

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

| | |
|--|----------|
| Sunday morning worship (Bible study) | 9:30 AM |
| Sunday morning worship (Preaching) | 10:30 AM |
| Sunday afternoon worship (Preaching)..... | 4:00 PM |
| Wednesday evening worship (Bible Study)..... | 7:00 PM |

NEWS AND NOTES

VISITORS: If you are visiting with us, we welcome you and ask that you please sign our guest book and fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection basket or give it to one of the men in the congregation.

SCHEDULE: The schedule for November is posted on the bulletin board so the men can see what their responsibilities are for the month.

REJOICE WITH THOSE WHO REJOICE: Anthony and Caroline Horton are the proud parents of a new baby girl. (Anthony is David and Peggy Tiffin's grandson.) That makes David and Peggy new great-grandparents and Richard and Beth Hammock new great aunts and uncles.

SICK AND SHUT-INS: Bruce Tooley's father broke his hip and is in physical therapy, remember him in your prayers. Bruce Tooley has been sick but may be well enough to be at services today. Jack and Brenda Elliott are sick. Jack is doing better but Brenda is still not doing well. Kenny Mauldin is not doing well. If you would like to send a card or visit, his address is: 615 Byrd St. Cherokee, AL 35616. Helen Sparks continues her recuperation from a broken ankle. Virgie Waddle is now wearing a brace on her broken wrist. Virgie Waddle's sister, Rachel Bruton is in room 104 of the Red Bay Hospital for physical Therapy. Zola Basham is doing better. Donna Criswell's aunt, Nell Barrett, is at home and Donna cares for her.

TEACHING PROGRAMS: Our teaching bulletin, the **EASTSIDE EXAMINER**, was inserted in the **Red Bay News** the week of Oct 7. Remember our TV/Radio program on local Cable TV channels 12 and 97 at 6:30 AM and 4:30 PM on Sunday and various times through the week as well as two local radio stations 1430 AM and 97.9 FM. It is also on Facebook live at times. Jerry is also on the radio on 95.5 FM about 10 AM each Sunday. Please pray for these efforts that they will reach people who will be interested in reading and listening to God's word.

GOSPEL MEETINGS / SINGINGS: Tri-Cities beginning Dec 2 with Mitchell Dalrymple preaching. (I tried to get dates and time but unsuccessful). If you know of any other meetings in the area, please tell the one making announcements.

POINTS TO PONDER

- Your disposition, not your position, will make you happy or unhappy.
- Happiness is inward and not outward. It does not depend on what we have, but on what we are.

THE EASTSIDE REMINDER

2Pet 1:12-15

Published by the Eastside church of Christ Red Bay, AL
Meeting at the corner of Hwy 24 East and Meadow Dr.
Web Site: <http://eastsidechurchrb.com/>

Vol. II - No. 30 – November 25, 2018

Editor: Jerry L. Henderson: Send comments to: The Editor, 1205 Hwy 24 East, Red Bay, AL 35583
Phone: 256-333-0017 or 662 - 542-3170 - email: jerry@hendersons.net

EDITOR'S NOTE: I know the day set aside many years ago by the leaders of our country that we call "Thanksgiving" has already past. But I received the following article written by my good friend R. J. Evans, after it was too late to have it in the bulletin this past Sunday. However, the article is not really about the day we typically celebrate with a feast and visiting with family, but rather with the disposition of heart that should always characterize our thoughts and deeds regarding the things with which we have been blessed, not only from a physical standpoint but also from the spiritual blessings we have in Christ. So, read and consider the following thoughts presented in this article and examine our self to see if we are indeed as thankful as we should be.

ARE WE THANKFUL?

By R.J. Evans

It is a blessing and privilege to live in a country that sets aside an annual holiday of Thanksgiving. It was declared a federal holiday by Abraham Lincoln in 1863. While this is good, as Christians we are to be thankful every day of the year. In this life we have innumerable blessings for which we are to be thankful and the Bible tells us that these blessings come from the God of heaven. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from

the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (Jas. 1:17). As we look about us, seeing what God has done, surely we ought to be affected by His magnificent works. We should be overwhelmed with awe and reverence as we contemplate life itself—whether it be a tiny living organism, or human life, which is so "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psa. 139:14).

I wonder, though, are we truly grateful for all that God has done? If we are honest and humble in heart, what changes have we made in our lives because of the goodness of God? It should lead us to repentance. "Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?" (Rom. 2:4). But the trouble with so many today is that instead of being humbled with repentance, they have become callused in heart and drunk on materialism and selfishness. Hence, they fail to "count their blessings."

The goodness of God should cause us to be generous with our time. But with regard to time and duties, some seem to always be saying, "I don't have time to study the Bible," "I don't have time to visit the sick," "I don't have time to teach others the gospel." "I don't have time to attend all the services of the church." "I don't have time to encourage other Christians," etc. Oh yes, we do have the time! Everyone's day is made up of twenty-four hours. Our time may be ill-arranged (especially as far as the work of the Lord is concerned), but we all have the same amount of time. The trouble is—we are not grateful enough to give it to the Lord in His service. We are being selfish and self-centered when we have time for TV, camping, boating, fishing, golfing, secular reading, movies, ball games and a host of other activities, and yet, not enough time for the Lord.

Our gratitude should cause us to be generous with our money. However, in the matter of giving on the first day of the week (1Cor. 16:1-2), can it be said that we are grateful to the Lord when we have spent so much on our own selfish desires that we are not able to give to the Lord as we should? The Bible says that "God loves a cheerful giver" (2Cor. 9:7). But no person can be a cheerful giver unless he

or she has first acknowledged the great gifts of God to mankind, especially the gift of His Son (Jhn. 3:16). Individually, we should be generous when it has to do with using our means to help others. The Apostle John said: "But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?" (1Jhn. 3:17; see also Gal. 6:10; Eph. 4:28). Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). The trouble with so many of us is that we never take the time to truly reflect on how much we have received from God. When we take our eyes off ourselves and contemplate the goodness of God, our gratitude for these abundant blessings will be reflected in our giving each first day of the week and in our assisting those in need.

It seems that the lack of gratitude has always been a problem. When Jesus healed the ten lepers, only one man (a Samaritan) was grateful enough to return and thank Jesus for his cleansing. The record says, "Now one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So, Jesus answered and said, 'Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?' And He said to him, 'Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.'" (Lk. 17:15-17). Only ten percent of those who received a blessing showed gratitude. All ten were ready to receive a blessing; all cried out for mercy; but nine were not concerned about giving praise and thanksgiving. Many today are much like these nine ungrateful lepers.

A failure in thanksgiving for the blessings enjoyed in this life gives evidence of the alienation of man from God. "Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful..." (Rom. 1:21). On the other hand, the Christian, realizing what God has done for him and the world, continually lifts his heart in praise and thanksgiving unto Him. The Apostle Paul stated: "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1Thess. 5:18).