



**PULPIT PREVIEW – MAY 14, 2006**

**Worship AM** – *When Jesus Saw His Mother – John 19:25-27*

**Worship PM** – *Report on West Kentucky Youth Camp – Kenny Glover*

**GREETERS – MAY 14, 2006**

Vickie Adams, Devin Lovett, Jesse & Marge Adkison

**SUNDAY – MAY 14, 2006**

- **Morningside Devotional at 2 p.m.**
- **Visitation Team #6** will meet after the evening services.

**SICK LIST**

- **Jim McGill** had a heart procedure done last week and is now at home.
- **Bill Smoot** has been dismissed from the hospital and is now at home.
- **Lauren Champion**, Henry & Ina Champion's granddaughter, was injured in a car accident last Friday. She has several fractured vertebrae.
- **Nick Holmes**, the nephew of Chris Holmes, was seriously injured in a 4-wheeler accident on Saturday. He is in Jackson Purchase Medical Center in room 318.

**In Western Baptist:**

- **Lucille English** had aneurysm surgery on Tuesday and is in room 381.

**In Lourdes Hospital:**

- **Linda Gough** is in CCU.

**RELIEF KITS**

The *Bread of Life Humanitarian Effort* (sponsored by the Melber congregation) is collecting supplies for an infant kit. These kits will be distributed in the area to those in need. The supplies that are needed to make a kit are a bib, bottle, blanket, toy, soap, shampoo, washcloth, pacifier, outfit, socks, powder, and cloth diaper. There are boxes set up in the front and back foyer to drop off your supplies. These supplies will need to be turned in by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**AREA EVENTS**

**GOSPEL MEETING:**

- **Sharpe church of Christ**, May 14-17, with Ben Flatt. Services will begin at 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.
- **Fairdealing church of Christ**, May 21-24, with Jim Faughn. Services will begin at 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.

**SINGING:**

- **Central church of Christ**, Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7 p.m.

**CARDS**

*Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, prayers, calls, and cards while I was in the hospital.*

**Imogene Riley**

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

You are invited to a birthday celebration for O. D. McKendree's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 2 to 3:30 at the Stille House Assisted Living (corner by the hospital), 971 Birch Street, Benton, KY. Please shower him with cards.

***How Long Does It Take?***

How long does it take to build a house?...to repair a car?...to enjoy a meal?...to restore an erring brother or sister? How long does it take to worship God faithfully? Surely all those who are determined to reach God's glory land want to know how long it takes! Time is important to most of us. The Spirit of God tells us to redeem the time (Ephesians 5:16). No doubt, we will each give an account one day for our time, our talents (Matthew 24:14 seq.) and our words (Matthew 12:36). **Worship** is not left to the whims of man. "It is not controlled by arbitrary desires or contingent needs. It does not ask what things will be most helpful, or will best express the impulse to worship, from a human standpoint. We learn how to worship from God who is the object of worship." (*Zondervan's Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible, Vol. 5. p. 976*). Under the Jewish system their day of worship began on Friday at 6:00 p.m. Much preparation was made before that hour so that the Sabbath could be kept as God had instructed under the Old Law. Clothes, food, and any other essential preparations were made before the Sabbath day began. Doubtlessly, parents and children had to work together to get ready for their day (not hour) of worship. A few years ago Charles Hodge wrote an article entitled "Sunday Is Made Or Ruined On Saturday Night." The same is true today!

As one contemplates worship and Bible study, advanced attention should be given to Bible lessons, clothes, transportation, even physical rest so that our worship can be what it ought to be to please God. There is little doubt that those who are habitually late for Bible class have made insufficient preparation. Those who habitually come in late and/or leave early in worship need to ask themselves seriously – HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE? Once I actually observed a family arrive after the communion service had begun, just in time to take the loaf, and then leave immediately after they drank the cup. Have you ever wondered if God credits us with worship when we do only part of what he had said (c. Matthew 7:21-23)? How long does it take to worship? God has not dictated a certain length of time, but He has told us the things which worship must include to be acceptable (singing, Ephesians 5:19; praying, Matthew 6:9-15; Bible study, Acts 20:7; giving, I Corinthians 16:1f; Lord's Supper, Matthew 26:26-29). He also has urged us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Hebrews 10:24f). Notice, the Hebrew writer does not say the Sunday morning worship hour only. By implication we should attend the entirety of every service possible! Like David, we should be anxious to worship God (Psalm 122:1). How long does it take? Long enough to praise God the way He has directed.

*~Mike Tucker*