



# Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ  
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Volume 21 Number 20

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May 17, 2009

**By Charlene Clark, Dover Ladies' Day:**

Did any of you consider when you woke up this morning how important today might be? If you didn't today, I hope you will tomorrow.

When Joyce Walters and I sat down at her kitchen table to do some planning for today, there was a poem hanging on her wall that read:

In our minds we hold yesterday,  
In our hands we hold today,  
In our dreams we hold tomorrow,  
In our faith we hold forever.

I'll have to admit that it was my first inclination to just talk to you about how things we hear and the things we see result in either good or bad consequences, therefore, either good or bad memories for tomorrow; but when I began searching the scriptures, I realized that that is just a very small part of the story of our lives. The things we hear, the things we see, the things we do affect not only our tomorrows, but they affect our eternity. Then I remembered a passage in a book I read a few years ago. I know that many of you have read it also. *A Purpose Driven Life*, by Rick Warren. On page 38 he writes: "If your time on earth were all there is to your life, I would suggest you start living it up immediately. You could forget being good and ethical, and you wouldn't have to worry about any consequences of your actions. You could indulge yourself in total self-centeredness because your actions would have no long-term repercussions. But – and this makes all the difference – death is not the end of you! Death is not your termination, but your transition into eternity, so there are eternal consequences to everything you do on earth. Every act of our lives strikes some chord that will vibrate in eternity."

So, in my hands I hold today and each today is filled with choices. What am I

going to do today? How am I going to spend my money, how am I going to spend my time, where will I go, who will I spend my day with? And we give very little thought sometimes as to how important these choices are every day. Right now the economy is the subject everyone seems to be talking about, so let's start there.

In our congregation, on nearly every Sunday morning, one of our men will remind us that the money we have is not really ours. It all really belongs to God already so we are actually only giving some of God's money back to Him. In the Bible this is called stewardship. We have been entrusted with something that belongs to someone else. I think most of us understand that concept. There have been a lot of jokes about "taking it with you when you go" but no one has ever accomplished that yet. I guess the closest anyone has come to doing that were the Egyptian pharaoh's who had it entombed with them. They failed to take into account the grave robbers of today who are taking it either for their own use or to put it on display in a museum.

Although we Christians generally understand this idea, I think there are some related ideas that we don't understand as readily. Instead of me asking you a question, I'll let the apostle Paul ask you. In I Corinthians 6:19-20, he asks, "***Haven't you yet learned that your body is the home of the Holy Spirit God gave you, and that He lives within you? Your own body does not belong to you. For God has bought you with a great price. So use every part of your body to give glory back to God, because He owns it.***" Wow, not only my money belongs to God, but even my body belongs to God. Now if everything we have purchased with the money, all our "stuff" belongs to

God and if our bodies belong to God, too – why is it that we think our time is our own? And how we "spend" that time is nobody's business but ours? Isn't that generally how we think?

In Colossians 3:17 Paul says, "***... and whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.***" At this point, we all have to realize that everything we are in our bodies, everything we own, every moment of our time, everything we do, and even the words we speak are God's and we must make choices with all of these things that bring glory to Him.

I can just see the wheels churning in some of your minds right now. And you're thinking, "Well, at least my thoughts are my own!" I truly hate to disappoint you, but look at II Corinthians 10:5 – Paul is talking about his ministry and he says, "***We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. One of the things we must do as Christians is to make every thought obedient to Christ.***" We know that God has given each of us free will so the choice is always ours. We can do with our lives whatever we choose, but . . . each choice comes with consequences. We see this concept on about the third page of our Bibles. Right after creation. Adam and Eve had everything and it was perfect. But God put a test before them and then left them free to choose their own path. They chose Satan and his lies and you know the rest of the story, as Paul Harvey would say.

In Deuteronomy 30, starting at verse 19, Moses gives his last sermon or admonition to the children of Israel.

- Continued, page two, third column -

## Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Does heaven seem like a far reach for us? Do we think of heaven more so when things are going bad for us? When life is smooth we seem happy and content as we are. But, let something terrible happen and we are looking to God and toward heaven. We need help. He wants us to come to Him for help but He also wants our praise, and our thanks. He should be our God through the good times as well as the bad.

“Those who make heaven their goal are not ‘too heavenly minded to be earthly good;’ rather they are the ones most likely to do good on earth.” Martel Pace, Truth for Today Commentary of Hebrews, page 496.

