

Living In The Far Country

Luke 15:11-32

Why do so many chose to leave the confines of their spiritual home, the church (1 Tim 3:15; 1 Pet 2:5) to live in the far country? Living in the far country is not without its cost. We forfeit a great deal by choosing to live in the far locale of sinful living. Consider that living in the far country means that we have chose to live:

• **Far From The Father:** When the prodigal left the father the relationship they had was severed (cf 15:24). The same holds true when we leave the light of God’s way for the darkness of the world (John 1:5-7). Let us, if we have left, remember that the father continues to wait for you and me to come to ourselves that the relationship between us might again be made whole through Christ (cf 1 John 1:9; Acts 8:22, et al).

• **Far From Productive Living:** the prodigal’s life in the far country is described as ‘wasteful’ (15:13). When we live a life that is devoid of glorifying God it becomes a useless life (Isa 43:7; 1 Cor 10:31). Let us make sure that we never waste one golden hour in the pursuit of sinful living.

• **Far From Blessings:** In the far country the prodigal son was ‘in want’ (15:14). Sin had taken him farther than he had ever wanted to go. When we choose to live in the far country of sin, we cut ourselves off from the innumerable blessings found only in Christ (Eph 1:3).

• **Far From Happiness:** The happiness experienced by the prodigal was short lived at best (15:13; Heb 11:24, 25). Real, genuine happiness was not found until he was at home again with his father. The same holds true for those who would stray from their heavenly Father. Sin offers some pleasure, but its end result is death (Jas 1:12-16; Rom 6:23). Let us, if we have wandered away, return to the place where real rejoicing can be found (Phi 4:4).

Are you living in the far country of sinful living? God is still calling the prodigal today. Come home while you still can.

(Copied From Northside Bulletin, Calhoun, Georgia)

BRETHREN WE HAVE MISSED MOST RECENTLY

S Q K V Y H I J M R I O P H Z V A
Y B S C O T T I E I L D A W J I R
G E R A L D H R D Q K E N A J C A
Q N A R D N A S O G L A M A G K B
I T T A P Y G P N N V I Y E R Y R
L L A H S R A M N T E A K L L B A
N S E M A J M G I E T H S A A V B
N I N A R Z B B E T R J P T T H A
A Y X Y I J E Z E Y E A E E A H K
H R N A T S R R A R N I K K T C Y
T R Y J A P G N R N E F S R T S Y
R E X K G Y A Y A L D T J A C K S
A T K I C N M X D A V I D M L H E
M I A I A E O Y Z R H Z J N A I J
V R Y J M R B V R A P U A R A K L
C H T L T O M K O A D A O W R K T
E Y I A S D O N I Y G N T L Z K G

AMBER	MARK
BARBARA	MARSHALL
BECKY	MARTHA
BEN	MIKAYLA
BRANDI	MIKE
CRAIG	MYRA
DAVID	NINA
DENE	NOAH
DONNIE	PAT
ELVA	PATTI
GERALD	RITA
GRETTA	ROXANNA
JACK	RYAN
JAMES	SANDRA
JAMIE	SCOTTIE
JANA	SHARON
JERRY	STACY
JUDY	STAN
KARA	STEPHEN
KAREN	TERRY
KATHY	TOM
LARA	VICKY
LEAH	
LILA	

BRETHREN WHO HAVE MISSED LONGER OR ARE SHUT-IN

V E J K C B X C D T P A K Y S
M I A A A L E C A O A R A L I
E A R F N R Y N N N U D T L L
X O R G A E E D I Y L N H O L
L G H I I N E N E A Z A R M Y
H I L D A N A I L N G S Y R H
J I M A D N I L L R E M N R P
B A R B A R A A E L D K A J N
A I R O L G A T I N A C A A M
S H E R Y L C S Y T H C D E I
N A O M I H E L I E T R N H T
T Z G M E I O E L U O Y A F T
S E C N A R F G G J O C W F I
D L N G A Y D O J C I L N E E
V G V C A L U A P M Y R A J V

BARBARA	KATIE
BEN	LANAFAE
CALLIE	LINDA
CAROL	MARIAN
CAROLYN	MICAH
CLYDENE	MITTIE
COY	MOLLY
DANIELLE	MYRA
FRANCES	NAOMI
GLORIA	NITA
GRETCHEN	PAUL
HAZEL	PAULA
HILDA	PHYLLIS
JAE	RACHEL
JANE	SANDRA
JEFF	SHERYL
JIM	THAD
JODY	TONYA
JORDAN	VIRGINIA
KAREN	WANDA
KATHRYN	
LOUIS	

NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)

Remember in Prayer:

Gloria Thomas remains in critical condition. Her family is trying to have her moved to Arkansas Continued Care Hospital.

