

TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday:

Bible Classes 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Worship Service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Office (870) 933-9134

Elders
Kemuel Camp (870) 930-6970
Scott Stubblefield (870) 351-8420

Deacons
Phillip Cassidy (870) 623-2588
Steve Lands (870) 974-1976
Travis Moody (870) 650-1649

Preacher

John Mundy 870-623-5339

Editor

Dick Blackford 870-919-2266

**THE BIBLE AND THE BIBLE ONLY,
MAKES CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS
ONLY. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS
COMPOSED OF CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE
NOT JOINED A DENOMINATION.**

StoneRidge
Church of Christ

where CHRIST is the chief cornerstone

1 Peter 2:7



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Things To Remember About Forgiveness

Remember to “forget.” You can’t literally wipe it out of your mind, but when you “bury the hatchet” don’t leave the handle sticking out so you can easily retrieve it the next time there’s an argument. God doesn’t literally forget, but he holds it against us no more so that we don’t have to continue to offer an annual animal sacrifice in remembrance of our sins that have yet to be forgiven when Christ is crucified. Christ already did that for us so that we don’t keep an annual remembrance of our sins. Animal blood could not forgive sins (Heb 10:3,4).

Remember that forgiveness is a mark of compassion and tender-heartedness. In the parable of the unmerciful servant, his lord was “*moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt*” (Mt 18:27; Eph 4:32). Remember that forgiveness is a command, not an option. “And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him” (Lk 17:4).

Remember the wickedness of the unforgiving man. Jesus didn’t say the unmerciful servant was “not a nice guy’ or had a “lousy attitude.” God sees things differently than we often do. He said “*Thou **WICKED** servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?*” (Mt 18:32,33). When God says somebody is wicked, they are.

Remember that refusal to forgive results in being eternally lost. “*And his lord*

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was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye **from your hearts** forgive not every one his brother their trespasses” (Mt 18:34,35).

Remember that forgiveness must be genuine – “from the heart.” “So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses” (Mt 18:35). If one forgives “hypocritically,” he hasn’t forgiven at all.

Remember that our future forgiveness depends upon our present willingness to forgive. “But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses” (Mt 6:15). This situation is depicted in the drawing below. ↓

Whose responsibility is it when there’s a need for forgiveness? The offender or the offended? Both! To the **offender:** “Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; **first** be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift” (Mt 5:23,24). To the **offended:** “Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother” (Mt 18:15).

No unforgiving person can have fellowship with a forgiving God. -db



News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. Remember **Tim Moody** (father of Travis, Trent and Trey) has been diagnosed with CML (leukemia). **Beverly Allen** is in St. Bernard Hospital, room 2103. **Roger Vines** had a heart cath on Tuesday. There were no blockages...**Rhea Vines** had shoulder surgery on Friday and hopes to go home soon...**Shut-ins:** **Eli Campbell** at home...**Rhea Vines** (at Roger’s house)... **Rita Kieffer**, St. Bernard Village, ...**Shirley Coots**, Walnut Ridge Nursing & Rehab... **Karen Livesay** at home...**Joyce Riley** at St. Elizabeth’s Place...

CROSS TIES. We rejoice with **Gauri** and **Debbie Guha** who surrendered their will to Christ last Wednesday and were baptized into Christ. It was a great day! We will try to publish their contact information for your directory in our next issue.

BEREAVED. The Scriptures teach us to “rejoice with those that rejoice and weep with those that weep” (Rom 12:15). Last week brought occasions for both. We rejoice over those who obeyed the gospel and there was also the loss of loved ones. We grieve with the family of **Linda Ladyman** whose funeral was last week, and also with the family of **Jean Evans** whose funeral was yesterday, and with Lori Watson on the death of her mother-in-law, **Vera Watson** (Reese’s mother). Her funeral will be on Friday at 11 am at New Hope Cemetery, near Tuckerman AR.

GROUP MEETINGS. Group 2 will meet Sept 28 @ 5:30 at Steve and Kristi Lands’.

CLASS @ 5 PM. Remember the classes that are being taught by our college students for 3rd grade-college age. Bring your Bible. Questions? see Konor or Josie.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

OCT 6-11 – STONERIDGE! – Different Speakers

PODCAST John Mundy – Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. On Facebook & YouTube.

Forgiveness is a strange thing. It can sometimes be easier to forgive our enemies than our friends. It can be hardest of all to forgive people we love. -Mister Rogers

When a deep injury is done to us, we never recover until we forgive.

As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison. -Nelson Mandela

Some people would rather die than forgive.

The man who opts for revenge should dig two graves.


