

# Northside Church of Christ

“God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”  
John 4:24



Northside Church of Christ  
4217 Highway 39 N  
Meridian, MS 39301

Place  
Stamp  
Here

## Keep On Inviting, Inviting, Inviting, And Inviting

By Mike Riley

The story is told of a young girl by the name of Becky who, each Sunday morning and Wednesday night, would go next door to invite her good friend Denise to church services. Becky’s question was simple: “Can Denise come to church services with us today?” Most of the time the answer was, “Yes,” and so the visits and invitations continued.

However, the day came when something was different. Becky made her Sunday morning journey next door, but the answer was, “No.” However, the words that followed were music to her ears: “No,” the father answered, “Denise will be going with me and her mother this morning — We will see you at worship, Miss Becky.”

The family visited, studies followed, and Denise’s mother and father were baptized into Christ! (Gal. 3:27 – NKJV).

We might ask, “What is the magic, the mystery, the awe in this simple story?” The answer is, there is none! Just a sincere invitation given over and over and over again! Many times, we make things much too complicated and in doing so, achieve very little.

Continued on next page ...



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“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

### SUNDAY MORNING

Triple E  
Edify, Exhort,  
Evangelize  
4 Square  
8:30 AM

### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Hebrews  
9:30 AM

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service  
10:30 AM

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Romans  
7:00 PM

## The Importance Of "Today"

By Mike Riley

A question we need to ask ourselves from time to time is, "How do I spend the blessed currency of time?" "Right now" is something each one living on the earth has in common and while multitudes of precious souls are being born into this world "right now," multitudes of precious souls are also hurdling into eternity "right now." Many of the souls leaving their earthly body wish – "right now" – they had a few more minutes to do things they must leave undone.

"Today" Is All We Have!

Today is the most important time for each one of – because it is all we have! We are not promised next year, next month, next week, or even tomorrow. Today is important because it is when we can make the "choice" to obey, to encourage a brother or sister, to take the first step in living a life for Christ... to find one's life in losing it (Matthew 16:25).

What Is Your Life?

James says that our lives are as a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away (James 4:14). Our life, like the morning fog, vanishes in the heat of the sun. A day in our earthly life is a valuable and precious gift because it is soon over.

Sin Deceives Us

Sin may deceive us by telling us, "You've got time". Therefore the inspired writer of the book of Hebrews tells us to "exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin (Hebrews 3:13 – ESV)." James states, "Come now you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow" (James 4:12-13). The saying, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions" means that intending to take care of important duties at a future time is the pathway to eternal ruin.

Though we plan to do something good (study the Bible, obey the gospel, teach the lost, call a discouraged brother or sister, visit the sick, minister to the needy) our hectic schedules crowd out our good intentions. We may forget that there will not always be a "tomorrow".

The Importance Of Living "Today"

We are not promised tomorrow. "Today" is all we have. James gives us instructions on what our attitude should be concerning "Tomorrow". "Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.' But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin" (James 4:15-17 – NKJV). We must, like the five wise virgins, make preparations for the Lord's second coming. Will Jesus find us "watching" and "waiting"? (Matthew 25:13).

Brethren, let us imitate saints of the first century of whom it is said, "And every day, in the temple and at home, they ceased not to teach and to preach Jesus as the Christ" (Acts 5:42 – ASV).

Some want sophisticated mail-outs to do the job of winning souls to Christ for us. Some believe that carefully designed programs will do it for us. Some want others to do it for us. Please understand this point: The benefits of mail-outs and other media avenues are wonderful when wisely used. But nothing dismisses our own personal responsibility to invite folks.

Who should we invite? Anyone we associate with on a daily basis — Our neighbor, postman, doctor, boss, banker, mechanic, coach, teacher, friend, relative, co-worker, and on and on we could go (cf. Matthew 22:9-10 – NKJV).

Remember the story about Jesus freeing the man who had legions of evil spirits? (Mark 5:1-20 – NKJV; Luke 8:26-39 – NKJV). He was grateful for Jesus' compassion and wanted to go with Jesus (Mark 5:18 – NKJV). However, Jesus refused his request saying:

"Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you" (Mark 5:19 – NKJV).

Brethren, let's go and do the exact same thing!

### Announcements

- Fellowship meal, November 6th following morning worship
- Mens' Business Meeting November 6th following meal
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### Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments
- Irving Skinner, recovering from surgery
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### Communion Preparation

- October - Carlberg
- November - Callens
- December - Rowell

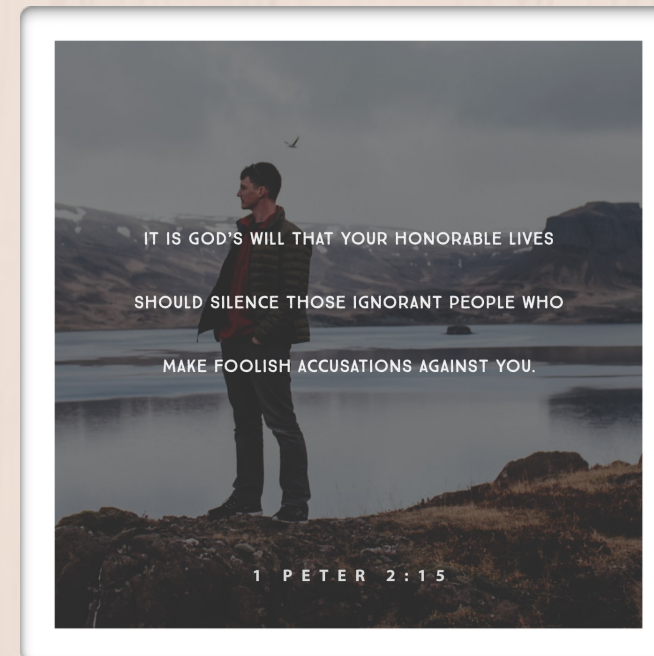
### October Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Patrick Ford - 1st
- Bowen Stephens - 4th
- Dave Cradic - 6th
- Gerri Thrash - 13th
- Don Potts - 22nd
- Sonja Rowell - 23rd
- Keren Thrash - 29th

### Every Sunday Morning

@ 8:00 AM

on WTOK-TV



### Sermon Notes

### Men to Serve

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Larry Montgomery  
 Scripture Reading - 1 Peter 2:13 - 17  
 Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell  
 Head of Lord's Table - Dwight Callens  
 Assist on Lord's Table - David Cradic  
 Scripture Reading - Matthew 26:48 - 56  
 Closing Prayer - Shay Cooper

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