I like what he said about heavenly minded, and it is true. Those here who are looking for a heavenly city will likely do more good on this earth than those who don't. Most worldly people seem to be more selfish, thinking only of what others can do for them. Doing good and doing the will of God will be the good people. Good people are not selfish. They have learned to think of others first.

Love your neighbor as yourself. How many times is this repeated in the Scriptures? God gave this command to Moses in the old law. It is repeated several times by Jesus in His teachings. It is also repeated by Paul and James in their writings. What a different world this would be if we all loved our neighbor as ourselves!

Paul tells us we can be great, but if we have no love, we are nothing. We can have faith, but if we have no love, it is nothing. “Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.” (I Corinthians 13:4-7)

He adds, “Love never fails.” Then in the last verse he says, “And now abides faith, hope, love; these three; but the greatest is love.” (vs. 13)

As Christians, faith and hope are so very important to us. But, if we have no love, our faith and hope are in vain. Because, the greatest is love.

## Remember Our Sick

**Tommy Causey** – Shirly Chadwick's brother, serious - family called in.

**Clara Hefley** - chemo/radiation treatments.

**Chris Ford** – back surgery in May.

**Larry Freeman** – very serious health problems.

**Joe Kline** – cancer, St. Louis, MO

**Janette Litch** – found cancer cells, starting new treatment

**Becky Miller** – biopsy Tue., May 5th.

**Helen Moore** – more cancer complications.

**Kristen Nordin** – pain and numbness gone.

**Mary Ann Rutherford** – serious health problems, B.J. Sheeran's friend.

**Christine Sheeran** – serious health problems.

**Sherry Strick** – Brain tumors.

**David Walters** – in Baptist Hospital, complicated health problems.

**Alayna Williams** – Micah/Cara's daughter. Back surgery scheduled May 12th.

### Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**  
**Robert Lee**

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:

**Joyce Austin**  
**Evelyn Driver**  
**Lorene McNutt**

Stella Manor:

**Louise Killer**

### Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Amie Barkley, Betty Bailey, Iris Bates, Bob/Carolyn Bennett, Susie Boley, Troy & Rachel Curtis, Jeff Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Rhonda Freeman, Sarah Ensey, Carol Graham, Sue Griffin, Pat Holloway, Carl Keathley, Rose Lee, Daniel Loper, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, BJ/Don Sheeran, Reddie Smith, Tanya Smith, Juanita Townsend and Judy Will.

Expected Mothers: Christine Williams

Special Children: Zeke Church, Garrett Hogan, Tiffany Knight, Elysia Lee, Keith Martin, Zackary Shelton and Noah Williams.

Our Military: D. J. Bandy, Jr., Travis Coe, Byron Lee, April Morgan and Billy Joe Ralston.

## Charlene Clark, Speaker for Dover's Ladies' Day

Continued from page 1:

They are about to enter the land of Canaan after 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, caused by some very bad choices, by the way, and Moses says, “I call heaven and earth to witness against you that today I have set before you life or death, blessing or curse. Oh, that you would choose life; that you and your children might live! Choose to love the Lord your God and obey Him and to cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days.”

Joshua was probably standing beside Moses when he said this because he was about to take over the leadership of the Israelites. Then, when his term is almost over, he gives them his last words and they sound much like Moses' words. Joshua knew they had several choices in front of them. God had brought them to a new land, but some of them were still clinging to the gods they had worshipped in Egypt. Some of them were already being influenced by the new gods of the people of Canaan. He tells them they must choose. Joshua 24:15 reads, “. . . choose you this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in the land you are living. But as for me and my household we will serve the Lord.”

I believe this is what God sets before us each morning when we wake up. Choose Me today.

He says, “Choose to honor Me with your body.” This is what He is trying to tell us in I Corinthians 6:18, when He says, “. . . anyone who sins sexually sins against his own body.”

He says, “Choose to honor me with your money.” This is what He is trying to tell us in Matthew 6:24 when He says, “. . . no one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

He says, “Choose to honor Me with your time.” This is what He is trying to tell us in Ephesians 5:15. Be careful how you live, not as unwise, but as wise, making the most of every opportunity.

- Continued next week -

## Events

### Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday  
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8  
Bible Story and  
Activities  
Ages 1 thru 3  
Nursery Class

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### Camp Caudle

Registration has started!  
Forms are in our foyer. You  
can also register online:  
[www.campcaudle.org](http://www.campcaudle.org)

Camp Sessions are as follows

...

