

THE RIPLEY BEACON

FROM

THE RIPLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 11, 2016



“Where the Gospel is Preached and People are Loved!”

How to Prevent and Prevail Over the Flu!

That time of year is approaching when people will begin to get the flu vaccine. And while the height of flu season is still a ways off, it got me thinking about some comparisons between the flu and sin. While contracting the flu is cause for some level of concern, it pales in comparison to the spiritual flu – sin. Sin is a disease that affects us all, and it is reason for grave concern because it affects both the physical and the spiritual sides of man.

The physical disease of the flu and the spiritual disease of sin have several interesting similarities. They are similar in their widespread scope. They are similar in the fact that both can lead to death. They are also similar in the ways that they can be prevented and prevailed over. Four striking similarities that we want to notice: two ways to prevent and two ways to prevail over (next week) the flu and sin.

First, take precautions. Health officials agree that one of the ways to avoid catching the flu is to practice proper hygiene: wash your hands regularly, eat a balanced diet, get plenty of rest, etc. All of these things are necessary precautions that can help you to avoid infection.

One way to keep from catching the sickness of sin is to practice good spiritual hygiene: study your Bible everyday (2 Timothy 2:15), pray to God regularly (1 Thessalonians 5:17), assemble regularly with the saints (Hebrews 10:25), treat others as you want to be treated (Matthew 7:12), etc. When a Christian is regularly practicing these habits, he will find himself more able to resist temptation and avoid the infection of sin.

Second, avoid contact. Another way to keep from catching the flu is to avoid contact with those who have it. In severe instances where there is a widespread outbreak, schools may close, public gatherings may be canceled and quarantines may be established. These quarantines keep those who are sick from coming in contact with those who are well thus limiting the spread of the disease.

If we want to avoid sin, then we need to avoid contact with sin and those who practice it. I know that is a tall order, since we are surrounded by sin on a daily basis. When we are at work or certain events, it is impossible to avoid some contact with those who practice sin. But when we are given a choice, with whom do we associate? We need to be like Moses. He chose to be with the people of God instead of associating with sin (Hebrews 11:24-25). “Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits” (1 Corinthians 15:33). We must avoid contact with sin and those who practice it.

Next week, we will notice the conclusion to this article.

~Justin

Elders:

Larry Carden
Steve Carmack
Joe Hunt
David Snell

Deacons:

Pat Carmack
Tommy Climer
Gwinn Matthews
Kenneth Roark

Minister:

Justin Paschall
731-612-1196

Service Times:

Sun. Bible Study-10 AM
Sun. Worship-11 AM
Sun. Night-5 PM
Wed. Night-7 PM

Contact Information:

Address:

P.O. Box 464
Ripley, TN 38063

Phone: 731-635-2936

Email: ripleycoc@att.net

“Come Worship with Us!”

The Ripley church of Christ

P.O. Box 464
1499 Highway 51 North
Ripley, TN 38063

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What Must I Do to Be Saved?

- Hear the Word of God – Rom. 10:17
- Believe that Jesus is the Son of God – Heb. 11:6; John 8:24
- Repent of your sins – Acts 17:30
- Confess Christ before men – Rom. 10:10; Matt. 10:32-33
- Be baptized for the remission of your sins – Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21
- Remain Faithful – Rev. 2:10

By The Numbers for September 4th

Attendance:

Sun. Bible Study – 86
Sun. AM Worship – 120
Sun. PM Worship – 68
Wed. Night (9/7) – 67

To Our Visitors:

We are so glad and honored that you chose to be with us today. If you have any questions please feel free to ask the elders or one of the members. If we can be of any assistance, please let us know. Thanks for being with us, and we hope to see you again real soon!

