

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 September is posted on the bulletin board so the men can see what their responsibilities are for the month. The October schedule will be posted soon.

SICK AND SHUT-INS: Brenda Elliott has not been feeling well and Donna Criswell was not feeling well Wednesday evening. Remember Raymond Poston's son, Kevin, as he deals with his brain tumor and changing treatments. Brenda Elliott has a sister in Southern Magnolia and another sister has moved into an apartment in this area. Telford's sister is at Southern Magnolia. Remember Telford's brother-in-law. Virgie Waddle's sister-in-law is in Southern Magnolia. Nancy Summerford continues helping care for her mother who has Alzheimer's. Hopefully, she can be back at services soon. Mike Gay is taking chemo treatments for the tumor that was removed from his pancreas.

COVID-19 A great nephew of Donna Criswell and J. L. Barrett has Covid-19 but is doing better. There are some in this community and others known to members here who either have this virus or are suffering lingering side effects from it. Even though masks are not required we should continue to be cautious and respect those who think they should wear a mask or possibly quarantine for a period of time.

WEEKLY BIBLE READING: This week's Bible reading is **Hebrews 1 – 5**.

TEACHING EFFORTS: Past issues of all bulletins, are available in the resource room. These can be used as a teaching tool. If more copies of an issue are needed they can be printed. There is an ad in the paper once a month offering a free Bible correspondence course. DVD copies of past TV programs are available. Our radio program continues on 95.5 FM at 10 AM each Sunday. Pray that these efforts will reach people interested in studying God's word.

GOSPEL MEETINGS / SINGINGS: South Cullman Sept 30 – Oct 3 with J. R. Bronger (Time unknown). The meeting at Isbell has been postponed due to Covid-19. Belgreen Oct 18 – 22 with Lonell & Larsen Plyler. Mon – Thu 7pm and singing Fri 7pm. If you know of meetings or singings in the area, please tell the one making announcements.

POINTS TO PONDER

- You never sin against God nor man when you do the right things.
- A song in the heart gives the day a good start.

THE EASTSIDE REMINDER

2Pet 1:12-15

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SPECIAL WEDNESDAY EVENING SERIES

Beginning in October we have scheduled gospel preachers from this area to present lessons each Wednesday evening. Seven different men from this area have been scheduled to be with us. This series of lessons will begin October 6th and conclude November 17th. Listed below are the different speakers and the dates they will be with us.

All of these men are capable of edifying and building us up spiritually. Let's be sure to be present for each of these lessons in this special series and invite our friends and neighbors to visit with us during this special series.

Don Miller October 6th Don is one of the elders of the River Bend congregation in Florence, AL

George Hutto October 13th George preaches for the Isbell congregation in Russellville, AL

Mitchell Dalrymple October 20th Mitchell preaches for the Piney Grove congregation in Tuscumbia, AL

Tadd Corder October 27th Tadd preaches for the Eastside congregation in Russellville, AL

Colby Junkin November 3rd Colby preaches for the Riverbend Congregation in Florence, AL

Stacy Crim November 10th Stacy preaches for the Tri-Cities congregation in Muscle Shoals, AL

Lonnie Oldag November 17th Lonnie preaches for the Quinn congregation in Spruce Pine, AL

KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE GOAL

By Dennis L. Scroggins

"Keep your eye on that post yonder and you'll be alright" were my father-in-law's famous last words to me, as I pulled away from him on his old '49 8n Ford tractor with a cultivator obediently following behind me. He meant for me to plow out the weeds that had grown between the rows of tender young watermelon plants.

Ten minutes into the lesson, I was feeling pretty good about the great job I was doing plowing for the first time in my life. Everything was going pretty well until I decided to look back at the great job I was doing. Well, you guessed it, I plowed out about a hundred yards of watermelons in the blink of an eye. Of course, I straightened up and got my eye back on that post and the plowing got better, but it didn't change the fact that I had in a moment destroyed a good part of the crop my father-in-law had hoped to harvest that year.

I felt bad, and apologized for the great loss that had occurred as a direct result of my moment of foolishness. It all happened because I was lifted up with pride in the great job I was doing. Yes Sir, I was looking back to see what a great job I was doing, taking my eye off the post, which had kept me on the straight and narrow way.

Jesus said, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God," Luke 9:62. Farmers plow for different reasons. They plow to prepare the soil, to plant the seeds, or to remove the weeds from the good plants that are trying to grow and produce fruit.

Christians who start to do the will of Christ needs to keep their minds on Jesus' business and not get distracted by the things of this world. Many have lost sight of what they are doing for a moment, only to fall into temptations and snares set by the devil.

Pride is a powerful emotion. Pride takes us in a different direction because we allow ourselves to be led by what we think is good, and not what Christ has commanded us to do.

Christians are not to live their lives looking back at all the good they have done. Nor should they be impressed with all the good they are doing, or even the good they plan to do some day. Christians are to put their hand to the plow and keep on, keeping on. Perhaps you have been looking back, and lost track of time, and have not paid attention to the things that really matter to souls around you.

Could it be you have innocently plowed out many a soul that was trying to grow in Christ?

If you have put your hand to the plow, please don't look back at the rows you've plowed, for the row you are plowing today may well be the "good soil" from where much fruit will one day be produced.

We need to keep our minds on Christ's business.

RELAXATION

By Gary Henry

"You will break the bow if you keep it always bent" (Greek Proverb).

In a world where "managing multiple priorities" has become a survival skill, we find ourselves ceaselessly busy. Rarely do we relax, and even when we do, we book a time slot for it in our day planners, as if relaxation were simply another item to check off on our agendas. Plainly, we are a driven people. But what is it that drives us? Whatever it is (and truthfully, there are dozens of different possibilities), we need to be exceedingly careful these days. Unrelieved activity will kill us. The bow will break if it's always bent.

Is it productivity that we're concerned about? There are doubtless many good things to be doing nowadays, but those who know the most about real productivity understand the need for adequate "downtime." Relaxation doesn't take away from our productivity; it adds to it. Winston Churchill said, "I found I could add nearly two hours to my working day by going to bed for an hour after luncheon."

Do we feel guilty when we're doing nothing? I remember a conversation years ago with the girl who ended up graduating with the highest academic average in our college class of several thousand. She had dropped by my apartment one afternoon, and greeted me with the usual, "Hi, whatcha doing?" When I said, "Nothing," she was aghast! "Don't you feel guilty?" she said. "Not at all," I replied, and I went on to introduce her to the concept of "creative inactivity." I believed then, and I still believe today, that we need to get over the idea that relaxing by doing nothing is morally wrong. Having worked, we need to relax!

It's certainly true that doing something different is often the best way to relax. Anatole France went so far as to say, "Man is so made that he can only find relaxation from one kind of labor by taking up another." I'm not sure we can only find relaxation by taking up another kind of labor, but even so France's general point is well taken.

I'm still confident, however, that there are times when it's not only not wrong to do nothing, but nothing's the most beneficial thing that we can do. And if we can't ever -- at any time, under any circumstance -- bring ourselves to do that, we need to ask ourselves, "Why?"

"He does not seem to me to be a free man who does not sometimes do nothing" (Cicero).