Servant Week: May 31 thru June  
6, ages 13 and up.

Day Camp: June 8th thru 12th,  
First Grade thru 6th.

Mars Hill : June 14th thru-20th,  
ages 10-18.

Junior Week: June 21<sup>st</sup> thru 27th.  
Third Grade thru 6th.

Music Week: July 5th thru  
11th, ages 14 and up.

Living Stones Week: July 12<sup>th</sup>  
thru 18th, ages 14 and up.

Teen Week: July 19<sup>th</sup> thru 25th,  
13 years by October 1st to High  
School graduates.

Registrations: mail to Camp  
Caudle, POB 1311, Dover, AR  
72837

## Mark Your Calendars

Dover Men's Devo  
Thursday, May 14th, 7 PM  
Host: Steve Pennington

### Sunday, PM, May 31st

5th Sunday Celebration,  
Fish Fry,  
Acknowledging  
2009 Graduates

Dover's Young men will do  
the Evening Services

For graduation info see:  
Janie Beck

For Fish Fry Info see:  
Brent Hottinger

A sign-up sheet will be  
passed around to indicate  
what condiments to bring and  
to get an attendance count.

If you are a 2009 Graduate  
please let Janie Beck  
know as soon as possible.

### Dover Ladies Night

Correction . . .  
Thursday, May 14th, 7 PM  
Hostess: Joyce Walters

## May Birthdays

02 Amelia Besterfeldt  
04 J R Hale  
05 Brett Cains  
06 Randall Walters  
07 Jessica Straight  
Victoria Thomas  
Carlee Williams  
08 Trinity Loper  
09 Walter McQueen  
Sid Womack  
13 Kelli Hottinger  
15 Alan Boatright  
Alicia Brown  
16 Connie Myers  
20 Shelley Culwell  
Aleck Pointer  
24 Jaylinn Williams  
25 Diane W. Walters  
31 Paul Helton  
Don Johnson

If we missed your birthday, *please*  
let us know so it won't happen  
again.

\*\*\*\*\*

### "In Search of the Lord's Way"

Now 24/7

The Search Program  
can now be accessed  
any time on website:

[www.searchtv.org](http://www.searchtv.org)

Mack Lyon's weekly  
lesson can be heard  
and seen on  
KARK, Channel 4  
Sunday, 7:30 AM

# THOSE TO SERVE

*May 17, 2009*

**Sunday A.M.**

**Announcer:** Randall Walters  
**Song Leader:** Merrell Shoptaw

## Prayers

Rick Hollis  
Rex McDaniel

## Communion

**Podium:** Donny Forehand  
**Serve:** Brent Hottinger  
Brett Walters  
Chris Besterfeldt  
Chris Loper

## Scripture Reading

Marion Helton

**Sunday P.M.**  
**Prayers**

Merrell Shoptaw  
Randall Walters

# SPEAKER

**Sunday A.M.**

Micah Williams

**Sunday P.M.**

Micah Williams

## Prepare Table for Communion

Tristan Stamps/Janie Beck

## Communion to Shut-Ins

Jim Killer

## Greeters

The Elders

## Wednesday Night

**Devotional**  
**May 20, 2009**

Donny Forehand

## Meeting Times

**Sunday Morning Bible Classes**

9:45 A.M.

**Sunday Morning Worship**

10:45 A.M.

**Sunday Evening Worship**

6:00 P.M.

**Ladies Tuesday Bible Class**

10:00 A.M.

**Wednesday Bible Classes**

6:30 P.M.

**Minister: Micah Williams**

**Church Office: 479-331-3428**

**Or Cell: 479-264-9244**

## Elders:

William Boley 858-7131  
Jim Killer 331-2802  
Allen Veasman 331-2156  
Sid Womack 967-2367

## Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt  
Donny Forehand  
Brent Hottinger  
Chris Loper  
Rex McDaniel  
Chris Moss

## Nursery Attendants:

**Sunday Class:** JoAnn Killer

**Sunday Church:** Pat McAlister  
Kaeli Miller

*Life Lines is a Publication of the Dover Church of Christ*

Editor: Pat McAlister, Layout and Design: Joan Vance, Technical Assistance: M. Shoptaw

Dover Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 299  
Dover, AR 72837  
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