

The Bulletin

Meeks St. Church of Christ

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June 7, 2026

“Considering The Outcome”

By Bill Hall

We have no sympathy for those who at every funeral "preach the dead right on into heaven," who ignore the obvious failure on the part of the deceased to serve the Lord, who try to think that all will somehow get to heaven in spite of their disobedience. There is a hell, and the many of this earth (in contrast to the few) are going there (Matthew 7:13-14).

But we must not allow one extreme to beget another. While the majority will be lost, there are those in this world whose single purpose in life is to serve the Lord and go to heaven when they die; who devote themselves daily to studying God's word and living by its precepts.

When such people die, it is right to speak of their good life and faithfulness to the Lord; it is right to commend their example of faithfulness and perseverance to those who may be discouraged; it is right to speak of their eternal reward.

The Hebrew writer stated it this way: *"Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith"* (Hebrews 13:7 - NASV).

Three things are implied in this verse: (1) There had been men in their midst who had served the Lord faithfully unto death; (2) The Hebrew Christians were to be confident that the outcome of the lives of those men was a happy one; (3) Considering this, they were to imitate their faith.

We, like the Hebrews, have had the good fortune of knowing many who have lived godly lives and have now passed on to their reward. Some were elders; some were preachers; some were Bible class teachers; others were just good, faithful, dependable disciples of the Lord who placed His kingdom first in their lives.

We are not speaking of the lukewarm and indifferent. We are not speaking of those who claim to be Christians, but were lacking in the fruits of Christianity. We are speaking of the truly dedicated ones who constantly reflected the character of their Father and their Lord Jesus Christ. Their influence on our lives was tremendous. They were men and women of whom this world was not worthy. And the list grows with each passing year.

Every one of these had to overcome serious obstacles to be faithful to the Lord. The Devil challenged each one of them, but he failed. They gained the victory through Christ. Now they are eternally happy because they persevered. Could we ask any one of them, "Was it worth it," his reply immediately would be, "It was a thousand times worth it!" Not one of them regrets a single moment he spent in the Lord's service.

We thank God for such people. We rejoice in their salvation. We look on their passing not as those "who have no hope." And "considering the result of their conduct," we dedicate ourselves to imitating their faith.

“EVIL SUSPICIONS”

By Joe Price

Since love "thinks no evil" (keeps no accounts of evil, NKJV footnote), "rejoices in the truth" and "believes all things", we rightly conclude the converse is true of hatred (1 Corinthians 13:5-7).

Hate thinks evil of others (keeping an account of wrongs suffered), rejoices in the error of others and refuses to believe good things about others. It is no wonder that "he who does not love his brother abides in death" and, "*whoever hates his brother is a murderer*" (1 John 3:14-15). Love refuses to hold and express evil suspicions toward others.

Evil suspicions (evil surmisings, KJV) are counted among the sins of the proud, possessed by those obsessed with disputes and arguments (1 Timothy 6:3-4).

It is thinking the worst of others (often, deflecting attention away from one's own sins). God will not tolerate such arrogant treatment of others, and neither should we. Therefore, the Holy Spirit instructs Christians to "withdraw yourself" from such people (1 Timothy 6:5).

We can get caught up in speculating about others. This typically leads to gossip and a variety of additional sins. Such speculation and ruinous reasoning is forbidden by the word of God.

Let us carefully and correctly identify, put away and avoid the sin of evil suspicion.

(1) Evil suspicions draw conclusions on the basis of conjecture and speculation. Whereas love rejoices in the truth and thinks the best of others, the sin of evil suspicions relies on assumptions and the reckless handling of facts.

Because it relies on supposition and imagination to draw its conclusions, evil suspicion produces distrust and disputes. Once a person whose heart is full of evil surmising has made up his mind, it becomes very hard for him to reform and renounce his deeply held suspicion.

Why? The reason is because pride (a companion of evil surmising) will not allow it (Proverbs 16:18). What a dreadfully ugly sin!

(2) Evil suspicions spread contention and division where unity and peace should prevail. Christians are to "*seek peace and pursue it*" (1 Peter 3:11).

