

January 25, 2024

ENDURE THE RACE

It's a scene that has been shown in countless TV shows and sports movies over the years. From old episodes of Leave it to Beaver and movies like The Little Giants or Facing the Giants, I am sure you have seen it play out in one way or another. Imagine a young boy on a football field. He isn't the biggest, and you can tell by the look on his face that he is scared. Suddenly, the ball is snapped and the quarterback throws the ball. The kid catches it, and for a split second, there is sheer terror on his face as he sees the opposing team rushing towards him. But, all of a sudden, behind the wall of defenders and standing behind the end zone is the boy's father. He just made it in from his business trip and his son is so excited to see him that he just starts running. His eyes are fixed on his dad as he rushes towards the end zone. He slips past one, two, three defenders, all the while he is still focused on his dad. As he runs into the end zone and scores a touchdown, his whole team cheers and celebrates. But he runs straight through the end zone and into his father's arms.

It is a perfect ending to a heart-felt sports movie. But did you know that a similar scene is given to us in the Bible? **Hebrews 12:1-2** says, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." The Hebrew writer was concerned about these Christians turning their backs and returning to their former ways. At the time this was written, the Jews were persecuting the church and these Jewish converts were suffering in many ways. They were becoming outcasts to their own families and communities, arrested, thrown in prison, beaten, and even killed. All because they were following Christ. As you can imagine, the temptation to give up Christianity and go back to their old way of living must have been intense. So, they needed reminding that what they have with Christ is far greater than what they had before, even with the persecutions and suffering. What it came down to was a matter of perspective of what they needed to keep in front of them.

How is it that Christians can persevere when things become difficult? How do we endure when we go through various trials, hardships, and sufferings? The

answer is what the Hebrew writer told us. Fix your eyes on Jesus. See, it is much more than simply having Christ over to the side and glancing at Him every now and then. Instead we need to make sure our attention is completely focused on Him. And we do that by purposefully turning away from and going past the weights and sins that keep us distracted from Christ. **Colossians 3:1-2** says, "If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth."

By fixing our eyes on Jesus, and setting our minds on the things above where Christ is, it gives us a goal, a purpose, and a path by which we can get there. Hebrews tells us that when we see Jesus, we are seeing the One who went to the cross, even despising its shame, and endured through the suffering because there was something so desirable about the outcome. Because, through His sacrifice, He is able to bring us to Himself. He is the founder and perfecter of our faith. And as long as we look to Him and follow the path He has laid before us, we can have assurance of our victory as well. Just like that little boy on the field, when we look to Jesus, all of our enemies fade away and all we see is victory. As Paul asked in **Romans 8:35**, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?" "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

(Romans 8:37-39)

Andrew Spivey

EXCELS'

Excels will meet on **Saturday February 10th at 6:00 pm.** for game night. Please bring your favorite game and finger foods.

**BLESSED BE THE LORD,
WHO DAILY BEARS US UP; GOD IS OUR
SALVATION
Psalm 68:19**

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

**Sunday Read – Galatians chapters 5-6
Wednesday Read–Acts 20:2-3 & Romans 1-2**

Questions for last week's reading of;

Galatians ch. 1-4

1. How did Paul receive the gospel he preached?
2. Why did Paul have a problem with what was happening on Antioch?
3. Why was Abraham considered righteous?
4. What was the purpose of the old law?
5. How are Christians like Isaac?

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

The next Ladies Bible class will be on **February 6th at 6:00 PM** at Nashville Road.

YOUTH FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

The youth group will be having several activities coming up soon. Challenge Youth Conference, at the end of February and Lads to Leaders Convention at the end of March. These activities are funded through the Youth Fund. If you would like to help the youth enjoy these activities, please consider making a donation to the Youth Fund. Envelopes are available on the back of the pews to place your donation in and then put in the collection baskets or boxes.

DORCAS CLASS

Dorcas Class, taught by Pam Newby, will meet each **Saturday in February from 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM** in the Fellowship Room. Dorcas Class is for the young ladies of the congregation. Each class will have a Bible lesson and an activity.

VISITORS DESK

We are needing several ladies to work at the Visitors Desk on Sunday morning, Sunday evening & Wednesday evening. A great way to get to meet more members from our church and meet our visitors. If you would be interested please let the office know. Thank you.

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

January 28, 2024

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Carl Newby
Opening Prayer.....Matt Ellis
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Bob Brown
Scripture Reading.....Ben Hutson
Song Leader.....Carl Newby
Opening Prayer.....Rick Gallagher
Lord's Supper.....Eric Stephenson
Servers.....D. Thompson, M. Lyle, B. Sever
C. Nelsen, D. Wilson, C. Suddarth

Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Allyn Hosman

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Bob Brown
Song Leader.....Carl Newby
Opening Prayer.....Fate Evans
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....David Johnson
Closing Prayer.....Ken Veale

WEDNESDAY

January 31, 2024

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Bob Brown
Song Leader.....Carl Newby
Opening Prayer.....Jim Cherry
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith

Door Greeters – West Door.....B/M Smith
East Door.....Z/A Tooley
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Pam Newby

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ
 1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066
 Web Site: nashvilleroadcoc.org
 E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Ottis Cothron, surgery to place stint. Kenneth & Bobbie Stephens are both home with covid. Tom & Faye Hart, both having health issues. James Spivey has finished his radiation treatments for lung cancer. Tony Perry, husband of Sherry Perry & son of Betty Buttrey, has been diagnosed with liver cancer. Jerry Watson, former member, continues with health problems after having covid. Larry Bailey, son of Tina Bailey a former member, has been diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer. Heather Lemley, daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley, had surgery for breast cancer. Bethany Shoulders, granddaughter of Evelyn Harris has been diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She is home now and will continue with treatments.



PRAYER LIST

Sara Hosman; JoAnn Williamson; Anita Cato; Shauna Lockett; Jean Knowles; Zach Tooley; Mary Ann Reinhart; Vetrus Mee, Charter Senior Living of Gallatin; Shelby Ross; Sandi Jones; Lena Baggett; Maxine Cothron; Frances Catron; Jean Deaton; Charlie Cliburn; Bryan Grissom cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover; Vycki Puckett, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; Ty Tyler son of Ann Tyler; Wade Kennedy father of Diana Stephenson; Ida Lou Sherrill, mother of Alex Sherrill; Taylor Lackford, niece of Brenda Veale; Dustin Lackford, nephew of Brenda Veale; Janice Haskins, sister of Jim Cherry; Larry Conley, friend of Wanda Proctor; Harold Cole, friend of Lena Baggett; Bobbie Carter, sister of Janice Johnson; Walter Wooten, brother of Wanda Sherrill; Aza Topik, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals; Betty Ann Muncie, sister of Stella Messer.

SHUT-INS

Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615;
 Melba Hill.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	68
Morning Worship.....	96
Sunday Evening.....	52
Wednesday Evening.....	68
Contribution.....	\$6,402.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$5,060.00

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Ken Veale	Adam Williamson

Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066

Phone (615) 452-3431
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30. p.m.
 Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org
 Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
 TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
 GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister