



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XV

July 10, 2022

No.28

Starving to Death in the Pews

The following is not a story thought up by an imaginative preacher simply to illustrate a point. It really happened.

She often sat in the auditorium, and as the preacher delivered his message, her young children noticed that she often wept. When one of them asked her why she was crying she said, "I come here every week, and I am starving for food, but I am getting nothing to eat. I am dying of thirst, but I am getting nothing to drink." When they changed churches it all changed. She no longer wept in worship. She found that spiritual food for her soul was there, and her spiritual thirst was quenched by the waters which flowed from the pulpit.

I wonder how many Bible class teachers or preachers are like that one the woman first heard. I wonder how many individuals leave worship without having sat at the feet of one who, figuratively, first sat at Jesus' feet. What kind of food do we give to those who come hungering and thirsting for God? I am not talking about lessons which are designed to create a feeling of spirituality, but one which uses God's messages to heal the souls with the balm from heaven. Those who have little understanding of the place of preaching suppose that, when their "itching ears" are tickled and their hearts are stirred by "cunningly devised stories" delivered by a gifted orator (2 Tim. 4:3), they have grown spiritually. However, God designed the pulpit as a place where there would be edification, exhortation, comfort, reproof, rebuke and convincing, with a

longsuffering heart and teaching (doctrine) (1 Cor. 14:3; 2 Tim. 4:2). Some who sat beside the woman who wept at what she was hearing may have felt they were getting what they needed. But, what they supposed were their needs was not what God knew were their needs.

So to my fellow teachers and preachers, let me urge that you examine your preaching. Great preaching does not come from great, emotionally driven stories. It does not come from discussion of sports, politics or your personal family experiences. They may be satisfying and entertaining to your audience, but God designed the pulpit to feed those who are hungry and to give them water to drink from the “living water” who lived on this earth. It takes far more time to prepare lessons which feed others than it does to use the internet to copy and then “parrot” lessons with moving illustrations, but this latter practice does not feed souls or build faith.

There is an audience which must be satisfied each week when you teach or preach. It is so easy to forget this truth. The audience which must be pleased at the end of your lesson is not the one which sits before you. The audience which matters is the one which is above you!

Dan Jenkins
Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ
West Palm Beach, FL

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Harold Davis, Mary Bolen
Ron and Nadine McDonald,
Sandra Jordan, Fredie Stewart,
Cindy Kidder, Garmelia Ellis,
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,
Doug Crouse, Norma Cogdell
Margie Montgomery, Sue Harris,
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,
Ken & Paula Wadley,
Clara Williams, Jane Graves
Charles & Ruby Malone

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Helen Morris
Beverly Martindale,
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,
Jeffrey Smith, Betty Turner,
Shirley Bolin, Brandi Rogers,
Jeanette Manley, Wayne Warren
Kenton Lancaster,
Marilyn Ferrell,
Ramona Thurston

Sunday Sermon's

AM - Hunger and Thirst
Matthew 5:6

PM - The Works and
Word of God
Psalm 19

Pantry Item

Canned Peaches

Happenings

South Jackson

July 17

Men's Business Meeting

July 31

5th Sunday Fellowship Meal
We will have Worship followed
by the meal and Evening
Worship will be at 1:30 PM.

Area Events

July 23

Mid South Youth Camp Fish Fry
Details on the Bulletin Board

Cards to Send

Ron & Nadine McDonald
82 Will McKnight Drive
Room 26
Jackson, TN 38301

Margie Montgomery
321 Willoughby Loop
Pinson, TN 38366

Weekly Record

6 AM	6
Bible Class	41/19
AM Worship	84/18
PM Worship	45/10
Wed Bible Study	39/0
Contribution	4495

Those Privileged to Serve

July 10 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Pack, G. Cooper

Lead Singing: John Smith
Read Scripture:
Van McConnell
Opening Prayer:
Joe Venable
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Ronald Clouse
Communion: Mike Wages
Contribution:
Ray Pack

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas
Opening Prayer:
Ray Pack
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Ken Ross
Communion: Mike Wages

July 13 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas
Opening Prayer:
Ken Ross
Devotional: Ray Pack

South Jackson Church of Christ
845 Highway 18
Medon, TN
(731) 424-9721
Minister: Ray Pack
rpack119@gmail.com
(731) 437-9501

July 17 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Butcher, J. Smith

Lead Singing: Mike Wages
Read Scripture:
Costel Gimphu
Opening Prayer:
Ken Ross
Sermon: Mike Wages
Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder
Communion: Joe Venable
Contribution:
Charlie Richardson

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: John Smith
Opening Prayer:
Mike Wages
Sermon: Marion Thomas
Closing Prayer: Ken Ross
Communion: Joe Venable

July 20 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: John Smith
Opening Prayer:
Joe Venable
Devotional: Mike Wages

Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 AM
Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	6:30 PM