

## 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

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

**SERVICE TIMES:** We have been able to resume our normal schedule of assemblies. However, as a result of the seriousness of the Corona Virus outbreak some members have been staying at home and may continue to do so, as a result of underlying health issues or just precautionary. We respect their decisions. Certainly, we are hopeful that our scientists and medical community can overcome this virus and things will soon return to normal.

**SICK AND SHUT-INS:** Dottie Henderson received a good report from her heart doctor and continues to improve. Alice Hamm is doing well following knee replacement surgery. Zola Basham will not have her hip surgery. Remember her as she deals with the pain and discomfort. Remember her sister, Sula Maxey, as she recovers from shoulder surgery. Donna Criswell is doing some better with her health issues. Her aunt, Nell Barrett is not doing well, and neither is her brother-in-law. Donna provides most of her aunt's care. Remember Telford Hamm's brothers and brother-in-law. Jack Elliott was not able to have the heart ablation. He is home from the hospital and still dealing with his heart issues, but hoping new medications will help. Continue to remember Jack's niece. Nancy Summerford's mother is in last stages of Alzheimer's. Virgie Waddle is still not doing well. Remember her sister-in-law, Jean Malone is in the nursing home in Golden.

**TEACHING EFFORTS:** Our teaching bulletin, the **EASTSIDE EXAMINER**, was in the **Red Bay News** in April. Copies of this issue are on the table in the foyer for those who do not receive a paper. These may also be used to give to a friend or neighbor. When the copies are depleted, more can be printed. There is also an ad in the local paper once a month offering a free Bible correspondence course. There are DVD copies of past TV programs available. The radio program on 95.5 FM at 10 AM each Sunday continues. Please pray that these efforts will reach people interested in studying God's word.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS / SINGINGS:** I know of no meetings in this area. Bruce mentioned one at Pleasant Grove (west of Birmingham) with Wes Brown preaching. If you know of meetings or singings in the area, please tell the one making announcements.

## POINTS TO PONDER

- No man is free who is not master of himself.
- Keep a cool head and a warm heart.

# THE EASTSIDE REMINDER

2Pet 1:12-15

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## ONLY EACH OTHER

By Chuck Durham

Stephen E. Ambrose, writes in his book, **Comrades**, "Of all the friendships between brothers that I've known...none came close to that of the six Eisenhower boys. Partly that was because of their parents, partly because of their semi-rural setting, partly because there were so many of them and they had no sisters, partly it was because of their personalities. They had learned from David and Ida Eisenhower always to love one another, other people, and every manifestation of life around them. They grew up without money or any possessions, only each other. And although they had some friends in the little town of Abilene, Kansas, where they lived, mainly they had to rely on each other" (23).

Christians belong to "local" bodies of saints. How effectively does a body work if you lop off one of its fingers or toes? It can "function" to some degree, but not as efficiently as it once did. If you remove certain members of the body—like internal organs, or eyes, or tongue—you will do considerable damage to the body, possibly causing its total demise. Christians are not meant to exist as solitary beings. We simply do not grow and prosper by ourselves. We need each other!

Consider these "one another" Scriptures in the New Testament — "love one another" (Rom. 13:8); "serve one another" (Gal. 5:13); "be kind to one another" (Eph. 4:32); "admonish one another" (Rom. 15:14). The crowning jewel of

these verses is Rom. 12:5 — “So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.” One member should no more sever itself from the others, than we would sever our own hand from our physical body. It is not merely a matter of “functionality,” but of “care” and “concern” as well. Paul said: “...the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it” (1Cor. 12:25b-26). We should care deeply if one member is suffering. We know this reality when our physical body’s thumb is smashed by a hammer! The whole body feels at once the pain of our injured thumb. Think of what God is trying to help us see! He wants us to always think in terms of being “members of one another.”

What should we be doing to ensure we are growing in our care for the local body to which we belong?

**First, we should assemble regularly with other members for worship and Bible study.** We are commanded to “admonish one another” (Rom. 15:14). We cannot truly show concern for other members unless we are sharing in teaching each other the will of God. Unless we “exhort one another” (Heb. 3:13) and “build each other up” (1Thess. 5:11) — we truly don’t have “love for one another.” Can we imagine a family truly being a “family,” if they never helped one another understand what values they should hold in life? What family is truly a “family” if they do not correct each other when they fail, and pick each other up when they fall? How can a local family of God’s people possibly do this apart from regularly being with one another in worship and Bible study?

**Second, we must identify the things we are “good” at doing—and get about doing them!** Paul exhorts us in Rom. 12:6-8, “Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them...he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.” Not everyone is good at showing mercy, or able to teach others the Word of God; but some are! God requires that we know ourselves and get about the business of doing what we are gifted by Him to do. We each must try out different things and mature in our walk with the Lord. We will discover what we are adept at doing and serve one another.

**Finally, all members can pray for one another and speak words of encouragement.** A saint confined to a wheelchair might think, “What am I worth to the body?” Be a warrior in prayer for your fellow-saints! Fight the good fight and mail notes of encouragement. Call folks up on the phone and tell them how much they mean to you. Every saint can pray for other members. Every saint can become a Barnabas (Acts 4:36)!

A preaching buddy was talking with a mutual friend who fell away from the Lord several years ago. He asked him, “What do you do on Sundays?” The fallen brother commented, “My wife and I take walks on Sundays and we pray together.” The faithful brother asked the salient question: “So, how does that help me, brother?” A “finger” lying severed on the ground is dead and useless to the body to which it once belonged! It can no longer “care” for the members with whom it once shared a living union. It awaits in hopeless existence the final judgment. Remember this—if we choose to sever ourselves from the body and let it also motivate us to love and good works!

Via “Pressing On” June 2020

## **GLORY TO THE READER OR THE WRITER?**

By David Diestelkamp

The fruit fly has long been the mainstay of biomedical research. An article in the April 3, 2000 Newsweek lauds the scientific breakthrough of reading “almost all of the chemical letters -- 165 million of them -- that make up its DNA.” It is called “an impressive technical feat in its own right.”

My marvel at the technological accomplishments of man falls far short of my awe for the One who took nothing and made all that man is discovering. The science of man is simply reading what God has written. And we are still in the primary reader stage at that -- humans have almost 20 times more DNA than fruit flies!

“I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well” (Psa. 139:14).

Via “Think on These Things” - April-May-June 2000

**Editor’s Note:** We might think about this as we await our scientific communities’ search for a cure and preventive vaccine for the Corona Virus that is plaguing our world today.