

SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2026



The Searcher

Published By



SOUTHAVEN
CHURCH of CHRIST

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SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES AND SEEKING THE LOST

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Tennessee Children's Home
- Spring Hill, TN
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- Paragould, AR

WHEN CHRISTIANS HELP CHRISTIANS

Jonathan Burns

One of the great blessings of being part of the Lord's church is knowing that we do not have to face life alone. God has placed Christians together so that we can strengthen, encourage, comfort, and help one another. Paul wrote, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). Every Christian carries burdens. Some are visible, while others are hidden. A faithful Christian does not simply ask, "How are you?" We should be willing to help carry the load.

Sometimes that help is physical. First John 3:17 asks, "But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?" If we have the ability to help a brother or sister, love should move us to act.

Sometimes the need is emotional. Paul commanded, "Comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all" (1 Thessalonians 5:14). A visit, a phone call, a meal, or a few encouraging words may be exactly what someone needs to keep going.

Sometimes the need is spiritual. Galatians 6:1 teaches that when a Christian is overtaken in sin, those who are spiritual should seek to restore that person "in a spirit of gentleness." Helping one another includes caring enough to encourage faithfulness. Jesus said, "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). Christian love should be seen, not merely spoken. Look around the congregation. Who is struggling? Who is lonely? Who needs encouragement? Who needs help?

"Through love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13). When Christians help Christians, burdens become lighter, faith becomes stronger, love becomes visible, and the church becomes what God intended it to be.

OPPORTUNITIES TO ABOUND

John Garza

The Christian life is not intended to be a life of stagnation. God calls His people to grow, increase, and abound in the things that are good. Paul wrote, “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:58). Every new day is another opportunity to abound—not simply to do more, but to become more useful, more disciplined, and more faithful.

Abounding in Service. There is always an opportunity to do good for someone else. Galatians 6:10 says, “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.” Christian service does not always require a great public act. Sometimes it is visiting someone who is lonely, encouraging someone who is discouraged, helping a family in need, teaching a Bible class, preparing a meal, giving someone a ride, or simply noticing a person whom others have overlooked. The question should not be, “What can someone do for me?” but rather, “Whom can I serve today?” Jesus Himself “did not come to be served, but to serve” (Matthew 20:28). If we are becoming more like Christ, then we should also be looking for opportunities to abound in service.

Abounding in the Physical. There are also opportunities to abound in the ordinary responsibilities of everyday life. Scripture teaches us that our work, our homes, our finances, and the daily cares placed into our hands should all be approached with faithfulness. Paul wrote, “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men” (Colossians 3:23). Whether we are working at a job, caring for our families, maintaining our homes, paying bills, helping a neighbor, or simply fulfilling the responsibilities of another busy day, Christians should strive to do these things well. Faithfulness to God is not confined to the church building. It is demonstrated in the way we handle the common duties of life. We should not allow the cares of this world to consume us, but neither should we neglect the responsibilities God has placed before us. Instead, we should see our daily work as another opportunity to demonstrate diligence, honesty, dependability, and good stewardship.

Abounding Spiritually. Above everything else, we must abound spiritually. Peter wrote that Christians should add to their faith virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. He then said, “For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful” (2 Peter 1:8). Spiritual growth never happens accidentally. We must make time for Scripture, prayer, worship, obedience, repentance, and Christian fellowship. Every day presents us with a choice. We can remain where we are, or we can grow.

Today is an opportunity to abound—to serve more willingly, live more responsibly, and grow more deeply in Christ. Let us not waste the opportunity God has placed before us.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED MY SERVANT?

Roger Campbell

Those are words that Jehovah spoke to Satan (Job 1:8). God went on to tell him that Job was a unique, complete, and upright man who feared God and shunned evil. That is quite a commendation from the One who knows every single thing there is to know about a person.

Most Bible students are quite familiar with the tragic circumstances that beset Job and his family. Job's steadfastness and patience have been renowned worldwide throughout the ages. But here are three important things about Job as a father, and these things are seen before his children and livestock were taken from him.

As a father, Job showed his children that his first devotion was to God Almighty, not material things. Possessing great flocks and herds of livestock helped make Job "the greatest of all the people of the East" (Job 1:3). Yet, the Lord still referred to Job as "My servant" (Job 1:8). Job did not allow his stuff to crowd out, hinder, or diminish his devotion to the God of heaven. Dads, what do your children see as your number one commitment: stuff, or God? Believe me, they can tell what is number one!

As a father, Job recognized that his children made mistakes. Job offered burnt offerings on behalf of his grown children, saying, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts" (Job 1:5). There are some fathers who never seem to have anything good to say about their children, and they seldom, if ever, give them support and positive exhortation. On the other hand, some dads are blind. They are convinced that "little Mary" and "Billy, Jr." could never do anything wrong. Their children would never be deceptive, selfish, or disrespectful. There are many great children in the world, but no one is perfect. Dads need to accept the truth that all sin (Romans 3:23). Job admitted that about his own children.

As a father, Job showed his concern for the spiritual welfare of his children. It was on their behalf that he rose up early and offered burnt offerings to God. It makes an impression on a child to see his daddy doing something for his spiritual benefit. There is more to being a dad than putting food on the table and showing a child how to hit, throw, or kick a ball. The number one task of fathers is to bring up their children in the Lord's nurture and admonition (Ephesians 6:4).

