



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVI

July 16, 2023

No. 29

Fire Ants ***Kevin Cauley***

I don't like fire ants, but I do admire them. I suppose that is kind of a strange statement, so let me explain. Last week I was out in the yard playing catch with my son Gavin. I was wearing my flip-flop sandals, and I became an easy target for those pesky critters. It did not take long before I recognized their presence from their pinch-like sting. They left several pips on my feet where they got me. I moved, but they seemed to be everywhere. I finally went inside the house. Today, as I looked around the yard, I noticed several mounds that had arisen after the recent rains. The amount of dirt that they can move in a few days is impressive for their size. They are diligent creatures. fire ants

In Proverbs 6:6-8, the Holy Spirit teaches us about the power of diligence from the example of the ant. "Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, Which, having no captain, Overseer or ruler, Provides her supplies in the summer, And gathers her food in the harvest." The power of the ant is the power of consistent effort. The ant, though small and insignificant, was able to drive me back into my house from enjoying a wonderful afternoon. The tiny ant can move mounds of dirt from below to above ground. How do they do it? They work together. They do not give up. They are consistent. They practice self-sacrifice.

We need to follow their example in taking the gospel to the world around us. Are we working together to do that? Are we being consistent in doing that? Are we being faithful? Are we being self-sacrificial? Do not forget 1 Corinthians 15:58.

Publicity and the Gospel

Kevin Cauley

“There’s no such thing as bad publicity” is a saying attributed to P.T. Barnum and his famous circus. He had a lot of critics, but people kept coming to see what he was peddling, and it worked too. Oscar Wilde once famously said, “The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.” Apathy is the lukewarm killer. It seems that even Jesus agreed with these sentiments. He once said, “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot” (Revelation 3:15). It was better to be absolutely for or absolutely against Jesus than to be lukewarm! publicity church

Sometimes I hear people say, “I don’t know how to teach the lost. I’m not a good evangelist.” That does not matter. What matters is whether you try. You will make mistakes, and that is okay. Some will say, “But I don’t want my friends getting a negative impression.” Please. Jesus himself made a negative impression frequently even though he was sinless. You cannot please everyone all the time! Sinners hate the truth. Give it to them anyway.

Jesus also said, “Woe to you when all men speak well of you, For so did their fathers to the false prophets” (Luke 6:26). We are not intentionally trying to alienate anyone, but if speaking the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15) gives someone a negative impression, then we will just have to live with it. That is better than not saying anything at all! Jesus gags when we are lukewarm. “So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth” (Revelation 3:16). Are we more like Jesus? Or the church in Laodicea? Silence is inexcusable.

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, Judy Ellis
Charles & Ruby Malone,
Phillip Mulins, Jerry Crabb,
Karen Chance, Mary Lewis,
Harrial Davis

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Helen Morris
Beverly Martindale,
Allen Thompson
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,
Shirley Bolin, Brandi Rogers,
Jeanette Manley, Corey Allen
Kenton Lancaster, Glenn Lovell,
Marilyn Ferrell, Justin Puckett
Ramona Thurston, David Briley

Today's Sermons

AM - Ken Ross Speaking
Jeremiah 18:1-6

PM - Carleton Kidder Speaking

Happenings

South Jackson

July 30

5th Sunday Fellowship Meal
Meal follows AM Worship
Evening service will
be at 1:30 PM.
No 5 PM Services

**Numerous Area Events are
posted on the Bulletin Board**

Cards to Send

Mary Bolen
802 O'Neal Lane
Henderson, TN 38340

Margie Montgomery
C/O Karen Briscoe
168 Cotton Ridge Drive
Jackson, TN 38305

Weekly Record

6 AM	4
Bible Class	57/23
AM Worship	80/33
PM Worship	46/26
Wed Bible Study	54/7
Contribution	3994

Pantry Item

Mac & Cheese

Those Privileged to Serve

July 16 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Butcher, P. Hatcher

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Costel Gimphu

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Ken Ross

Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas

Communion: Joe Venable

Contribution:

Charlie Richardson

July 23 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - M. Wages, J. Smith

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Jonathan Orr

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion: Marion Thomas

Contribution:

Jerome Turner

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Carleton Kidder

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion: Joe Venable

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Singing Night

Closing Prayer: Mike Wages

Communion: Marion Thomas

July 19 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Ken Ross

Devo - Marion Thomas

July 26 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Devo - Mike Wages

South Jackson Church of Christ

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Medon, TN

(731) 424-9721

Minister: Ray Pack

rpac119@gmail.com

(731) 437-9501

Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 AM
Gospel of Christ - Fox 16	9:30 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