

Family & Friends.....April 11th, 2018

Spring is here, and Summer will be here before we know it. Warm weather is about embracing the sunshine. The beautiful sunflower truly soaks up the sun as it grows. In the early part of their growing season the sunflower tilts during the day to face the sun, when they bloom, they stop. Sunflowers are symbolic for a long life, loyalty, being positive, strength, love, happiness, and beauty. They can range anywhere in height from six inches to over twelve feet tall, depending on variety. We can learn something from the sunflower, stand tall and be strong, be positive, and don't let anyone get you down. Keep a sunny disposition and you will brighten up the world. *"The sturdy sunflower does not shrink from a little hard labor,"* and neither should we. The Lord gave His life for us, let's give our life to Him. Thank you Lord for all our blessings!

"But the word of the Lord endures forever,"
and this is the word which was preached to you.
 1 Peter 1:25

Our visitors are a blessing, we hope you will come back and worship with us soon: Betty Harris and Carole Milner (Brandon, MS), Jane Luethke (Kingsport, TN), Bryan and Austin McCool (Stella, MO), Finnley Oxford (Neosho, MO) Dylan Adams (Searcy), Cleo Drevs (Springdale), George Bowman and Debra Lewis (Rogers), Robin Clark and Natasha Pitts (Bentonville), Bob & Patsy Boynton, Conner Evans, and Jennifer Huffaker (Bella Vista), and Schon Booher.

Those on our prayer list this week: Charles Cash was admitted to the hospital on Sunday morning, and now is at Bentonville's Circle of Life Hospice. Keep Charles & Nancy, Chris & Angela, Rhonda & Matt in your prayers. Harold Williams will have hip replacement surgery on April 18th. Nan Cope lost a cousin last week. Keep Nan and family in your prayers. Andrew Albers' mother, Diane Shastid, is awaiting a liver transplant. Shirley Hale requests prayers for, Kim Kelly, who has spinal cancer. LaFonda Williams asked for prayers for a friend, Kim Barrett. Continue to pray and remember Wendall Holeman and Louise Webb at Concordia, Jerry Schimming, Maude Hollo, Megan Bowman, Ann Clark, Lisa Nash, Mary Kerley, Charles Branstetter, JD Wright, Jay Hall, Malcolm Winters, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president. Richard Mason's son, Jeff, will be transferred to hospice in Nebraska and needs our prayers.

Our Annual Community Family Fun Day is scheduled for Saturday May 5th. You will find two sign-up sheets on the bulletin board: One for workers, and another for bringing baked goods for the cake walk. Be sure and tell all your family & friends

Items needed for Fair Haven Children's Home: gravy mixes, instant oatmeal, applesauce, cereal, and hand soap.

Life is a beautiful song that God is teaching us to sing.

Love you, see you next Lord's Day.

Karen

**Bella Vista
 Church of Christ**

Highway 71 and County Road 40
 989 NW McNelly Road
 Bentonville, AR 72712

Return Service Requested

LORD'S DAY	9:30 AM
Bible Class	10:30 AM
Worship	6:00 PM
Evening Worship	
WEDNESDAY	9:45 AM
Ladies' Class	6:45 PM
Bible Class	

Phone: 479/273-2434

www.bellavistachurchofchrist.com

ELDERS

Tracy Bowman.....899-3089
 Don Butcher.....855-1636
 Dallas Dobbs271-8609

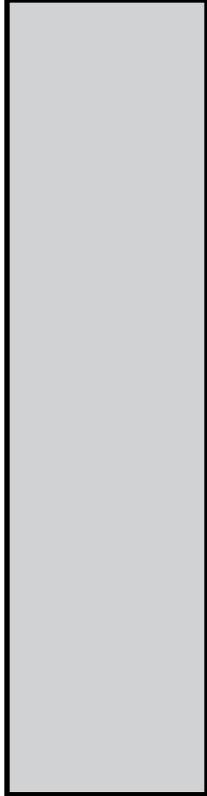
DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Woody Barker Bryan Busbee Don Hairless Joe Hott
 Robert Horton Perry Johnson Dan Moss Harold Phillips Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Mitchell Whittington

