Wages
Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Minister: Ray Pack
 Email: rpack119@gmail.com
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South Jackson Church of Christ
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 Medon, TN 38356
www.southjacksonchurchofchrist.org
 (731) 424-9721

Dec 17th- MORNING WORSHIP
6 A.M. J. Lewis, J. Smith

Announcements: Gaylon Cooper

Lead Singing: Mike Wages
Read Scripture: Marion Thomas
Opening Prayer: Darrell Cunningham
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion:
 K. Ross, A. Vaughn, H. Davis
 E. Anderson, T. Williams, C. Richardson

Greet: Freeman & Shelia Kidder

Dec 17th - EVENING WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas
Opening Prayer: Ken Ross
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Freeman Kidder

Communion:
 J. Venable, F. Kidder

Dec 20th - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas
Opening Prayer: Freeman Kidder
Devotional: Walt Ferguson
Closing Prayer: Gaylon Cooper

Weekly Record

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Contribution	\$ 4136



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Happiness and Pleasure

Have you ever finished a good book wishing there were more to the story? Have you ever watched a movie leaving the theater unsatisfied? Perhaps after a good meal you've wished there were more to come. Such things clearly provide us with momentary pleasure, but our desire for more belies our unhappiness. Why are we so unhappy in our society today?



We are the most prosperous nation on the earth yet one out of every four individuals in our nation has some kind of depression. What are we doing wrong?

Are we confusing pleasure with happiness? Many feel that their personal happiness rests upon having one pleasurable moment after another. They reason that they simply aren't happy unless each moment is filled with pleasure. We need to stop thinking this way and look at happiness from a different perspective. Happiness does not depend merely upon having pleasurable moments, but rather, upon whether or not we are content or satisfied with the moments that come our way. In other words, I don't have to feel pleasure from something in order to be happy. Is this a strange concept to you?

The word "pleasure" connotes the idea of enjoyment due to momentary gratification. The word "happiness," however, contains the idea of a prolonged state of satisfaction and contentment associated with one's overall circumstances. We ask, "Are you happy?" and we mean by that question to know about one's general conditions in life. We ask, "Are you pleased?" and mean whether one is satisfied with a particular item.

Happiness is a state of mind. We can be happy regardless the situation we are in. Paul said in Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, rejoice." We can control our state of mind by focusing upon happy

things. Pleasure, however, is a feeling experienced in the body.

The Proverbs writer said, "He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich" (Proverbs 21:17). The Hebrew parallel here indicates that loving pleasure is the same as loving "wine and oil," things associated with bodily pleasure. As Christians we are to focus upon the spiritual, not the physical (Colossians 3:2).

Happiness rests upon contentment. Paul tells Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:6 "But godliness with contentment is great gain." One blessing that comes from contentment is an indescribable happiness which cannot be easily subverted. On the other hand, pleasure is often driven by boredom or being malcontent. When we are malcontent we seek for something to stimulate our senses so as to create bodily pleasure. We simply end up unsatisfied after the experience has ended, or craving a more addictive behavior. Solomon experienced this as recorded in Ecclesiastes 2:1 "I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity." Proverbs 14:13 states, "Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful; and the end of that mirth is heaviness." Let us learn contentment if we desire to be happy.

Happiness is satisfied with "clean fun." It is interesting that the word "fun" is not in the Bible. We do find, however, that God "gives us richly all things to enjoy" (1 Timothy 6:17). In that regard, God's gifts are pure and unadulterated. James 1:17 states, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." On the other hand, pleasure often delves into sinfulness. Paul spoke to Timothy of a time when men would be "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God" (2 Timothy 3:4) and the Hebrew writer spoke of Moses who chose not to "enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season" (Hebrews 11:25). Sinful activities may produce pleasure but ultimately provide no lasting happiness.

Let's resolve to seek happiness regardless of our circumstances, to base our happiness upon contentment, and to enjoy the good things God has given while shunning sin in our lives. By so doing, we can avoid confusing pleasure with happiness

*Kevin Cauley
New Boston Church of Christ
New Boston, Texas*

Sunday Sermons

AM - Mature Christian Living - Contentment - 1 Timothy 6:6-8
PM - Great Bible Words - Forgiveness

Congregational News and Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Harold and Doris Davis,
Ron and Nadine McDonald,
James Eddleman, Rachel Epperson,
Ted Lingren, Billy Landers,
Fredie Stewart, Cindy Kidder,
Iva Hopper, Roberta Donaldson
Freeman Kidder, Doug Crouse,
Margie Montgomery, Tom Crow,
Margie Whitehead, Helen Avent,
Louise Buck, Gwen Smith,
Jorita Richardson, Barbara Ray,
Jerry Crabb, Jeanette Morris,
Mary Bolen, Shirley Puckett
Gaylon & Betty Cooper,

Friends & Family:

Horace Yearwood, Tim Boyd,
Al Stewart, Ruth Cox,
Judy Jennings, Raymond Cagle,
Beverly Martindale, Rosie Love,
Bethany Tims, Nancy Anderson,
Bill and Gladys Gowan,
Loretta Stanfill, John Sawyer,
Jerry Yarbrough, Rick Barnett,
Jere Jennings, Diane Hubbard

Cards to Send

Harold & Doris Davis
64 Coatsland Drive
Jackson, TN 38301

Roberta Donaldson
123 Old Pinson Road
Jackson, TN, 38301

Diane Hubbard
2236 Taney Street
Gary, In 46404
(Pearl Johnson' Daughter)

Happenings South Jackson

12/15

Adult Holiday Party
6:30 PM
See Bulletin Board for More
information
Please bring a 3-5 dollar wrapped or
bagged gift

12/17

Children's Holiday Party
3:30-4:30 PM

Pantry Item

Mustard

Thank You Cards

Several Thank You cards are posted
on the bulletin board.

A Big Thank You

Thank you to the all who came and
helped assemble the fruit baskets.

Sympathy Extended

Our deepest sympathy is extended to
Carolyn Callis on the passing of her
mother, Tommye Seigler.

A dear, compassionate lady has
passed from our presence. Sister
Tommye always brought great joy to
all.