

Those To Serve

Sunday, December 1, 2024

A.M. Prayers

Opening: Jim Case

Closing: Gary Bridgman

P.M. Prayers

Opening: Johnny Knabe

Closing: Ray England

Singing: Bobby Smithee

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

Singing: Johnny Knabe

Devotional: Gary Bridgman

The Record:

Attendance:

Sunday, November 24, 2024

AM 49 PM 35

[Average for the Year]

AM [56] PM [36]

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

24 *[Average for the Year]* [38]

Contribution:

Sunday, November 24, 2024

Actual \$ 2,076.00; Budget \$ 2,500.00

[Year-to-Date] \$ 112,845.00

[Average] \$ 2,400.96

[+/- Budget] \$ (424.00)

[YTD +/- Budget] \$ (5,453.00)

Elders

Randy Harris
(870) 251-6723
Johnny Knabe
(501) 345-2627
Dwayne Millikin
(870) 613-3910



2102 Batesville Blvd.
Southside, AR 72501

December 1, 2024

Deacons

Chris Ball
(870) 834-2163
Bobby Smithee
(870) 612-2892
Minister: Billy Cline
(870) 236-0225 Cell
(870) 251-1818 Office

Thoughts from Bill:

The God We Serve

James 1:12-17

One may study the Bible for a lifetime and yet may never comprehend or know everything about the God we serve. We can know that God revealed Himself in creation (Psa. 19:1ff; Rom. 1:20). God has revealed Himself in His word (Heb. 11:1-3). In this lesson we want to look at some attributes of God so that we may come to know the only true God (Jn. 17:3).

From our text it is evident that God is a *giver* (James 1:5,17). In verse five, the phrase "let him ask God" implies asking a "giving" God. God's nature consists of loving, forgiving, and giving. God wants humanity to have Christ, salvation, peace, and an everlasting hope (Titus 3:7). God is a giver and does not need to receive anything of man (Acts

(Continued on page 2)

Plan of Salvation

Hear

Mark 12:29; Romans 10:17; Acts 2:22

Believe

Hebrews 11:6

Repent

Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38

Confession

Matthew 10:32, 33

Baptism

Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21

Sermons for December 1, 2024

A.M.—The God We Serve

P.M.—Adopted and Redeemed—

Lesson from Randy Harris

Scripture: James 1:12-17

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 AM

Sunday AM Worship: 10:00

Sunday PM Worship: 5:00

Wed. Bible Study: 6:00 PM

Website: www.southsidechurchofchrist.info

(Continued from page 1)

17:25). Serving God is for man's benefit not God's. Man was created to worship and serve God (Matt. 4:10), and we must not be deceived about that (James 1:16). Everything that God has told humanity to do is for their good. Sin leads to destruction as seen in what is known as the works of the flesh in Galatians 5:19-21. Again, God wants what is good for man. Man may not see this until eternity, and unfortunately, that will be too late for some.

Our text also reveals that God is *unchanging* (James 1:17). There is no variation or change with God. The ESV translates verse 17 as follows: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, *with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.*" Life is full of changes, but God can be a constant source of stability in life. God's love for man does not change (Rom. 8:38,39). His standard is the same for everyone (Rom. 2:11). God's demands have not changed in that He desires men to believe in Him (Heb. 11:6) and obey Him, and those who do not obey the gospel will be lost (Heb. 10:26-31). God wants people to be part of His kingdom, the church. That kingdom cannot be shaken, and God expects its members to glorify Him (Heb. 12:28, NASV).

Let us now consider that *God created man for a purpose* (James 1:17). God gave man a purpose, and if we are lacking purpose, something is not right. Solomon in Ecclesiastes 12:1,2 summed up the whole purpose of man. Christians are a new creation and therefore have a new purpose in life, and that is to live for God (2 Cor. 5:17; Titus 2:11-12, NET). God has taken a sinful man who has repented and obeyed the gospel and created a new man walking in newness of life (Rom. 6:4-6). The purpose of man is to do all to God's glory (1 Cor. 10:31; 1 Pet. 4:11).

I close with this question. Considering the kind of God we serve, what should be our response and attitude towards Him? Thankfulness? Yes (James 1:17). Obedience? Yes (James 1:22). Loving? Yes (1 Jn. 4:11,19). We need to have the attitude that we

are the created and that He is the Creator, and thus we should live and serve Him as such.

Are you serving God as His special creation?

News and Notes

Those We Need to Remember in Prayer: **Bill Coles** still needs our prayers. **Gary Goodman** will have back surgery on Tuesday. **Eunice Mize** will have a cornea transplant on December 11. **Bryan Keller** has Parkinson's disease.

Others We Need to Remember in Prayer: Bonita Bangs, Victoria Covington, Carol Duncan, Nancy Duncan, Joann Foushee (Chris Ball's mother), Ed Hager, Diana Hudson, Melvin Hudson, Jean Hurte (brain tumors), Robbie Kemp, Pat McGough, Lavon Rogers, Jay Slayden, and Pat Smith

Elders and Deacons Meeting: There will be an elders and deacons meeting today at 3:30 p.m. If you need to discuss anything with them, please let them know.

Visitation Meeting: There will be a visitation meeting next Sunday after the evening service.

Romanian Children: If you are helping with the support of the children of Romania, please give your donation to Tammy Harris.

Children's Home Shopping List: Cream of Chicken Soup

Southside School Holiday Gifts: If you would like to help with the Southside School program for children in need this holiday season, lists of needed items are on the table in the back. Please have any items here by Sunday, December 8, or you can drop them off at the Southside fire station by December 9. You can also give money. If you do, please make checks payable to Southside School, and in the memo line write "holiday gifts."

James 1:17—Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.