

Those Privileged to Serve

Dec 25th - MORNING WORSHIP

6 A.M. J. Lewis, J. Smith

Announcements: Mike Wages

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture: Ken Ross

Opening Prayer: Darrell Cunningham

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Gaylon Cooper

Communion:

B. Richardson, P. Love, J. Orr

J. Johnson, C. Richardson, J. Cogdell

Greet: Mike & Leah Wages

Nursery Att: A.M. Sybil Jones

P.M. Gail Crabb

Dec 25th - EVENING WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas

Opening Prayer: Freeman Kidder

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Darrell Cunningham

Communion:

Joe Venable, Ken Ross

Dec 28th - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas

Opening Prayer: Darrell Cunningham

Invitation: Freeman Kidder

Closing Prayer: Paul Hatcher

Jan 1st - MORNING WORSHIP

6 A.M. R. Pack, G. Cooper

Announcements: Marion Thomas

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture: Carleton Kidder

Opening Prayer: Gaylon Cooper

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Freeman Kidder

Communion:

J. Lewis, P. Love, B. Landers

K. Ross, M. James, A. Vaughn

Greet: Jeff & Paula Lewis

Nursery Att: A.M. Sandra Jordan

P.M. Reba Donaldson

Jan 1st - EVENING WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer: Darrell Cunningham

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion:

Carleton Kidder, Ray Pack

Jan 4th - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer: Marion Thomas

Invitation: Walt Ferguson

Closing Prayer: Freeman Kidder

Weekly Record

6 a.m. Worship	4
Sun. Morning Bible Study	78
Sunday Morning Worship	128
Sunday Evening Worship	79
Wed. Bible Study	87
Contribution	\$ 4202

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Teach Your Children To Be Givers

It's no secret that we live in a materialistic society. The mainstream media constantly bombards us with advertisements of products that we "need." My generation has perfected the art of "keeping up with the Joneses." In fact, most individuals my age wanted to start their marriages with the same material possessions that it took our parents thirty years to amass. And so, we purchased it all—on credit.



We are a generation of consumers and takers. Sadly, this selfishness is now being passed on to future generations, as children want more and more. Holidays such as Christmas are no longer about family and memories, but rather they revolve around commercialism and "things."

Here's what I intend on teaching my children about giving versus taking.

Every Christmas morning since you were born your mother and I have set up a video camera to record the events of the morning. It's one of the ways we have recorded you growing up through the years, as you went from crawling over presents and playing with empty boxes, to running into the room trying to guess exactly what was in each box. One of our joys as parents has been watching you tear open the wrapping paper and seeing your eyes light up as you see what was contained in each package.

Having been reared in the United States, you are extremely blessed. You have never experienced poverty or not had something you need. In fact, most of the time you get things you want. But your mother and I worry about what we are teaching you regarding giving versus taking. One of my greatest hopes is that during your lifetime you will learn the joy of giving. Undoubtedly, you will grow up around individuals who surround themselves with “things.” But remember, things won’t buy happiness. Remember that those “things” can never fill the void in your life as He can. And never forget ultimately Who owns everything.

There are literally thousands of individuals who have abandoned the Faith in favor of material possessions. These people are selfish takers. They never learned the art of giving. In the book of Acts, Paul reminded the people of the words Jesus Christ who said “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). Never forget this admonition from the Son of God. I pray that as you grow older you will constantly be on the lookout for ways to give to others. The feeling you get inside is like none other. Practice random acts of kindness. Never forget—people are much more valuable than things.

When your mom and I were in Russia, we had the opportunity to visit the “flat” (apartment) of one of the local Christians. They lived a beautiful life, but it was obvious they did not own nearly the material possessions we did. They worked hard just to get by. During our visit, we complimented a picture she had hanging on the wall, and she literally went over and took it off the wall and gave it to us. We tried desperately to tell her no, but she insisted. In the years since, I have forgotten her name but we still have the picture. Her act of kindness has remained in my memory for years. She truly was a giver.

As you mature, you will meet people who place an inordinate amount of attention on material possessions. Their identity is shaped not by who they really are, but rather by what they own. Many people spend years climbing the corporate ladder so that they can buy more “things.” These individuals remind us of the Rich Young Ruler who asked Jesus what he needed to do to have eternal life. “Jesus said to him, ‘If you want to be perfect, go sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come and follow me’” (Matthew 19:21). Rather than him ruling his possessions, his possessions ruled him. The Bible tells us he went away sorrowful because he had many possessions.

Be thankful for what God has blessed you with, but never let your material possessions separate you from Jehovah God. Look for ways to share your possessions. Be a giver, not a taker!

Brad Harrub
<http://churchofchristarticles.com/>

Congregational News and Notes

Prayer Requested

Theresa Yearwood remains in room 4104 at General Hospital.

Members

Harold and Doris Davis,
Ron and Nadine McDonald,
Jean Harber, Rachel Epperson,
Louise Hopper, Teresa Yearwood,
Ted Lingren, Fredie Stewart,
Cindy Kidder, Iva Hopper,
Bill and Gladys Gowan,
Teriyaki Anderson, Tom Crow

Friends & Family:

Horace Yearwood, Loretta Stanfill,
Sammy Snead, Tim Boyd,
Jewel Spinks, Al Stewart,
Hilda Beates, Judy Jennings

Cards to Send This Week

Harold and Doris Davis
64 Coatsland Drive
Jackson, TN 38301

Ron and Nadine McDonald
501 Parkburg Road
Jackson, TN 38301

Need to be Met

There is a need for more men to serve as ushers and to count the weekly contribution. For usher duties, see Luther Merritt. For counting, see Gaylon Cooper.

Happenings

South Jackson

1/8

Youth Devotional

Pantry Item

Canned Lima Beans

Directory Picture and Updates

We would like to take pictures for new members, along with anyone else who wants to change theirs on January 8th and 15th.

Wednesday Ladies Class

Class will resume on January 4th. Baleri Cunningham will be teaching this quarter.

Dorcas Class

Class will resume on January 17th. We will finish the study in James.

Member Info

Please take a sheet and fill it out so the office will have current and up to date information about you and your family. Place the completed forms in the box in the foyer.