

**PRAYERS & ENCOURAGEMENT**

Those who are sick or need our prayers — Pat Espy, Linda Reagan, Bud Mixon, Richard Branum, Margaret Blake, Phillip Stevens, Joe Turner

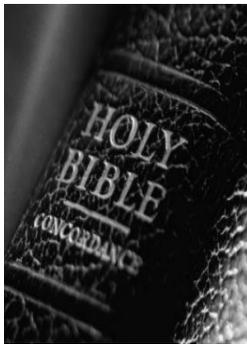
Continue to remember in your prayers those who are unable to attend worship services regularly: *Billie Sue Atkins, Freda Dunn, Romona Stokes, and Marjorie Barringer.*

Please pray for those who have forsaken the Lord that they may be reconciled to God.

**READING THE OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS IN ONE YEAR**

*Monday - Lam; Psalm 137; 1 Peter 4*  
*Tuesday - Oba; Jer 40-42; Ps 147; 1 Pet 5*  
*Wednesday - Jer 43, 44, 46; 2 Pet 1*  
*Thursday - Jer 47, 48, 49; Ps 80; 2 Pet 2*  
*Friday - Jer 50-51; 2 Pet 3*

*Week #42*  
*Oct. 15 – Oct. 19*



**VISITORS** - We would like to get to know you better, and ask that you stay a while after services. We encourage you to visit our website at <http://www.parkhillchurchofchrist.com> where you will find sermons, articles, and daily bible studies to encourage you in your daily walk with God.

**QUESTIONS?** *We Welcome the opportunity to study God’s word with you any time.*

*All sermons are recorded on CD & DVD -  
If you would like a copy, please ask one of the men.*

**ELDERS**

Carl Dolan.....479.414.1972 ~ Ron Roberts .....479.452.0347 ~ Joe Turner....479.459.6023.

**DEACONS**

Wayne Carson...479.648.1087 ~ Luke Dolan.....479.357.9547 ~ Joe Dugas .....479.629.4046 ~ David Meek.....479.459.0820

**PREACHER**

Bryan Loughmiller.....479.434.3939

**October 14, 2018**

**THINK ON THESE THINGS**

*Welcome to the Park Hill Church of Christ*

**3536 GRINNELL AVENUE FORT SMITH, AR 72908 479.782.2415**

*It is our desire to worship God in spirit and in truth, and to glorify Him in all we do.*

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

<b>SUNDAY MORNING</b>	<b>SUNDAY EVENING</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY EVENING</b>
Bible Study.....9:30 am	Worship..... 5:00pm	Bible Study.....7:00pm
Worship.....10:15 am		

***Examine Yourself***



Last Thursday during the Senate hearing regarding the charge of sexual assault, which he has vehemently denied, Judge Brett Kavanaugh was questioned extensively about his drinking habits. He appeared annoyed by the intense scrutiny and in turn asked the Senators about their drinking habits. Of course, they weren't the ones being investigated and declined to engage in that discussion.

As I was reading 2 Corinthians 13 this morning I thought how much easier it is to examine other people instead of ourselves. In this text, Paul issues this challenge. "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you are disqualified." (2Cor 13:5).

Paul was being examined, questioned and closely scrutinized by his detractors. So, in essence, he is saying, "You've been examining me, why don't you stop and take time to examine yourselves."

The ancient Greek philosopher, Socrates, is reputed to have said at his trial, for which

he was eventually sentenced to death, that “the unexamined life is not worth living.” Of course, he was not talking about inspecting the lives of others, but our own life. Examine yourself.

The Bible warns about being a meddler” in other men’s matters (1 Pet. 4:15). Jesus issued this command: “Judge not that you be not judged.” While that verse has often been misapplied, it is important to note that we shouldn’t be so quick to judge others, when we have more serious matters that need correcting. Examine yourself.

The words of the Scottish poet Robert Burns are worth personal reflection. Translated into modern English, he challenged, “Oh would some power the gift to give us to see ourselves as others see us.” However, it is difficult, often agonizing, but always revealing to analyze our attitudes, actions, and motives. Examine yourself.

Spiritually, it is a serious matter. Paul says it is necessary to determine whether or not we are really “in the faith.” Paul’s desire for the Corinthian Christians was for their faith to be founded on God’s Word, not in the wisdom of men (1 Cor 2:1-5) He was concerned that their faith might be in vain. (1 Cor 15:14) Thus, he urged them to “Stand fast in the faith (1 Cor 16:13). Examine yourself.

We often hear that “everyone has the right to his own opinion.” However, his opinion may not be right! The Bible says “there is one faith” and it has been “once and for all delivered unto the saints” (Eph 4:5; Jude 3). The faith is the Gospel. The revealed Word of God.

Furthermore, an earnest examination will expose whether or not Christ is in us. The Corinthians were overly concerned about human position, prestige, and power. They had elevated men improperly. Paul warned in 1 Cor 4:6 “not to think of men above that which is written.”

Vance Havner once quipped “It is possible to know all the answers without knowing HIM who is the answer!” Too often we are concerned with what is politically correct. Whether or not we are in step with others. Or the views of a well-known religious leader. They are not the standard. Christ is. Examine yourself.

Proper self-examination is only effective when we “know ourselves.” The Bible often warns against self-deception. Thus, we must strip away the facade, remove our mask, and eliminate any pretense. Examine yourself.

Self-examination is necessary so we are not disqualified. The KJV uses the word “reprobate.” It means to be rejected. Fail the test. Disqualified. In a moral sense it is a person whose mind is perverted. You don’t want to fail God’s test. Examine yourself.

The late motivational author and speaker, Zig Ziglar, used to say we all need “a check-up from the neck up!”

Examine yourself.

–Ken Weliever, *The Preacherman*

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## ***Brief Thoughts***

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When you awakened this morning did you realize that you were one day closer to eternity than you were yesterday? ***Rom 13:11 "And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed."*** Paul warns us we need to arise and awaken from our spiritual slumber. Why? Because we are one day closer to seeing God face to face. Spiritual lethargy will bring eternal punishment. However, if we enter each day with our eyes wide open and prepared to meet God we can step into eternity and live with our creator. Are you ready for that day? - BL

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***Gal 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."*** How personal was this for Paul? He was saying Jesus loved ME! Jesus died for ME! The realization that my life belongs to the Lord also brings with it the awareness that for me to wear His name He must be living in and through me. May our lives bring glory to His name as Paul’s did.

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***Prov 18:24 "A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."*** I have learned by experience that sometimes friends who are part of the world let you down. However, my best friends are all Christians, brothers and sisters in Christ who I know are more than friends. They are my family! Thank you all for being friends closer than a brother.

One additional thought a quote I ran across - "Chance makes our parents, but choice makes our friends." (Delille). Choosing friends is challenging especially when we are young. It is most definitely a choice and we do not always make the best choices in friends. The challenge decreases when your friends are friends of God and not the world. Being of like precious faith creates the common ground necessary to form godly, healthy friendships. - BL

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