We will always remember Job's endurance, but we should never forget what the Bible shows us about Job as a father.

Sunday Sermons

The Urgency To Build Your Marriage
The Way God Intended (AM)

A Way Was Made (PM)

Bible Passages To Consider

"When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee" (Mark 2:5).

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Dale Shull was scheduled to be released from the hospital on Thursday.

James Mason, father of Jennifer Christian, suffered a mild stroke on Saturday. He is making improvements.

Karen Oglesby will receive treatment again soon.

Sarah Hechavarria is scheduled to begin chemo on September 28.

Joyce Valentine is on Hospice Care.

David Chadwick has an abdominal aneurysm.

Erica Stuckey is improving at home.

Jerry Baird continues to be on oxygen at home.

Lannie Smart, husband of Danna Smart, continues to receive wound care.

Julia Ross, mother of Annette Prater, is gradually improving. She began physical therapy on Tuesday. Please continue to remember the following: **Betty Culbreath**, **Lucy Chamberlain**, **Don Sykes**, **Meredith Peek**, **Barbara Day**, **Alan & Linda Stone**, **Debbie Shull**, **Pat Pierce**, **Beverly Parnell**, **Jean Jones**, **Dorothy Butler**, & **Rannie Butler** in your prayers.

BATTLING CANCER

Please remember those who are fighting, or recovering from cancer: **Alan Stone**; **Pam Eaton**; **Charlene Farris**; **Andrew Utz**, great nephew of Peggy Shull; **Varda Cole**, sister in law of Linda Davis; **Don Cheathour**, friend of the Sykes family; **Joe Daly**, online viewer in England; **Houston Hall**, great nephew of Karen Oglesby & Beth Roney; **David Taylor**, neighbors of the Sykes; **Dan Manuel**, friend of Tommy & Peggy Shull; **Heather Butler**, daughter of Lewis Dawson; **Vickie Parker**, sister of Nick Parker; **Kim Butler**, sister in law of Larry Butler; **Lily Jane Jordan**, neighbor's granddaughter of Terry & Brenda Harris; **Oakleigh Free**, great granddaughter of Alan & Linda Stone; **Mandi Singer**, friend of Erica Stuckey; **Mandy**

cousin of Amber Wallis; **Margarito Zuniga**, father of former member Alan Zuniga; **Becca Reynolds**, niece of Anita Sanders; **Laura Sowell**, mother of Erin Sowell, **Doreen Harris**, former member, **Glenn Jenkins**, the husband of Bonnie Reid's niece, **Carol Tierce**, sister of Peggy Shull & **Whitley Joy**, great niece of Larry & Elaine Melton.

SHUT-INS/ NURSING HOME

Lucy Chamberlain; **Debbie Shull**; **Beverly Parnell**; **Pam Eaton**; **Phyllis Smith**, The Gold-ton at Southaven Room #116.

RESPONSES

Peggy Shull responded to the invitation on Wednesday asking for prayers of strength as she cares for her family. Please keep her in your prayers along with Tommy and Dale.

MEN TO SERVE - September 27th, 2026

Preside: Vern Schrimsher

Serve: Ron Bobo, Michael Gahagan, RJ Jolomi, Carter Gahagan, Blake Hawkins, Lucas Gahagan, Reed Rister, Jonah Adams

AM Opening Prayer: David Rister

AM Closing Prayer: Larry Nagle

PM Opening Prayer: Jason Bayless

PM Closing Prayer: Bill Phillips

Wed. Opening Prayer: Brian Briscoe

Wed. Closing Prayer: Jason Griffin

Announcements: Josh Walker

Song Leader: Brian Williams

Scripture Reading: Jarrett Roberts

Security: James Stuckey

REMINDER:

If you are a song leader, scripture reader, or have opening prayer, you are asked to sit on the front pew when worship begins.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 27: Potluck following AM Worship

September 27-30: Gospel Meeting at Thyatira.

Please see the bulletin board for more information.

September 29, 6:30PM: The Bridging the Gap group will be having a get together in the Fellowship Hall.

October 8, 11AM-1PM: There will be a ladies luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign the list in the foyer if you plan to attend. For questions see Nina Armstrong.

October 18: Bridal Shower for Jasmine Cole. She is registered at Amazon.

OCTOBER FOOD TEAM

Captain: Ann Chilton

Mina Lambert, Jeannie Woody, Veronica Rapp, Becky Harville

OUR RECORDS

Bible Study	221
A.M. Worship	300
P.M. Worship	160
P.M. Wed. Worship	179
Contribution	\$

Dunbar, friend of Erica Stuckey; **TJ Holt**,



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Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Class.....	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....	10:00 a.m.
Sunday P.M. Worship.....	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday P.M. Service.....	7:00 p.m.

ELDERS

Gary Barch
Larry Everson
David Rister

DEACONS

Bruce Dunaway
Michael Gahagan
Aaron Gallagher
TJ Johnson
John Stubblefield
Chris Tice
Andy Young

MINISTERS

Robert Jefferies
Josh Walker