The gospel teaches us to "*pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another*", a principle that is not being practiced by one given to evil suspicions (Romans 14:19).

Having and acting upon an evil suspicion toward a fellow Christian, spreads an atmosphere of mistrust, doubt and reservation, obscuring the unity we share in Christ (Ephesians 4:1-3).

(3) Evil suspicions stifle encouragement. Christians should "*consider one another in order to stir up love and good works*", but evil suspicion prevents this work of encouragement (Hebrews 10:24).

It prevents productive communication instead of enhancing it. Barnabas showed himself to be the son of encouragement by not being suspicious toward Saul and his genuine conversion. He stepped forward and stood with his faithful brother in the Lord (Acts 4:36; 9:26-27). His example is one we all should follow.

(4) Evil suspicions wound and ruin rather than soothe and heal. The person consumed with evil suspicions against another is not a peacemaker (Matthew 5:9). Strife and turmoil is the fruit he bears.

(5) Put away evil suspicions. Cultivate love by always acting in the best interests of others - regardless of their words and deeds. (This is the true meaning and expression of love, Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:10-11.)

Judge righteously, not by appearance (John 7:24). Finally, reject baseless suspicions and charges against brethren (cf. 1 Timothy 5:19-20).

Those Who Need Our Prayers & Encouragement:

Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Daniel Holloway, Robbie, Sheila, Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, LuAnne Parrish, Billie Grisham, B.J. Graves, Chandler McCain (Cancer), Stacy & Annette Meeks, Anita Harris' mother: Hillard Switcher, Kiefer Norman (Robbie Doles' relative), Evelyn Trimble, Danny Briggs (cancer), Keley Whittemore, Cameron Hutchins, the McCarthy family in Baldwyn (two men have cancer, one is terminal), Karen Kennemur, Dianne Johnson, Randy Ferrell (diagnosed with Parkinson's disease), Lynlie Cottrell had foot surgery last Friday and is recovering, and Greg Fields (Brandi Meade's uncle who is battling cancer).

Updates: Billie Grisham is in Dogwood Assisted Living, here in Corinth.

Sherry Fuqua Doles is home and doing some better, still needs our prayers.

Camden (Chad's son) is still sore from his hunting accident.

Russell Briggs (recovering from Monday's surgery well).

LuAnne Parrish went to Tishomingo Manor for rehabilitation.

Fred Johnson got some good news from his latest doctor's visit!

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: Dan Cottrell
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #1: "Can We Preach The Gospel And Leave Others Alone?"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:

Workbook: Jerry Kennemur
Passing The Torch
Author: Mike Willis
Starting Page & Question: Page 16, Question #7C

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Russell Briggs
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Blake Briggs
Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:18-20
Song Leader: Tim Harris Sr.
Lord's Supper: Paul Busby
Assisting: — —
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #2: "Some Members The Church Can't Do Without"
Closing Prayer: Lee Busby

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.

June 10, 2026

Auditorium Bible Class: Russell Briggs
Workbook: The Book Of Mark
Author: By Mike Willis
Starting Page & Question: Page #54, Question #20
Invitation: Fred Johnson
Song Leader: Brian Meade
Closing Prayer: Tim Harris Sr.



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“Can We Preach The Gospel And Leave Others Alone?”

Lesson Text: **2 Timothy 4:1-5.**

I. Not If We Want Truth To Be Heard.

- God Wants All To Hear The Truth Of His Word- **Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Romans 1:14-15; 1 Corinthians 9:16; Colossians 1:23.**
- We Cannot Be Selective Or Partial In Our Preaching To The Lost— All Need Truth!
- **Acts 10:34-35.**
- **Acts 17:16**, *While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. (NRSV).*
- What Did Paul Do? He Spoke Up- **Acts 17:22.**
- Paul Openly Declared To Those Needed To Hear It- **Acts 17:19-30.**
 - The True God Who Made The World.
 - The Need For Repentance.
 - The Certainty of Judgment.
 - The Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

