

HIRAM CHURCH OF CHRIST

www.hiramchurchofChrist.com · 7660 Nebo Road, Hiram, GA 30141 · (770) 943-9977

LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU AND SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

Vol. 16 No. 22 - June 2, 2019

"If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 4:11

"Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

MINISTER: MELVIN J. BRYANT II

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements: Matt Johnson

Opening Prayer: Matt Johnson

Song Leader: Kwame Abdul

Second Prayer: Isaac Smith

Lord's Table: Clarence Proctor
Devin Bryant

Message: Melvin J. Bryant II

Closing Prayer: William Weaver

Attendance

Morning Hour: TBA

Bible Class: TBA

Worship: 31

Wednesday: 8

Contribution: TBA

Weekly Service Times

	The Morning Hour	9:00am
	Bible Class	10:00am
	Morning Worship	11:00am
	Wed. Evening Bible Classes	7:30pm

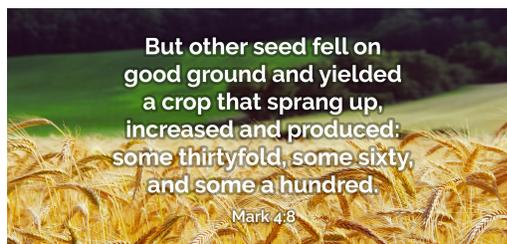
The Morning Hour

- Announcements
- Prayer
- Song
- 25 Minute Study - Rightly Dividing
- Card Writing/Mail Outs
- Prepare for 10:00am Bible Class

Missions: India & Childhaven

PLAN OF SALVATION

- ★ Taught by God - John 6:45
- ★ Believe - John 8:24
- ★ Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
(Repentance entails counting the cost)
- ★ Confess - Matthew 10:32-33
- ★ Be Baptized - Matthew 28:18-20
- ★ Live a FAITHFUL life until death - Revelation 2:10



BIBLICAL WARNING

SUGAR-COATED PREACHING IS DANGEROUS TO YOUR SOUL.
2 Timothy 4:3-4

WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREATED OUR CELL PHONES?

WHAT IF WE...

...carried it with us everywhere?

...turn back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of emergencies?

...spend an hour or more each day using it?



What would our lives look like?

ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES

Lea Overton (Jeff's mother), Sebastian and Erica Suarez, Ron McCurry (shut in-visits requested), Amy Brown, Polly Tunstall (Amy's mother), Ann Phillips, Harold and Dean Reeves, Mary Brock's daughter Potts/Williams family, Kilwonia Chandler, Barbara Helton, Vera Patrick, Mary Troup, Joanie Saporito, Charlie Griffin, Patty Dale, Daniel Welker (kidney transplant), Al Gattis (COPD), Shirley Glosson (radiation), Ben Westbrooks (leukemia), Anita Berger husband Rich. Sis. Carolyn. Ashley (Sis. Erica's sister).

PRAYER REQUESTS

(JAMES 5:16)

- ▶ **Ellen** (member of the Westside church of Christ in Ohio) has petition our prayers due to some extreme hardships she's faced with.
- ▶ **Becky's** mom boyfriend, Randy is scheduled to have open heart surgery to repair three different problems and is in need of prayer.
- ▶ **The Webb's** daughter is doing much better with chemo treatments.
- ▶ **Carolyn** had hip replacement surgery last Monday, let us keep her in prayer.
- ▶ **Mrs. Joanie** has not been feeling well lately. Please keep her in your prayers.
- ▶ **Mary Troup** had mouth surgery and is in need of our prayers.
- ▶ **Ann Phillips** is still in need of prayer.
- ▶ **Ron McCurry** has requested continued prayers for his son in law.
- ▶ **Erica** is in need of prayer for her overall health. She appreciates the calls and prayers.
- ▶ **Sis. Arnold** has requested prayers for her niece who has aggressive stage 3 cancer.
- ▶ **Sis. Cruise** has some serious health issues and is in need of prayer.
- ▶ **Don Blackwell** executive director of GBN and minister/elder for the Southaven church of Christ suffered an injury on an ATV and is at the Shepherd Center in Atlanta. Let us keep him, his wife Sheri and family in our prayers.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

☑ June Birthdays

Kilwonia, 6th
Melvin II, 11th
Asia, 22nd

☑ Anniversaries

Kenneth & Vera Patrick, 3rd
Clarence & JoAnn, 10th
Anthony & Joanie, 15th

☑ Local Church News

☑ World Church News

☑ Traveling.

Patty is in Oklahoma for a while.

☑ Hiram Church of Christ News

Sister Carolyn had surgery on May 20, 2019, let us keep her in prayers for a successful recovery.

Men's meeting will take place after morning service.

Fellowship dinner is the last Sunday of each month.

“When the SEED is Received on Good Ground” Part IV

Luke 8:15

By

Melvin J. Bryant II

In the Parable of the “Sower”, Jesus comes to the “Final Soil” in which the Word of God is sown upon! Jesus calls these HEARERS where the Word of God fell upon them, “Good Ground!” BUT; what makes them the “Good Ground”? Jesus said,

(a). They HEARD the Word of God!

- Now, MANY people have HEARD the Word of God, and have NOT accepted it, but; there is something DIFFERENT about this last class of people!
- As a matter of Fact, the first three Hearers also HEARD the Word!
- One of the Hearers NEVER became a Christian, and the other TWO did but they did not remain faithful! And guess what, ALL of mankind falls into ONE of these FOUR categories!