MINISTERS

Randall Caselman.....855-4447
 Jeff Grisham.....531-9135
 Charles Cash876-6331
 Selwin Nel Cape Town, South Africa
 Javier & Helmer Rosero..... Bogota, Colombia

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Bella Vista

**Work ! Work! Work!
 Is It Right**

Some people hate to do it. Some love it. Some go to great lengths to avoid it. Some do it too much of it. God has a clear perspective on it, and we are to align our thoughts with His. So, what does the Bible have to say about it? In the beginning, man seems to have been created to work. He was given the task of caring for God's Garden: *"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it" Genesis 2.15).*

Both work and rest are expected, commanded, by God. The Ten Commandments has God saying: *"Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy." (Exodus 20.8-11).* Did you catch it? God works. God has a labor. It becomes plain here that God expects us, like Him, to work and to rest from our labor. Perhaps God is even suggesting a ratio, six-to-one. Even the casual Bible student understands that God is unhappy with idleness, but that He promises to bless honest labor.

Some are ready to say: "Well, times are different, it takes me seven days to make a living." Oh Really? I think we can agree that the Sabbath Day, as a day of rest has passed away with the rest of the Law of Moses. However, like all the other commands, the principle of rest, caring for the body and mind, and soul, is still in effect. God expects us to work, rest, and refresh ourselves in an appropriate manner.

Think about the life of Jesus and what He accomplished in a short ministry of three-and-a-half years. Jesus worked intensely, yet rested; worked and refreshed Himself: *"Don't you know I must be about Father's business" (Luke 2.49). "As long as it is day, we must do the work of Him who sent Me. Night is coming, when no-one can*

BULLETINS



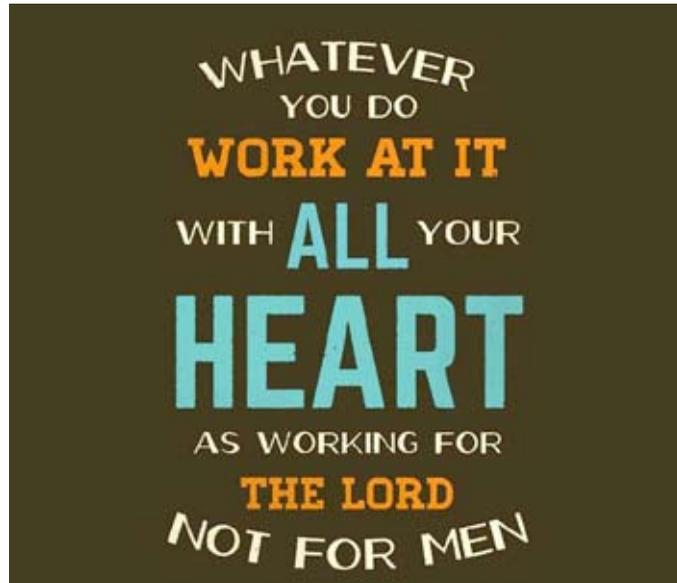
work" (John 9.4). Yet over and over again we see Jesus abide by the principle of rest: "Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, He said to them, "Come with Me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest" (Mark 6.31). "After He had dismissed the crowd, He went up on a mountainside by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone" (Matthew 14.23). "The next day the crowd realized that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, and that they had gone away alone" (John 6.22). Question! Did Jesus work? Did He keep the Sabbath Principle of rest? Indeed He did. Should we? Indeed we should!

Another question needs to be asked: What's the purpose for our work? The Bible not only teaches us that we should work, it gives us the proper motives for our work...

1) To supply our family with what the basic needs of life. Paul's admonishment to Timothy and Titus is ours also: "If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever"... "We must learn to devote ourselves to doing what is good, in order that we may provide for daily necessities, and not live unproductive lives" (1 Timothy 5.8 & Titus 3.14). "Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you" (1 Thessalonians 4.11). "For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: 'If a man will not work, he shall not eat.'" (2 Thessalonians 3.10).

