

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Clay Morris

Song Leader

Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper

Bill Rinehart     Rodney Ellis

Pete Rowland     Bryan Garlock

Prayers

Cole Meador     Wendell Mobley

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Clay Morris

Scripture Reading

Mark Davis

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Bill Rinehart     Pete Rowland

Prayers

Jon Barry     Bill Brittenham

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Rodney Ellis

Song Leader

Clay Morris

Prayers

Daniel Allgor     Jerry Schnelle

Invitation

Bryan Garlock

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert     Rodney Ellis

Deacons

Jon Barry     Bill Brittenham

Mike Davis     Clay Morris

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study .....9:30 A.M.

Worship .....10:15 A.M.

Worship .....6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear

the word of truth

..... Romans 10:13-17

Believe

the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent

from all sins .... Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess

the name of Christ ... Matthew10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Be Baptized

in His name ..... Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk

in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death ..... Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

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Issue 5

Compassionate Hearts

Bryan Garlock

What is compassion? The Merriam Webster dictionary concisely defines it as “sympathetic consciousness of others' distress together with a desire to alleviate it”. Notice that compassion involves two things — feeling another’s suffering and desiring to find a solution to remove the source of suffering, or at the very least, seeking to relieve the suffering. Consider walking by a house on fire and hearing people inside screaming for their lives. Compassion empathizes with their pain and suffering and acts by calling 911 and, if able, runs into the burning building (See also Luke 10.33). This proves that compassion means nothing if we do nothing.

Why at times do we fail to be compassionate? While there are a variety of reasons, it probably boils down to one word: selfishness. Simply put, sometimes we focus on ourselves and overlook those around us. If it does not concern us or

affect us or even benefit us, we have the tendency to withhold compassion from others. Thus, while we may observe and feel their need, we do not act because it is not our problem; we have our own busy lives and our own problems to tend to — let us not be bothered by others!

Please understand, we are not merely talking about helping someone financially. Showing compassion extends beyond pulling a dollar bill out of your pocket. In fact, in some cases, that is not even true compassion, especially if the giver feels compelled to donate.

If we take no action when we become aware of another’s suffering, we are nothing like our Savior. Remember, the purpose of exhibiting compassionate hearts is to bear the image of our Creator (Col. 3.10, 12),

## FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Maxine Burnham, Ann Thomas and Francine Davis.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

We are saddened at the death of our brother, **W.H. McFerrin**, this past week. We extend our deepest sympathies to **Pat** and all of the family, but we rejoice that he was a faithful member of our Lord's body.

Please remember **Maxine Burnham** in Waterton Plaza. **CORRECTION:** She is in Room 103.

**Ladies Bible Class:** The next class is Tuesday, **Feb. 11, 2020.** Noon at **Vera Ellis'** and 6:00 PM at **Karen Calvert's.**

### Mark Your Calendar

**Friday, April 3: Annual Singing**  
**April 5-8 (Sun. – Wed.): Gospel Meeting** with **Jonathan Glaesemann** from Stonewall. LA.

*Please pick up some invite cards and ask for Bible studies. See Bryan if you need any help with home studies.*

**Gen. 18:19** *For I have known him, to the end that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of Jehovah, to do righteousness and justice; to the end that Jehovah may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.*

(cont from pg 1)

that is, to represent Him in a world that has no resemblance of its Creator. We should note, however, that we are not always in a position to show compassion to its fullest extent. While we may have a willing heart and even feel the pain of others, we do not have the responsibility if we do not have the ability to respond. This is different than refusing to respond at all.

How, then, can we show compassion to be more like Jesus?

We can love sinners by pointing them to Jesus. Compassion for their souls requires us to make sacrifices. Have you ever given up something you wanted to do to go teach a lost soul? Have you ever broken a sweat spreading the gospel? If not, why not? "I'm fearful!" Compassion overcomes fear. "But I don't know what to say!" Compassion takes the opportunity to learn God's word because it sees the need of lost souls and acts on that need. "But I will make my co-workers angry if I try to teach them the gospel!" Compassion says their need to hear about their sin outweighs the consequences that may follow.

We can forgive others who mistreat us. Too often we refuse to show compassion because we are too focused on what someone said or did to us. Compassion teaches us that it is not about us, but it is about their soul being in jeopardy. In fact, their sin against us was ultimately a sin against God. When we learn this, we will not hold grudges or harbor bitterness in our hearts. We will mourn for them and seek to be reconciled.

We can be concerned about the weak and needy. We can make sacrifices of time and resources to help others and comfort those who hurt, to the best of our ability.

There are many ways we can manifest compassionate hearts in our family, in our community, and in the church. "Let us not underestimate how hard it is to be compassionate. Compassion is hard because it requires the inner disposition to go with others to [a] place where they are weak, vulnerable, lonely, and broken. But this is not our spontaneous response to suffering. What we desire most is to do away with suffering by fleeing from it or finding a quick cure for it." (Henri J.M. Nouwen) BG

### W. H. McFerrin

W. H. was a dedicated brother in the Lord. He was always the first to arrive to the church building and the last to leave. He unlocked and locked the doors, took attendance, and mailed the bulletins. He was a willing worker, always willing to lend a helping hand where he could. What impressed me the most was that he never considered his age to be a hindrance in serving the Lord!

We made plenty of memories together. It was at the men's breakfast each week that I learned the most about this wonderful man. He dearly loved to tell stories of his past and told them with great detail and passion. I'll specifically miss the stories about the time a man who used a gallon of Tabasco sauce

(possible exaggeration) or the time he fell off his lawn mower!

W. H., I will miss you and your humor and our running jokes. I will miss your diligence and hard work. I will miss the encouragement you always gave me about my sermons. I will miss those big bright red tomatoes you gave me. I love you, my brother, and hope to see you soon. BG

**Mal. 3:8 Will a man rob God?** yet ye rob me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

**Mal. 1:6-8** A son **honoreth** his father, and a servant his master: if then I am a father, **where is mine honor?** and if I am a master, **where is my fear?** saith Jehovah of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name? Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar. And ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of Jehovah is contemptible. And when ye offer the blind for sacrifice, it is no evil! and when ye offer the lame and sick, it is no evil! **Present it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee? or will he accept thy person? saith Jehovah of hosts.**

**1 Pet. 2:9** But ye are an elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

- Are you robbing God of His rightful glory and honor?
- Are you withholding the gifts and blessings and talents He has given you to serve Him?
- Do you truly recognize Him for who He is?

Serious questions that absolutely require serious thought and appropriate action.