(1) Jesus tells us of the ONES who received the word by the “Wayside”!

- We KNOW there are MANY people in the World who have hearts like the “Wayside Hearer!” We have people who’s hearts are SO HARD that when the Word of God is presented to them, they IMMEDIATELY denounce anything God word says!
- Proverbs 28:9 tells us, “One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, EVEN his prayer is an abomination.”
- If God’s Word is presented to you in a fashion that is SOUND in its presentation and YOU reject it’s teaching, when you drop down on your knees in prayer, when you ask God for whatever it maybe in your heart, the Bible tells us that your PRAYER is an Abomination and God is NOT even paying you ANY attention! (John 9:31 cf. Isaiah 59:1-2; 1 Peter 3:12)!

For instance:

- **Abortion:** Although we ought to be THANKFUL for the “Heartbeat Bill” passed here in Georgia! And similar laws in Alabama, I KNOW (according to the Bible) that those bills should have MORE teeth in them!
 - (a) God said in Proverbs 6:17 that He “HATES HANDS that shed innocent blood!”
 - (b) God does not want His children to be “Partakers” of those who approves of Abortion! (Romans 1:32).
 - * And, some of these bills will allow “Abortion” when a woman has been taken advantage of (or forced) by a man, and; in the case of incest!
 - * Let’s be clear, even with these unfortunate situations, there is NO situation or circumstance where “Abortion” is approved by God!
 - * Upon hearing this, the EMOTIONAL arguments kicks in the heart of the “Wayside Hearer” becomes HARDENED! This is how satan SNATCHES what was sown in their hearts!
- **Immigration:** This is another topic that sends people in an UPROAR because of the emotions that surround it! “IF” one comes into our country ILLEGALLY (*that is*, without proper paperwork or citizenship TODAY), and they don’t obtain a legal status to be in our country, that person needs to be sent back to wherever they came from!
- But we need some scripture for that right? Romans 13:1-7 does not give ANY allowance for one to break the law because of how one feel! EVERY Soul is to be subject to the governing authorities which are appointed by God!
- There is NOTHING illegal about obeying the laws of the land as long as if those laws does not conflict (go against) God’s HIGHER law! (Acts 5:29)!

- (2). Jesus told us of the ONES who received the Word “Rocky Soil” OR; “Stony Places”!
- These persons on “Stony Places” are those, when they HEAR, Receive the word with JOY, BUT; they have NO ROOT! They are Christians! Jesus said in Mark 4:17 that they ENDURE for a while with the church....BUT; when TRIALS and TRIBULATIONS happens because of the WORD, they IMMEDIATELY STUMBLE! These are merely fair weather Christians. As long as things are easy and pleasant they're right there, but when the problems start to appear, they're gone.
 - But, what type of problems cause people to stumble? Work schedule changes and it makes it difficult to attend worship services. Family troubles distract them from service to God.
- (3). He told us of the ONES who received the Word among the Thorns!
- Now those who receive the Word of God among the thorns ALSO Heard the word and they too are Christians! But; there is a problem with them....They ALLOW themselves to be CHOKED By the CARES and Deceitful Riches of this World, and they become UNFRUITFUL! (Matthew 13:22 cf. Luke 8:14). *Remember* Demas, 2 Timothy 4:10! *Remember* what Jesus said in Mark 8:36-37?
 - Here is the sad part about these THREE soils....ALL of them are lost! Which brings us to;

I. THE GOOD GROUND. (Luke 8:15)

A. What makes the “Good Ground Good”?

- (1) They HEARD the Word. And just like the other THREE, when the Word of God fell on the “Good Ground,” there was something DIFFERENT about this person, this soil!
- (2) They HEARD the Word with a Noble and Good heart!
 - That word, “Noble” is defined as, “pertaining to having (listen to this now ;-) Acceptable characteristics OR functioning in an agreeable Manner, often with the focus on outward form or appearance—‘good, fine.’” (Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 622).”
 - So when the SEED, the word of God falls on Good Ground, the person ACCEPTS what God has said in AGREES with its teaching! Their attitude is, “If God said it, then I believe it!” (1 Peter 4:11)!
- (3) Those who HEARD the Word of God, KEEP it and bear fruit with patience!
 - This last type of soil is that which the sower (Jesus) had been looking for all along. This soil represents those who HEAR the word, RECEIVE it, and KEEP the things written therein with patience and perseverance. He too becomes a Christian! They don't have the attitude of, “*If I don't understand something, I'm leaving!*”
 - They UNDERSTAND, “*This world is not my home I'm just a passing through. My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue.*”
 - This Christian (where the Word - the Seed falls on Good Ground) is steadfast in his service to God and unwavering in his commitment to the Almighty.
 - He's NOT tossed to and fro with every WIND of Doctrine! (Ephesians 4:14).
 - He has NO PROBLEM taking time off from work to visit someone who is sick, shut in or in need. He has NO PROBLEM taking “some” vacation time from work to visit family or friends in other cities and states to have a face to face Bible study! He has NO PROBLEM spending time studying his Bible, sharpening his skills for the cause of Christ.
 - He is evangelistic, (as ALL Good Christians ought to be) spending his days speaking to others concerning the hope which lies within him with meekness and fear (1 Peter 3:15).
 - Now his life is not free from problems. *Remember*, 2 Timothy 3:12, the Bible tells us, “Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.”
 - This Christian UNDERSTANDS that Jesus PRAYED for him long in John 17:20-21.
 - Let us be of THIS soil, the Good Ground and put our talents to Good works!