2) To help support the weak, the poor, the disenfranchised, those in need: "He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need" (Ephesians 4.28). "You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'" (Acts 20.34-35). "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" (James 1.27).

3) To support the Gospel. Philippians 2.22 has Paul saying: "You know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel." Paul and Timothy were



serving the same Master, doing the same work. I think, like Timothy, we should work for the Gospel: Laboring in the Gospel, doing our part to preach, teach, share, exemplify, the Gospel by our own lifestyle. Plus, we should be open to using our work funds, salary, to support missions, those carrying the gospel to others.

We probably need to mention some of the wrong work motives: Merely to make money or accumulate wealth is not a Scriptural motive. Jesus clearly says we cannot serve God and money, God and material stuff. We are warned against laying up treasures on earth rather than in Heaven. Scripture tells us that covetousness is wrong: "Put to death what is earthly in you: Sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desires, and greed (covetousness) which is idolatry" (Colossians 3.5).

Well, While there are many different attitudes toward work, one thing remains constant: Work must be done. Ever since the Garden of Eden, mankind has worked, and we are all dependent upon our or someone else's work for our survival. So, let us work as if we were working for the Lord. Amen? "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"... "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" (Colossians 3.17 & 23).

—RANDALL CASELMAN

What Are We Looking For?

- They were looking for a lion; He came as a Lamb... **And they missed Him.**
- They were looking for a warrior; He came as a Peacemaker... **And they missed Him.**
- They were looking for a king; He came as a Servant... **And they missed Him.**
- They were looking for liberation from Rome; He submitted to the Roman cross... **And they missed Him.**
- They were looking for a fit to their mold; He was the mold maker... **And they missed Him.**
- They were looking for their temporal needs to be met; He came to meet their eternal need... **And they missed Him.**

- He came as a Lamb to be sacrificed for our sin... **Will we miss Him?**
- He came to make peace between God and man... **Have we missed Him?**
- He came to model servanthood for all mankind... **Have we missed Him?**
- He came that we might have true liberty. **Have we missed Him?**
- He came to give us eternal life.... **Have we missed Him?**

- When we submit to the Lamb... **We will meet the lion.**
- When we join with the Peacemaker... **We will meet the Warrior.**
- When we work with the Servant... **We will meet the King.**
- When we walk with the Submitted... **We will meet the Liberator.**
- When we concern ourselves with the Eternal... **We will have the temporal.**

If Jesus is not fitting into our mold, then come to the mold maker. Submit to His plan for life, and we will see our eternal needs met; then all other needs will be met as well.

—GLEN HITCHCOCK
Warner Robins, Georgia

FOR THE RECORD: 4/8/18		
Sunday Class.....	137	Sunday AM Worship.....252
Wednesday.....	154	Sunday PM.....128
		Offering.....\$12,999.62
		Budget.....10,718
SUNDAY SERVANTS: 4/15/18		
Announcements.....Tom Verkler	AM Song Leader.....Anthony Christiano	
Elder's Prayer.....Dallas Dobbs	PM Song Leader.....Lee McCain	
Communion Scripture & Prayer.....Richard Myers	PM Closing Prayer.....Randall Hunt	
Greeters.....Gary Syverson & Frank James	Server.....Aaron Bagwell, Cecil Boothe	
Server.....Bryan Busbee, Eric Gibson	Server.....Don Harless, Mitchell Whittington	
Server.....Phil Ward, Perry Johnson	Server.....Jerry Schimming, David Saunders	
Nursery.....Brenda & Alana Tucker	Van Driver.....Charles Flanary	
Ladies Encouragement & Prayer.....Karen Ashcraft & Mary Ann Bowman	
Worship Coordinator.....Mark Tucker	Video Operator.....Dan Moss	
WEDNESDAY SERVANTS: 4/18/18		
Song Leading.....Lance Bowman	Speaker.....Curt LaPorte	Announcements.....Dallas Dobbs