

# THE REMINDER

**BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 19 MARCH 2017**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Fran Spencer's** lymphoma has spread. Fran has decided not to receive any further treatments. Please pray for our dear sister and let's see what we can do to encourage her.
- **Pat Butler** is still weak from her recent chemo. Please keep praying for her complete healing, she will meet with the doctors in 2 weeks.
- Continue to pray for **Willie Hurd** as she recovers from her fall last weekend.
- **Anna Mickle** has developed pneumonia, pray for her as she also recovers from shoulder surgery.
- **Terry Kornfeld's dad** is in rehab and has gotten an infection, but is receiving treatment, pray for his healing and improvement.
- Continue praying for those with on-going health issues. **Bob Stark, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn, Don Hurd, Fran Spencer, and Johnny Martinez.**
- Today the **Junior High and High School students** will be going to Janet McGlamery's house for lunch and to help with some chores! See Alex Morolez for more details!
- **Sermon Title Today: Integrity- Standing Firm in Tough Times**
- **Reminder: Spring Gospel Meeting March 24-26: Choosing Joy**

### WHO ARE WE?

A group of God's children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament

### ELDERS

Brian Haley  
Mark Mann  
Mike Pharris

### DEACONS

Scott Clanton  
David Davila  
Dan Kimbrough  
Jesse Knapp  
Alex Morolez  
Gregory Williams

### EVANGELISTS

Daniel Broadwell  
Steve Garrett

### CONTACT US

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### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Email:  
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## SCHEDULE

### Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Bible Study

### Wednesday:

7:30 PM Bible Study

## SERVICE

**Welcome** - D. Broadwell  
**Song Leader** - W. Hodge  
**Opening Prayer** - J. Knapp  
**Lesson** - S. Garrett  
**Communion Talk** - M. Pharris  
**Announcements** - M. Mann  
**Closing Prayer** - R. McDonald

## BIBLE CLASSES

### Old Testament Survey

- Brian Haley  
- Auditorium

### Gospel of Mark

- Daniel Broadwell  
- Back Classroom

### Classes for children

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## Philippians Primer

*"For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me." (Philippians 1:7)*

This weekend, we'll have six Bible lessons from the book of Philippians. To maximize learning, read the whole letter at least once before Friday night—it should not take more than half an hour. In fact, if you listen on a phone or tablet, you could get through it several times this week! In any event, the more familiar you are with Philippians, the more you will be able to gain from the lessons this weekend. To that end, here's a brief introduction to the book:

### Paul in Prison

Philippians is one of the "Prison Epistles," meaning that Paul wrote this letter while in prison, specifically in Rome. As you would imagine, Paul's situation dictates the overall tone of the book. But, instead of filling this letter with negative complaints, Paul overflows with positive expressions of gratitude and joy. In just four chapters, Paul uses the words "joy" and "rejoice" fourteen times! How is Paul joyful in the face of such unpleasant circumstances? Well, that is why we are interested in studying the book of Philippians!

### Paul and Philippi

Paul's joy in prison—while impressive—was not surprising to the Christians in Philippi. In fact, Paul went to prison during his first visit to Philippi. In **Acts 16**, Paul comes to Philippi and has a mixed reception. A woman named Lydia is converted, but Paul finds trouble when he casts the demon out of a slave-girl who had been the source of profit for her master. The man influences the city council to throw Paul and Silas in jail, where they spend the night in stocks in the inner prison. How do they respond? The text says *"Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."* (**Acts 16:25**) Suddenly, God sends an earthquake to miraculously free them from their bondage, leading to the conversion of the jailer and his entire household. In the morning, the council realize their mistake and ask them to leave the city quietly.

In the short time Paul was in Philippi, the people he converted showed a great deal of generosity and hospitality. Lydia urged Paul and his companions (at least four people) to stay with her, and when Paul and Silas are freed from prison, the jailer takes them in and takes care of them. This generosity serves as the backdrop of the letter. Even after Paul left town, the church in Philippi continued to help Paul and on this occasion sent a financial gift to him at the hand of Epaphroditus. Paul is now sending him back to Philippi with this "thank you letter," in which he expresses his gratitude as well as the affection and closeness he feels toward them.

### Joy and Unity

This background information is closely related to the teaching themes in the book of Philippians. As you read, notice how much Paul talks about joy and how he teaches us to attain it. Also, pay attention to his emphasis on unity and what it takes for a church to achieve the kind of oneness and togetherness that Paul describes.