

## UPCOMING

- Fellowship meal today following worship service
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### Prayer List

Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments.

- Renee Cumberland (cancer)
- Ora Barrett
- Connie Montgomery
- Emily Linton
- Andy Duncan (Liver transplant)
- Angie Richardson (friend of Gerri)

### Communion Preparation

2026 preparation list is in foyer  
March - Rowell  
April - Potts  
May -

### Birthday / Anniversary

Mark Potts - 6th  
Larry Montgomery - 13th  
Kylie Joiner - 23rd

### Men to Serve

- Announcements - Dwight Callens
- Scripture Reading - Job 14:1 - 2
- Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell
- Head of Lord's Table - Shay Cooper
- Assist on Lord's Table - Mark Potts
- Scripture Reading - Matthew 27:32 - 44
- Closing Prayer - James Johnson



03 / 29 / 2026

# WELCOME

We are a body of believers whose soul intention is to glorify and serve the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the head of His church. Our desire is to reflect that of our God--that all be saved. Anyone who is willing to humble himself before the mighty hand of God can be saved.

## WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

### SUNDAY

Bible Study //  
9:30 am  
Worship Service //  
10:30 am

### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study //  
7:00 pm

**NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
4217 Highway 39 N // Meridian, MS 39301  
**PHONE:** (601)483-2726 **WEB:** [www.nscocmeridian.com](http://www.nscocmeridian.com)  
Join us via live stream for our worship service!  
Like our Facebook page!

# SERMON NOTES

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## And the House Slept On

By David Weaks

Two thousand years ago, a father arose before sunrise and carefully stepped over his sleeping children, who were strewn around the floor, snoring peacefully. He made his way to the door and went outside to water and feed the goats and chickens. Inside, his wife was now awake and making bread for the children's breakfast. Soon, she set about getting the children washed and ready for the day. She had made sure everything was ready for her household the night before, because today was important.

After a quick morning meal and prayers, this family trundled down the dusty footpath to the house of some neighbors. There, they greeted their smiling friends and Christians from all over town. It was the Lord's Day, and these early Christians gathered together earnestly and excitedly for worship, just as they had been doing since the day of Pentecost a couple of years earlier (Acts 2:42). The man and his wife had been in Jerusalem that day and heard a man named Peter preach the most glorious sermon about his Lord, Jesus of Nazareth. This couple were cut to the heart and were baptized into Christ (Acts 2:37-38). Now, as disciples of Jesus, they assembled every first day of the week with other Christians to worship God. This weekly assembly was

important to them, and it would never cross their minds to forsake it (Hebrews 10:23-25).

Two millennia later, on another Lord's Day, a father snored while his wife listened hopefully for a familiar sound in the darkness. Sure enough, she heard the youngest daughter sniffle and cough. Then came another cough, more phlegmy than the first. "Well, we can't get her out today; she can't miss school on Monday." Her husband, now awake, said, "You're right. It's better not to expose the older people at church to whatever she has caught." His wife added, "Besides, we went to worship twice last month."

And the house slept on.

The children slept on, receiving no Bible instruction.

Mom and Dad slept on, showing their kids that rest trumps worship.

Fathers and mothers like this are not committed to worship. They do not share the attitude of David, who was glad when they said, "Let us go to the house of the Lord" (Psalm 122:1). They are not cut from the same cloth as the saints in first-century Troas, who assembled and listened to Paul preach until midnight (Acts 20:7).

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## The Culture of No Consequences

By David Hartsell

In the beginning, the Lord blessed man with a paradise garden to keep, trim, and enjoy. Only one prohibition was mentioned. Adam and Eve were not to eat of the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil" (Genesis 2:17). If they ate, they would lose their place in the garden and forfeit their right to the "tree of life." They would lose their lives and their special relationship with the Lord. This was the consequence. Sadly, they ate of the prohibited tree and paid the consequences.

Have you noticed the singular lack of consequences in almost every system of American culture? God's plan of behavior management for children (the rod of discipline, Proverbs 22:15) has been set aside by parents and schools. Athletes, stars, and politicians are seen to break laws with impunity. Bad manners and rudeness are tolerated if one is popular or famous. Coaches throw chairs, athletes sling helmets, and parents attack other parents, all clear violations of team rules and rules of appropriate behavior. Yet rarely are those actions held to account. Proverbs 19:19 tells us the truth: "A hot-tempered man must pay the penalty; if you rescue him, you will have to do it again." Priests and teachers have abused children without penalty. Presidents lie, congressmen take money, etc.

Human beings require structure and discipline. Fortunately for us, our Creator planned for our growth and happiness by holding us accountable. God is honest with us: sin brings death. The Word clarifies His expectations and holds us accountable. God is predictable, consistent, and fair. And aren't we thankful for that! The beauty queen and best player have the same consequence and reward as the rest of us. Moses, God's chosen leader, was held accountable for disobedience (Number 20). Samson, a judge chosen by God, maintained supernatural strength as long as he followed God's directions. However, God allowed Samson to suffer the consequences of foolish behavior: the Philistines cut his hair, blinded and imprisoned him. Ultimately Samson gained victory over himself and over his enemies; God did not abandon Samson but answered his prayer.

Obedience begins with the fear of consequences. God's people cannot thrive if they accept the culture of no consequences. Churches grow numerically but not spiritually. Many are suffering from the lack of discipline among their members. Fornication, barhopping, gossip, and bitterness find their way into churches. Behavior that is plainly un-Christian is ignored while the "positive" is accentuated. By overlooking sin, the consequences of sin are not seen or felt. Paul rebuked the Corinthian church for this (1 Corinthians 5:1-5). They accepted an adulterer as a faithful brother. Paul told them to deliver him to Satan — to let him know where he was spiritually. They were not even to eat with him. How cruel! No! This is God's way of shocking the sinner into seeing the consequence of his sin.

Not all consequences are bad. In fact, the disciplining of the Corinthian adulterer caused him to repent and return to Christ. Paul urged the brethren to reaffirm their love to him (2 Corinthians 2:3-9). The renewal of Christian fellowship was crucial in helping this brother remain faithful. It remains the same today. We cannot live without consequences. Some believe, because God does not punish sin immediately, He will not punish it at all. This is a serious mistake. In this life we might evade many bad consequences. However, in judgment all will be made right. Everyone will stand before God to be judged based on the things we have done on earth (2 Corinthians 5:10). Don't buy into the idea of a culture with no consequences, for there is no such place in existence.

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They would not have been among the Israelites who listened reverently to the Law of Moses read "from morning to midday" (Nehemiah 8:1-3).

Those who sleep through the Lord's Day are asleep spiritually. It is time to awake (Romans 13:11-12; Ephesians 5:14; 1 Corinthians 15:34).