NOVEMBER 22ND, 2026



The Searcher

Published By

SOUTHAVEN CHURCH of CHRIST

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SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES AND SEEKING THE LOST

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YOUR INFLUENCE IS SPEAKING

Jonathan Jenkins

Every Christian has influence. We may not always notice it, but people are watching how we speak, how we react, how we treat others, and how we live. Our influence is speaking even when we are not. Christians are not invisible.

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth" and "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13–14). Salt affects what it touches, and light changes the environment around it. In the same way, Christians should have a godly influence on the people around them. Jesus continued, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

Paul gave Timothy similar instruction: "Be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). Our influence is seen in much more than what we say. It is revealed in our behavior, our attitude, our relationships, and our moral choices. Titus 2:7–8 says, "In all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned." Christians should live in such a way that their example supports the message they claim to believe. We can be this pattern because we follow the Pattern.

Ask yourself: What does my attitude teach others? What do my words reveal? What do my online posts say about my faith? What example am I giving my family, coworkers, friends, and fellow Christians? Someone is learning from your life. Your influence may encourage another Christian to remain faithful. It may help a child understand what Christianity looks like. It may cause an unbeliever to take the gospel seriously. Make sure your influence points people toward Christ. Your life is speaking. Make certain it says something worth hearing.

POCKET EVANGELISM

Bryce Mayfield

Today, it is estimated that 5.8 billion people own a smartphone. That is roughly 70% of the world's population. 91% of adults here in America own and use smart phones regularly. Of that number, roughly 70% of them are on at least one social media platform. It is evident that almost every adult is online in some way. As Christians, should we be taking more advantage of our online presence to reach lost souls? The apostle Paul would say in Colossians 4:5, "Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of every opportunity." Our phones can be a means in which we can fulfill this commandment. Our online presence can be a way to seek and make the most of opportunities to interact and reach people of the outside world. Consider one tip as to how we can participate in "pocket evangelism" while using our phones to share the Gospel.

Swap Doomscrolling for Soul Searching.

Why do we use social media? For many of us, it isn't to "socialize," but rather to participate in the compulsive habit known as doomscrolling. Studies show that people spend nearly three hours a day scrolling through feeds, experiencing an addictive loop similar to playing a slot machine. Are we truly redeeming the time God has given us if we spend hours mindlessly scrolling? (Ephesians 5:16). Instead of doomscrolling, what if we used our phones to look for people in need? When people post online, they often share the real struggles they are facing. Imagine scrolling through your feed, noticing a friend going through a difficult time, and sending them a direct message offering prayer or encouragement. House to House Heart to Heart regularly shares stories of individuals being baptized because Christians used platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok to reach out.

As one brother put it, our phones give us access to the "front door" of the world. In a culture where people are less likely to open their physical doors to a stranger, many are ready to respond online. Our phones are simply modern tools to share the Gospel—are we using them to their fullest potential?

A FRIEND THAT STICKS CLOSER THAN A BROTHER

Chris Perry

The wiseman said, “A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother” (Proverbs 18:24). This wise saying sets forth two very important truths:

1. We must exercise caution in choosing our friends. The first part of Proverbs 18:24 seems to have been mistranslated by the King James translators. Most modern translations read some variation of the ESV: “A man of many companions may come to ruin...” The idea, then, is the choosing of friends without considering the character of the friend or the nature of the friendship. The contrast between “many companions” in the first part and “a friend” in the second seems to underscore the importance of quality friends, even if small in number, rather than quantity of friends. This seems especially important in the social media world of today, when a person may have hundreds or thousands of

“friends” or “followers” on social media who are not actual friends. If our goal is to flaunt a large quantity of friends instead of a healthy number of important and trustworthy friends, it is a likely indication that we seek to be “menpleasers” (Ephesians 6:6; Colossians 3:22) and bask in the praise of men instead of the approval of God (cf. Romans 2:29).

2. Some friends are even closer than family. There is, according to the Proverbs writer, “a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.” The verb “stick” indicates a relationship where two friends “cleave” to one another, supporting, encouraging, challenging and loving each other as the truest of friends do. These friends often become our family, with relationships that endure for decades and help to shape our lives.

Sunday Sermons

Dressed For Thanksgiving (AM)

TBD (PM)

Bible Passages To Consider

"O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever" (1 Chronicles 16:34).

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Laura Nagle has returned back home to Wesley Meadows.

Lucy Chamberlain had a temporary cast put on her arm.

Rannie Butler has been moved back to room 219 at Senatobia Healthcare and Rehab.

Danna Smart is scheduled to meet with her doctors on the 24th to discuss treatment.

Vern Schrimsher continues to receive IV antibiotics due to a foot infection. The family has requested no visitors at this time.

Sarah Hechavarria is taking chemotherapy.

Joyce Valentine is on Hospice Care.

Linda Morris, grandmother of Ginger Bayless, is battling cancer. She has been placed in a Hopsice facility.

Please continue to remember the following: **Erika Stuckey, Jerry Baird, Betty Culbreath, Don Sykes, Meredith Peek, Barbara Day, Alan & Linda Stone, Debbie Shull, Pat Pierce, Beverly Parnell, Jean Jones, Dorothy Butler, Rannie Butler & Karen Oglesby** 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 grandaughter of Alan & Linda Stone; **Mandi Singer**, friend of Erica Stuckey; **Mandy Dunbar**, friend of Erica Stuckey; **TJ Holt**, 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 & **Kim Blackburn**, neighbor of Nell Parker.

SHUT-INS/ NURSING HOME

Lucy Chamberlain; Debbie Shull; Beverly Parnell; Pam Eaton; Phyllis Smith, The Goldton at Southaven Room #116.

SYMPATHY

Dale Shull passed away Tuesday evening. There will be a graveside service at 9:30am on November 24 at Forest Hill South. Everyone is welcome to attend. On December 5 at 2pm their will be a memorial service at the church building. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please keep the **Shull family** in your prayers.

MEN TO SERVE - November 22nd, 2026

Preside: Neal Weatherford

Serve: Ron Bobo, Larry Cox, Dalton Wieneke, Jarrett Roberts, Blake Hawkins, Wesley Williams, Mike Jones, Tim Vanderhook

AM Opening Prayer: Jason Bayless
AM Closing Prayer: Larry Nagle

PM Opening Prayer: Jonah Adams
PM Closing Prayer: Bill Phillips

Wed. Opening Prayer: Brian Briscoe
Wed. Closing Prayer: Jason Griffin

Announcements: Chris Tice
Song Leader: Michael Gahagan
Scripture Reading: John Stephen Stubblefield
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

November 22: Bridal Shower for Cali Bayless following afternoon worship. She is registered at Target & Amazon**.**

December 5, 9AM-12PM: We will be delivering holiday baskets to our Widows/ Widowers.

FOOD TEAM

Captain: Sheila Simpson

Tabitha Johnson, Annette Prater, Jina Suh, Emily Griffin

OUR RECORDS

Bible Study	206
A.M. Worship	264
P.M. Worship	166
P.M. Wed. Worship	149
Contribution	$

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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
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