

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 30 JULY 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Jim Carithers** fell on Thursday and suffered damage to his face and mouth. He was in the hospital overnight but returned home Friday. He is feeling well, albeit pretty sore.
- **Curby Stech** was hospitalized this week for pneumonia, and was released yesterday. Please pray for his continued recovery.
- **John and Bethany Moon** are expecting their second child, but Bethany has not been feeling well. Please pray for them.
- Continue to pray for **Pat Butler**, as she continues to grow stronger and heal, as well as **Charlotte Clanton** who is recovering from foot surgery.
- **Daniel and Beth Broadwell** are in Dallas-Fort Worth this weekend, where he is preaching and officiating a wedding.
- Keep praying for on-going health concerns: **Bob Stark, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn, and Anna Mickle.**
- **Sermon Title: When God Speaks, Do You Listen (Luke 9)**
- **Calendar Items:**
 - **The Ladies' Class** will meet this coming Saturday (August 5) at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Greg and Mechelle Williams.
 - **Our monthly singing and prayer service** will take place this coming Sunday (August 6) at 1:30 p.m.

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 - A. Morolez
Song Leader - L. Williams
Opening Prayer - B. Ward
Lesson - S. Garrett
Communion Talk - D. Haley
Announcements - M. Pharris
Closing Prayer - J. Martin

BIBLE CLASSES

Psalms (Auditorium)

- Daniel Broadwell
- Michael Krueger

Classes for children

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Losing Faith: 4 Things To Do When Doubts Arise (pt. 1) by: Wes McAdams (radicallychristian.com)

I would be surprised if there was anyone who had thought seriously about the claims of the gospel and not had some doubts. If we are honest about what the Bible asks us to accept, there will be times when we say, “Could all this really be true?” I’ve experienced times like that and I’ve known plenty of mature Christians – leaders in the church – who’ve gone through seasons of doubt and come out stronger on the other side. Here are four things you can do when you have doubts:

1. Pray: When you have doubts about God, one of the last things you feel like doing is praying; but it’s actually the first thing you should do. In fact, doubts often arise because we have been neglecting prayer in the first place. I recently read Rod Dreher’s book, *The Benedict Option*. He wrote, “The 1960s media theorist Marshall McLuhan...once said that everyone he knew who lost his faith began by ceasing to pray.”

- **Pray prayers of supplication.** Ask God to help you. Pray what the father prayed in Mark 9:24, “I believe, help my unbelief.”
- **Pray prayers of adoration.** A compliment can rekindle a relationship. Spend some time praying about God’s beauty and majesty. Try praying Psalm 145.
- **Pray prayers of confession.** Sometimes we “suppress the truth” because of our sinful desires. There may be sin lurking in our lives or hearts that we haven’t even admitted to ourselves yet. Spend time confessing your sins and surrendering your rebellious heart to God.
- **Pray prayers of intercession.** Pray for someone else. When we pray for others, we are drawn out of ourselves and are reminded that there are other things going on in the Universe.
- **Pray prayers of thanksgiving.** Don’t underestimate how much gratitude can reorient your heart toward God. “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

2. Challenge the Assumptions of Your Doubts: Every doubt is based on assumption. If a boy says, “I would like to ask that girl out on a date, but I *doubt* she would go out with me,” his doubt is based on certain assumptions. He is assuming that he isn’t good looking enough, charming enough, or whatever. Maybe his assumptions are true, and maybe they are not. Assumptions need to be identified and challenged.

When you think to yourself, “I’m losing my faith; I just don’t know if I believe anymore,” then you need to identify the assumptions that are supporting your doubts and challenge those assumptions. Here is one example: “I thought if I lived my life the way I was supposed to live, I would be blessed by God. But everything in my life is falling apart. Maybe God isn’t even real or maybe He hates me.” The assumption that a person won’t have to suffer if he or she is living a Christian life is common, but it’s NOT based on actual Christian doctrine. **Assumptions like these need to be identified and challenged.** We need to ask ourselves, “Why do I assume that? Is that assumption based on truth?”

Even the supposed facts that skeptics and atheists throw out to undermine the Christian faith, are based on assumptions. Naturalistic scientists, for example, approach and present their research with unfounded assumptions. When you have doubts, start challenging the underlying assumptions.