Listen to WTRB, 1570 AM Radio

Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday

8:15 AM

Check us out on the web:

www.ripleychurchofchrist.org

Those Privileged to Serve:

AM Bible Study:

Song Leader – MacArthur Watkins
Audio/Visual – David Bridges
Devotional – Darrell Smothers

AM Service:

Usher – Barry Bates/Darrell Smothers
Announcements – Tommy Climer
Song Leader – David Snell
Audio/Visual – David Bridges
Opening Prayer – Raymond Neal
Lord's Supper – (S) Joe Hunt
(S) Kenny Kennedy
(N) Jimmy Hartman
(N) JB Tharpe
(N) Bryan Hartman

Closing Prayer – Raymond Neal
Security – Mike White

PM Service:

Announcements – Tommy Climer
Song Leader – David Snell
Audio/Visual – David Bridges
Opening Prayer – Rusty Kennedy
Lord's Supper – Joe Hunt
Closing Prayer – Joe Hunt
Security – Barry Bates

Wednesday Night:

Song Leader – MacArthur Watkins
Audio/Visual – David Bridges
Opening Prayer – Raymond Neal
& Devotional
Closing Prayer – Mel Gibson
Security – Mike White

Door Greeters for September

South – Joe Hunt
Center – Steve Carmack
North – Robert Taylor

Communion for September

Mel and Synthia Gibson

September Birthdays

- Rossie Presson – 1
- Ralph Smith – 2
- Leslie Barnes – 3
- Rita Hartman – 4
- David Snell – 7
- Kailyn Incillo – 7
- Anthony Roark – 8
- Johnnie Matthews – 16
- Kenny Kennedy – 19
- Khori Smith – 21
- Nikki Murphy – 21
- Xavrien Nixon - 22
- Julia Alley – 24
- Kim White – 25



Mark Your Calendars!

- **September 18th** – 3rd Sunday Devotional after evening services. We are still in need of someone to host.
- **Sept. 28th** – Deadline to turn in your Christmas boxes for the children at the Nicaragua Christian School. Details are on fliers on the white table in the foyer.
- **October 16th** – 3rd Sunday Devotional after evening services at the Paschall's home.
- **October 31st** – Annual Trunk-or-Treat beginning at 5:30 for our congregation and 6:30 for the community.

What Are My Children Studying?

- **Sept. 11th** – Jehu Made King of Israel – 2 Kings 9-10
- **Sept. 14th** – Joash Became a King When a Boy – 2 Kings 11-12
- **Sept. 18th** – Repentance Encouraged by a Locust Plague in Judah; Elisha's Death – Joel and 2 Kings 13

Those in Need of Our Prayers and Encouragement:

Our Regulars/Friends/Relatives:

- At any given time there are members going through different difficulties that they would rather keep private. Please say a prayer for them; God knows who they are.
- Phil Morris is back at the JMCGRH. Please keep him and Deborah in your prayers.
- Kim White has suffered a broken leg which will be in a brace for a while. Also, Mike White is still dealing with knee pain. Please keep both of them in your prayers.
- Julia Alley's heart procedure was performed on Thursday (9/8). No update was available at time of bulletin printing. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Robert Taylor had a cornea transplant on Tuesday (9/6). Everything went as planned. Please keep him in your prayers as he recovers.
- Betty Brogdon had her other hip replacement surgery in Nashville. She is scheduled to come home today. The second surgery was more difficult and she will be on limited mobility for the next 8 weeks. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Mary Louise Lewis (member at Westside in Brownsville) fell and broke her hip. She is in Crestview Healthcare Center, 704 N. Dupree Ave., Brownsville, TN 38012.
- W.L. Sandlin is home now and has resumed his radiation treatments. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.
- Ann Carmack is home and doing outpatient rehab. Please keep her in your prayers as she recovers.
- Gwinn Matthews is at the Tennessee State Veterans Home in Humboldt. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Joyce Dunaway (Mike White's mom) is having back problems. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Alan Sheckell (Synthia Gibson's nephew) has been diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer. He is the father of a five year old child and six month old twins. They were scheduled to meet with a surgeon this past week. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.
- Kathy Petrowski (friend of Beth Carmack May) has been diagnosed with cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Tim Carmack has been suffering from some very severe headaches. Please keep him in your prayers as the cause is trying to be determined.
- Eunice Dobbs, Marion Morris, Ronnie Tillman, Phil Morris, Sara Smith, Georgia Campbell, The Matthews, Lille Dennison, Ted Sutton, Joyce Blakemore, Seth May, Paula Tillman, Brenda Belton, Drexel Reed, Dot Mullins, Etta Hunt, Brenda Sutton, Don Sutton, Betty Binkley, and Everett & Mary Presson: Please keep these individuals in your prayers.

"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much"

(James 5:16)