## UPCOMING

#### Prayer List

Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments.

- Renee Cumberland
- Scott Williams

#### Communion Preparation

August - Montgomery September - Rowell October -

### Birthday / Anniversary

Camden Cooper - 1st Dwight Callens - 9th Bostyn Rowell - 10th Aubri Cooper - 15th

# Men to Serve

Announcements - Larry Montgomery Scripture Reading - John 4:19 - 24 Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell Head of Lord's Table - Dwight Callens Assist on Lord's Table - David Cradic Scripture Reading - Matthew 26:20-29 Closing Prayer - James Johnson But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4:23-24 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

Study of Hymns Class // 8:30 am Isaiah Bible Class // 9:30 am Worship Service // 10:30 am

# WEDNESDAY

Bible Study (1 Corinthians) // 7:00 pm

## NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

# **SERMON NOTES**

## Real Gold Versus "Fool's Gold"

#### By Mike Riley

During the California gold rush (1848), there were many men whose hearts leaped with joy when they found gold, only to discover that what they had really uncovered was "fool's gold." It was called that, not only because it lacked the necessary qualities of gold, but because it fooled the novice. The assayer would have difficulty in convincing a novice that his discovery was not the real thing. However, just because the finder believed that his discovery was real, he could very rarely sway an assayer's judgment to give him any money.

On the other hand, an experienced gold digger could easily determine the validity of a find with just a glance. He had learned through experience, to differentiate between real gold and fool's gold. He was never afraid to have his claim tested, and he wasn't going to waste his time digging for worthless metal.

Asking some people to test the validity of their religious convictions, seems to almost be an insult to them. Though their soul's condition may be based on a false estimation of value, they are satisfied to be deceived with a religion of "fool's gold" (see Galatians 1:8-9). They seem to think that because they believe it to be so, then it must be so (contrast – Proverbs 16:25; Psalm 25:8-10).

For something of much greater value than gold (Matthew 13:45-46), one can hardly afford to accept a system of faith deficient in power to save (Romans 1:16-17). Let's not be "carried about with every wind of doctrine," but be honest searchers of "the faith" (gospel system of faith – Acts 17:11; Ephesians 4:13; Romans 10:17).

## Mama's Translation Of The Bible Was The Best!

#### By Mike Riley

Four preachers were discussing the merits of the various translations of the Bible. One liked a particular version best because of its simple, beautiful English. Another preferred a more scholarly edition, because it was closer to the original Hebrew and Greek. Still another liked a contemporary version, because of its up-to-date vocabulary.

The fourth preacher was silent for a moment, then said, "I like my mother's translation the best." Surprised, the other three men said they didn't know his mother had translated the Bible. "Yes," he replied. "She translated it into her life, and it was the most convincing translation I ever saw."

Instead of discussing translation preferences, this preacher reminded them that the most important focus should be learning God's Word and doing it (2 Timothy 2:15; James 1:22; 1 John 3:7). That was the top priority of Ezra's life. As a scribe, he studied the Law, obeyed it, and taught it to the Israelites (Ezra 7:10).

For example, God commanded His people not to intermarry with neighboring nations who served pagan gods (Ezra 9:1-2). Ezra confessed the nation's sin to God (Ezra 9:10-12) and corrected the people, who then repented (Ezra 10:10-12).

Brethren and friends, let's follow Ezra's example by seeking the Word of God — translating it into our life and daily living.

Let's remember that the best commentary on the Bible (other than the Bible itself), is a person who puts God's teachings into practice.

And the best version of the Bible, is the one that's read and understood (Ephesians 3:1-4; Ephesians 5:16-17; cf. Romans 12:2).