Susan Pickens is now home and will be on oxygen for 2 to 4 weeks.

Louis & Myra Preston are at NEA Baptist. Louis is in ICU and Myra is in room 3222.

James Johnson has been released from the hospital, but must remain quarantined at home.

Marshall Lands is back in St. Bernard’s awaiting a move to a rehabilitation facility.

Paul Sherman received a likely diagnosis of Bell’s Palsy and is undergoing further tests.

Please check the bulletin boards for updates on Prayer Request Lists. Please update us if needed. Also please pray for those directly and indirectly affected by Covid-19, and please keep us updated.

Mark Wooten

Ben, Brandi, & Branch Johns

David & Roxanna Loggins

Karen Kalkbrenner, Louis & Myra Preston

Jody & Susan Pickens

Marshall & Lila Lands

In Other News:

All Children’s Bible classes have been cancelled for until further notice. Adult Classes will continue at the teacher’s discretion.

All additional activities for December have been cancelled.

Those Privileged To Serve

December 20, 2020

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader: Noah Flanrey
Opening Prayer: Mike Felts
Closing Prayer: Jeff Presley
Bible Reading: Carlos Wood
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

LORD’S TABLE

Presiding: Stan Honeycutt
Mitch Mosley Barry Roush
David Loggins Reginald Read
Stacy Eddleman Ryan Manley

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Nichols

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader: Scottie Blanchard
Opening Prayer: Randy Oden
Closing Prayer: Carroll Morris
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

December 23, 2020

Song Leader: Noah Flanrey
Opening Prayer: Jimmie Powell
Closing Prayer: Scott Pratt

DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

December 23, 2020

Terry Joe Kee

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK

Week Of

December 13, 2020

Sunday Bible Study 35
Sunday AM Worship 50
Sunday PM Worship 38
Wednesday Bible Study
Contribution \$3593

“Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.”

Proverbs 20:17

The Friend of Truth



Greensboro Road church of Christ

Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405

(870) 932-3920

“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

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KeeNotes

When you look on page three of our bulletin this week, you will find the names of many who have been absent recently. This puzzle is to remind all of us of brethren who are struggling with the virus and all the consequences that have come from trying to stay safe and working to be faithful also. This is truly a struggle and we hope very soon (the sooner the better) we can all be past this pandemic and our brethren will all get back into their places. Too many seats are empty and we long to have them filled again.

With all the changes we have had to make during the past nine months, we have lost class time and our study habits may be suffering because of it. Beginning the first of the year we will begin again our class on, *How To Study The Bible?* This study will be taught on our Facebook sight and for most you can keep up by tuning in at your convenience each week. I hope that we can get everyone back into our study together and also hope we can use this as a means of outreach to draw more into the class. So I encourage you to be watching for this. There will be some handouts and materials that you may be able to pick up if you do not have access to Facebook or do not choose to be a part of this class by this means. The class will last only about 15 or 20 minutes and will begin by reminding us of things we have looked at and studied previously. I hope that you will be a part of this study and will find it something good to “share” with your friends and perhaps increase and encourage the number of students from week to week.

Please, as this year is drawing to a close, be looking for ways and opportunities to bring someone to Christ. This might be by converting someone who has never named the name of Christ. But it also may be by restoring someone who has fallen by the wayside or is struggling with his daily journey. If you can help us to reach one soul in 2021 what a wonderful year it will be. Our renewed efforts will be to come out of this year with a stronger resolve and more dedicated effort at reaching one soul. We need to get back to the *Each One, Invite One* mentality we have had and look for an opportunity to bring someone with you. Our theme for the new year will be *Each One, Invite One, in Twenty-One!*

SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols

Randy Oden

Jody Pickens

DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard

Jerry Dodson

Mike Felts

Jason Garland

Marshall Lands

Mark Wooten

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

MISSIONARIES

Michael Hughes

Samrit Kammanee

Arnold Kelley

Micah Robertson, Montana

Guyana, South America

Warren, PA

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God

Romans 10:17

Believe the Word of God

John 8:24

Repent of your sins

Luke 13:3

Confess your faith in Jesus

as the Son of God

Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for the

remission of your sins

Acts 2:38

Live faithfully

Revelation 2:10

“Where there is no vision,

the people perish....”

Proverbs 29:18

God Give Us 2020 Vision

in 2020