



Where Are You Headed?

Paul reminded the Ephesians of their former life when they were “without God and without hope in the world” (Ephesians 2:12). It was the life common to those who either were not aware of God or had no interest in God.

But now they had obtained the hope that is in Jesus Christ. A hope that is sure and steadfast because it is the promise of the eternal, all-powerful God who cannot lie.

Because of their hope in Jesus, the faithful strove to be pure as he is pure.

The constant challenge of all humanity, showing itself apparent in all of our human history, is the choice of the path we will follow - the direction we decide to go.

So, where are you and I headed? Are we striving to walk the path that chooses to follow Jesus, or do we walk the path of our own personal choice?

-Dewayne

Questions for Ecclesiastes 5

December 13, 2020

Tom Steed

- How strongly do you think of the church building as the “house of God?” What is the difference between a church auditorium/worship center and a temple?
- Can you think of a time when someone made a fool of himself or herself by talking too much? Can you give an example of a time someone (you?) was talking or making claims about something and it was “out of place” or inappropriate? Why was it inappropriate?
- What does your family do to prepare for worship? How well do you worship on your own in terms of pray, praise, song? Worship is also “service to God” but the question centers on adoration, etc.
- What does it mean to, “*Guard one’s steps*” when going to the house of God? What are some specific suggestions? What are we guarding against? How can we/do display arrogance toward God?
- Name a time when someone made a promise to you and kept it / didn’t keep it?
- What was the last promise you made that you kept? That you didn’t keep?

A Big Thank You Eric Gott

Last week Leah and I received a phone call asking us to take in twin siblings, a boy and a girl. We immediately said yes, cut our Thanksgiving trip short, and returned home to purchase a van so that our family - now of six - could all ride together. It was not until after purchasing the van that we began to think of the logistics needed to care for four children which now, included three-month old twins.

Once again, we are blessed and humbled to witness the church in action. As soon as we shared the news on social media, we began receiving multiple phone calls, messages, and Facebook posts asking how our friends could help. We have been overwhelmed with the support of our church family and cannot begin to express how thankful we are for the help you have shown us. Please know that as you bless us, we in return are using these goods to bless other children, too. When our children outgrow the toys and clothes given to us, we give them to Agape so that they can continue to be a blessing to another family.

As Leah and I continue to be foster parents, we are thankful to have such a loving church family supporting us along the way. We are thankful for every prayer, card, and meal that has been sent to us. Thank you for showing the love of Christ to our children.

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. James 1: 27



Psalm 91

When my mom passed, my dad kept on reminding me to read this Psalm. I hope you find great comfort in it as I have.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot. "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation." (ESV)

David

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to Robert and Emma Aycock in the death of their brother in law, Roger Moore. There was a private graveside service last week.

Welcome to the Family



Welcome to **Ivy, Kristen, Cole & Collins Dees** (FTG #3) who recently placed membership. Their address is 1645 Rose Walk Drive, Hoover, Alabama 35244. Their phone number is 205-873-5255.

Sunday Worship Services Schedule

Due to the rise in the COVID numbers, our elders have decided to have three Sunday morning worship times. Starting **Sunday, December 6**, we will have an 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. service. All Bible Classes will now be on **Sunday night, 6:00 p.m.**, in the auditorium and streaming in the classrooms. Wednesday Bible Service for adults will be in the auditorium at 7:00 p.m. Teens and children classes will meet in their respective classrooms or as directed. The broadcasts will be available on **Riverchase's webpage, Facebook page, YouTube and Vimeo**. Recordings of all services will continue to be available under the sermons section on our website, www.riverchasechurch.org.



New Song of the Week

We will be singing a new song on Sunday, December 13. Below is the link if you would like to listen and become familiar with the song.

"Gentle Shepherd"

<https://youtu.be/0Smfi8MBvjQ>

New Elders Recommendations

We are prayerfully seeking God's wisdom and guidance in our search for new Elders. Please submit in writing your recommendations for men to serve as additional Elders. Send submissions in writing to an Elder or to Elders@Riverchasechurch.org.

Delivery of Backpacks for the Homeless

Due to COVID, we will be unable to deliver the backpacks in person to the homeless this year. We will deliver the 200 backpacks to the Firehouse ministry so that they can disperse them to those who need them the most. We would like to thank everyone who has made monetary donations or spent their time packing the backpacks. Donations are still being accepted. The cost of the backpacks is \$75.

For the Record

Sunday, December 6, 2020

8:00 Worship	115
9:30 Worship	170
11:00 Worship	87
Total Sunday Morning	372
Sunday Night	185
Contribution	\$38,334.84
YTD Average	\$34,781.86
Budget	\$37,500.00

Dear Riverchase Family,

Thank you for loving Matt and loving us. Your prayers, support and encouragement were offered at just the right times, in so many different ways.