II. Not If God Demands That We Warn The Lost.

- Ezekiel Was Called To Warn The Lost- **Ezekiel 33:1-8.**
- We Lovingly Warn The Lost- **Ephesians 4:15.**
- **Colossians 1:28.**
- We see this pattern throughout the Bible:
 - **Noah** warned the world of coming judgment while building the ark.
 - **Moses** warned Pharaoh and Israel of God’s will.
 - **Jonah** warned Nineveh, and the city repented.
 - **John the Baptist** warned of the coming wrath and preached repentance.
 - **Jesus** warned repeatedly about hell, judgment, hypocrisy, and the need to repent.
 - **Paul** warned Jews and Gentiles, kings and governors, the righteous and the sinful alike.
- **Jeremiah 20:8-9.** Jeremiah Could Not Keep Silent!

III. Not If We Want To Save The Lost In Error & In Sin.

- Jesus’ Mission- **Luke 19:10.** Our’s Mission Too!
- Why Paul Spoke To Felix & Drusilla- **Acts 24:24-25.**
- Why Paul Attempted To Persuade Agrippa- **Acts 26:26-29.**
- **2 Corinthians 5:10-11; 10:5.**

IV. Not If We Want To Be Free From The Blood Of All Men.

- Paul Told The Ephesian Elders- **Acts 20:26-27.**
- Silence Is Not Innocent, It Hurts Us! **Ezekiel 33:8.**
- “Live And Let Live” Is Not An Option! God Will Not Approve Or Reward Us For It!
- **2 Timothy 4:1-2; Acts 20:27.**
 - That Is Why We Must Do As Paul Did:
Preach The Word, Reprove When Needed, Rebuke When Necessary,
Exhort With Patience, And Declare The Whole Counsel of God.

“Some Members The Church Can’t Do Without”

Lesson Text: **1 Corinthians 12:14-20**. The Context: All Are Needed To Work Properly.

I. Members Who Are Faithful.

- What Is Faithfulness? **2 Corinthians 4:2**.
 1. The Fruit Of Faith In Our Lives. **2**. Reliable, Trustworthy.
 - 3. Matthew 25:21 & 23; Acts 16:15; Colossians 1:7; 1 Timothy 3:11.**
 - Faithful To The Word- **Matthew 7:24-27; James 1:22**.
 - Faithful To Their Commitment To Christ- **Luke 9:23; 2 Timothy 4:7-8**.
 - Examples Of Faithfulness:
 1. Moses- **Hebrews 3:5**.
 2. Joshua- **Joshua 23:6-8; 24:14-15**.
 3. Timothy- **1 Corinthians 4:17; Philippians 2:19-22**.
 - Why Does The Church Needs Faithful Members? **2 Timothy 2:2**.
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II. Members Who Are Servant-Minded.

- Greatness In God’s Kingdom Is Measured By Service, Not Status- **Matthew 20:25-28**.
 - **Romans 16**, Is Full Of Examples Of Servant-Mindedness.
 - **Romans 16:1; vs. 3; vs. 6; Vs. 12; Vs. 13; Vs. 22**.
 - What Do Servants Look Like? **Galatians 5:13; Colossians 3:23-24**.
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III. Members Who Are Loving.

- The Church Cannot Do Without Loving Members!
 - **John 13:34-35; Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 4:8**.
 - Examples Of Love:
 - Ruth & Naomi (**Ruth 1:16**).
 - Jonathan & David (**1 Samuel 18:1-4**).
 - The Good Samaritan (**Luke 10:33-35**).
 - The Early Church (**Acts 4:32-35**).
 - What Do Loving Members Do For One Another? **Colossians 3:12-14**.
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IV. Members Who Are Encouraging.

- The Church Cannot Do Without Encouraging Members.
 - Barnabas Was An Encourager- **Acts 4:36; 11:22-24; Vs. 25-26**.
 - Other Brethren Who Were Encouragers:
 - Timothy- **1 Thessalonians 3:2**.
 - Tychicus- **Ephesians 6:21-22**.
 - Paul- **Acts 20:1-2**.
 - What Do Encouraging Members Do For Others?
 - **Romans 1:11-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; Proverbs 12:25; Hebrews 10:25**.
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