

# The Bulletin

## Meeks St. Church of Christ

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November 4, 2018

### “Why We Need To Trust in God”

By Brian Meade

In Proverbs 3:5-8, the wise man Solomon tells us to *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your body and refreshment to your bones.”*



There are some very definite reasons why we should listen to the admonition to trust God whole heartedly. To trust in God is to put our confidence in Him to lead us in the direction we should go.

Yet, many in the world are attempting to be completely self-sufficient, and consequently miss out on all the wonderful blessings of trusting faith in God.

God wants us all to *“acknowledge Him”* in our ways of life, in everything we do, and to realize that we can’t afford to be *“wise in our own eyes.”* For a variety of reasons, there is much folly in the going-it-alone attitude that rejects God’s direction. We need God.....

#### **1. Because We Don’t Know Everything!**

We, as men, like to do things for ourselves. Men like to fix cars and know how to do complex things as rebuild engines. There may be a lot that we can know about computers and science and nature— all because we desire to know things that interest us. But as much as we would like to think that we know everything, we don’t. Our knowledge is limited and fallible, because we as humans are limited and fallible— we can’t know everything! But God does! That is one of the Christian’s greatest blessings is to have a relationship to the God who knows all things. And with God’s help, we can know the way we should go....which path to choose, what the best decision would be for us, and ultimately, how to get to heaven when our life is concluded here on earth.

Such knowledge is truly needed in life’s biggest decisions, and without it we would be lost and in great need of guidance. Jeremiah spoke to this problem in his generation, when he said, *“I know, O Lord, that a man’s way is not in himself, nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps.”* (Jeremiah 10:23)

Abraham was a man of great faith and trust in God’s direction for not only his life, but the lives of his family as well. When God called Abraham to leave the Ur of the Chaldees, he *“obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going.”* (Hebrews 11:8) Just think of the incredible trust Abraham had in God to go where God said to go, and follow His direction. God didn’t give

Abraham a detailed itinerary of all the places where he would go and everything he would do along the way. And it was that Abraham had to be willing to let God lead him in the way he should go to receive the blessings. We, as children of Abraham, need to have the same kind of faith that he showed us how to have in our lives.

Many instances of life such as suffering, persecution, and various trials show us emphatically the need to trust in God's direction. When Job went through the intense suffering that he did in the first two chapters of Job, it left him with more questions than answers. As a matter of fact, the majority of the rest of the book is devoted to Job and his three friends trying to make sense of Job's suffering. From chapters 3-37, there are approximately 237 questions that seemingly do not help Job's understanding of what was happening to him. Job did not have the whole picture of why? And Job did not know what was going on behind the scenes of his troubles. As someone once said, *"We can only see a little bit down the road, but God can see around every curve."* Even though that's not scripture, it does give us the insight to trust God's foreknowledge of all events.

## **2. Because We Aren't Powerful Enough!**

There are times when we just don't have the power or ability to fix everything in our own strength. It is in these times (and always) we must rely on God to supply the strength we lack. We can draw encouragement from those in the scriptures who completely trusted God to help in times of need.

In Exodus 14:1-14, Moses was leading the Israelites out of Egypt by God's mighty power and the first major obstacle was an immense one— crossing the Red Sea! The army of Pharaoh pursued them and would have overtaken them, if it was not for God's deliverance. Israel was powerless to escape on their own through the Red Sea, it is then that, *"Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever."* (Exodus 14:13) That day, they were saved by God's power!

In Joshua 6:1-16, Joshua, as Moses' successor, had brought the people to the land of Canaan to possess it. But again, there was a formidable obstacle to overcome in the massive walls of the city of Jericho. It would have been extremely challenging, if not impossible to take the city by normal means of combat. But God would give them the city by His grace in such a way that no one could say it was by their military strength that they took the city. In Joshua 6:2, *"The Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and the valiant warriors."* The Lord then proceeds to direct them on how they would simply march around the city once per day for six days, and then seven times on the seventh day. *"At the seventh time, when the priests blew the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city."* It was then, that the walls of Jericho fell by God's hand! Israel, as well as God's people today, were being taught to trust in God's power to help with difficulties too hard for their own strength.

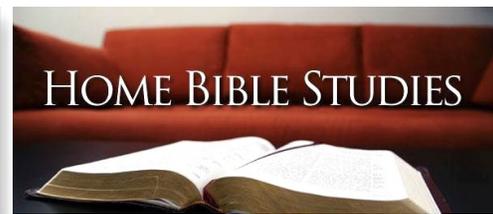
Other such examples could be cited, such as Gideon and the three hundred (Judges chapter 7) going against far superior numbers of warriors and winning with God's power once again.

David, who fought many battles in his day, would say about those who would array men for battle in times of war, *"Now I know that the Lord saves his anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving might of His right hand. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."* (Psalm 20:6-7 ESV)

Abraham is once again an example of one who trusted in God's power for a son (Isaac) in his old age (Genesis 17:1-17). The Hebrew writer tells us, *"By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. Therefore there was born even of one man, and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants as the stars of heaven in number, and innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore."* God caused them to conceive at the age of life that it was impossible by natural strength, but unlike men, God can do all things (Job 42:2). That's the vast difference between God and man!

Concerning what seemed impossible to Jesus' disciples, Jesus would say, *"The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."* (Luke 18:27) We all need to develop the proper attitude that with God's help all things are truly possible. When we are not leaning on our own understanding & power— we can, in trusting faith, say what Paul says in Philippians 4:1:13, *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."*

**A Women's Bible Class**  
Will meet monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of  
the Month at 7:00 PM.  
Ask Chris or Kathrine Callahan for details.



**News and Notes:** Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Steve Switcher, Nicky Curtis, Martha Norvell (Mississippi Care), June Lawson (Lisa Busby's Mom), Clois Wright, Debbie Keplinger, Gaddy Hall, Janis Johnson, Daniel Holloway, Tammy Kilgore (Jerry's niece), Betty Hurst, Peggy Harville (cancer), Jerry Trimble was released from Magnolia Hospital last Tuesday evening, Delain Doles is at the Tupelo Hospital in room 6635 (NMMC), and baby Julianna (26 week old with brain bleed at Phil Campbell, AL.)

Other local Meetings are posted in the foyer bulletin board:  
Cleveland, Ms. (Jim Allen)  
Bartlett, Tn. (Mark McCrary)  
South Cullman, AL. (Brett Hogland, 4th-8th)

**Those Who Serve:**

**Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:**

**Opening Prayer:**

Jerry Kennemur

**Preaching:**

Brian Meade

**Sermon:** *Sermon Series For New Converts: "How To Establish God's Will"*

**Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:**

Jerry Kennemur

The Book of John (Mike Willis)

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**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

**Announcements:**

Paul Johnson

**Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading:**

Fred Johnson

*John 4:19-24*

**Song Leader:**

Adam Harris

**Lord's Table:**

Paul Busby

**Assisting:**

Lee Busby & Tim Harris Jr.

**Preaching:**

Brian Meade

**Sermon:**

*Sermon Series For New Converts: "Pure Worship"*

**Closing Prayer:**

Nathan Meade

**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.**

**November 7th:**

**Auditorium Bible Class:**

Paul Busby

1 & 2 Kings (Mike Willis)

*Page 76, Question #27*

**Invitation:**

Adam Harris

**Song Leader:**

Chris Callahan

**Closing Prayer:**

Tim Harris Jr.