They were gifts that God provided during Matt's life, illness and as we grieve his death.

Please continue praising God with us for the assurance we have that Matt is safe, healthy and restored with Jesus. Let us all keep the faith and know we get to join him one day.

*All our love,
The Snows*



Office Closed

The church office will be closed Thursday, December 24 through Sunday, January 3. Please contact us at home or on our cell phones if you need anything.



Upcoming Events

- **Three Sunday Morning Worship Services:** Sunday, December 13, 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. Bible Classes at 6:00 p.m.
- **Volleyball:** Friday, December 18, 6:00 p.m. in the gym.
- **Church Office Closed:** Thursday, December 24 - Sunday, January 3.

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This week at Riverchase:

- Wednesday Night Bible Study in the auditorium.
- Three Sunday Morning Worship Services:
Sunday, December 13, 8:00 a.m.,
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Bible Class at
6:00 p.m.

Please continue to remember in prayer:

Patricia Anderson (former member), **Tommie Cleghorn** (Jay's mother), **Joan Harris** (Betz's friend), **Richard Howe** (Steve's dad), **Martha Manwarring** (former member), **Claudia Sibert** (John's mother).

Please pray for our active duty deployed military:

RIVERCHASE FAMILY

Bertha Bell (#2) in Brookwood Hospital with congestive heart failure; recovering from cardioversion.

Sam Click (#4) recovering at home from ankle surgery.

Angie Dickinson (#1) chemo treatments.

John Kelley (#5) recovering from outpatient shoulder surgery.

Troy Sandlin (#3) recovering from knee meniscus surgery.

Jane Spivey (#6) will have knee meniscus surgery on Thursday, December 10.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS:

FTG #1: Rejetta Balentine, Charles Bates, Lynda Cardwell, Angie Dickinson, Keith Dunn, Ollie Scott, Michelle Whitaker

FTG #2: Glenda Arnold, John Bearden, Bertha Bell, Victor Boone, Bill Crane, Kay Kolb, Nina Pitchford, Lance Rushing, Bob Smith, Bob Snider, Doris Tucker

FTG #3: David Bath, Ruth Bath, Becky Carter, David Hare, Martha Johnston, Nona Miller, Stephen Wright

FTG#4: Jeff Carroll, Susan Chaney, Vonda Cook, Elaine Evans, Gary Evans, Bill Hester, Alan Jackson, Everleigh Self, Cindy Snider

FTG #5: Tami Picantine, Beverly Strange, Ron Waddell

FTG #6: Zane Armstrong, Erick Boggs, Michelle Dichiara, Don & Shirley Genry, Don Greer, Addie Jackson, Jo Jackson, Grover Jackson, Sarah Wolford

FTG #7: Don & Jan Haefner, Peggy Hendley, Peggy Jackson, Lori Lambert, Candy Parker, Tim Parker, Jerry Sharp, Katie Yaeger

ADD TO YOUR PRAYER LIST OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:

Noreen Anderson (Jina O'Clair's mother) health issues.

Joy Borland (Twila Bedgood's sister) cancer.

Jessica Brown (Glenda's daughter in law) breast cancer.

Tom Butler (Angie Guffey's father) Covid and pneumonia.

Dot Carpenter (Snider's Sister-in-Law) health issues.

Cathy Crittenden (Dee Davis' friend) brain tumor.

Bob Edwards (Ron Steen's cousin) MDS.

G. Estes (friend of Pitchford's) chemo.

Jan Hall (Helen Haskew's sister - in - law) health issues.

Jane Harrison (Peggy Hendley's sister in law) heart issues.

Billy Helms diagnosed with NASH.

Bob Hull (Howe's brother-in-law) cancer.

Myra Myrick (Pam Wampol's aunt) ovarian cancer.

Lauren Orth (David Orth's sister) health issues.

Cecil Parker (Rhonda Ball's grandfather) liver disease.

David Pierce (Rebecca Hill's brother) heart attack and complications with diabetes.

Ruby Pitts (Dana Keith's mother) Alzheimer's.

McKenzie Ray (friend of Amber Henderson) leukemia.

Ronnie Rogers (CJ Rogers father - college student) brain cancer.

Pattie Ryan (Sarah Pate's mother) melanoma.

Margaret Seagrest (long time visitor) health issues.

Mary Ella Sirmon (The Sirmon's granddaughter) seizures.

Tricia Shaulever (The Hare's daughter) liver failure.

Pauline Strickland (Pam Williams friend) immunotherapy.

Lisa Wallace (Bath's niece) breast cancer.

Carol Watson (Fred Langdon's sister) lymphoma.

Raymond White (Cindy Thompson's cousin) health problems.

Ann Winsett (Brett Moran's grandmother) heart issues.