

Dear Calvary Baptist Church. Praying this note finds you abounding in the grace of God. It won't be long till you will see school busses on the road again, so please make sure you stop when the drivers turn their flashers on. We have been going through the Book of David Jeremiah on Sunday night called, "The Book Of Signs." As the author points out, "Road signs tell us what's up ahead" so by reading the signs we can know what to expect. What is in store for the remainder of this year? For starters, most parents will breathe a sigh of relief as their children go back to

school, that is with the exception of the ever growing group called homeschoolers. School is a place of training that can be very challenging. But for the student that perseveres, there is nothing more rewarding than knowing they have passed the grade and they move on with life. There are great rewards that come with learning, applying and be-

coming a productive citizen of society. This is a short reminder that if you belong to the Lord Jesus Christ, you are His student and by His grace, someday you will graduate.

James says in 1:12 says, "Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him." There is much to learn in the school of Christ. The course at times seems to be never-ending, but the Master Teacher has a curriculum that is 2nd to none. The trials of life have a way of teaching the student to, "trust the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding." Every child of God is tested. Just think of Abraham. He and Sarah waited so long for the promise of God to be fulfilled. That in and of itself can be a grueling test. For the student that is impatient, impulsive or easily irritated, this course can become unbearable at times. But God gives more sufficient grace. If you are in the school of Christ, hear the good news, He will make sure you graduate. So, with all the prophetic signs that are everywhere, what can you expect? Count on being tested. You can't cheat, you can't lie and you can't say you forgot your homework. You will continue to take the test till you pass.

> Then what? You move up to the next exam. This process continues till you hear, "Well done good and faithful servant."

The admonishment from this note is, don't lose heart. God isn't through with you or you wouldn't still be here. As Thomas Brooks said, "God's corrections are instruc-

tions, His lashes our lessons, His scourges our schoolmasters, His chastisements our admonitions! And to note this, the Hebrews and Greeks both do express chastening and teaching by one and the same word, because the latter is the true end of the former." It doesn't matter if you like school or not. What matters is you understand that you are getting ready to walk across the line of eternity and that you lived your life for the glory of God. Paul says in Philippians 1:6, "being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;" God will do that because He has made a promise for all who are on the roll of heaven. And here is the Doxology of Jude that should encourage any downcast student who keeps tripping over

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the same course. Jude verses 24-25, "Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Savior, Who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen." He has made a promise to you who are in Christ. So be encouraged, know that you are going to pass the test, your cap and gown will be as Paul says in 2 Timothy 4:8, "Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing." Whatever grade you are in, love the Lord, His school and His plan for your life. It won't be long before rewards will be handed out and school will be no more.

Grab (The Book) and get on the bus,

Pastor David

A Word from Christain

On Wednesday nights, I put a pause on our study of church history. We're taking up the Book of Romans instead. It's been called Paul's magnum opus, and for good reason. We're currently working our way through Chapter 1, where Paul addresses standard introductory matters of letters (authorship, audience, greetings, thanksgiving and prayer) and where Paul unpacks the gospel in a very elaborate manner. I hope the Lord uses it to draw the lost to himself.

In June and July, we had an enjoyable time on the waters. We had a pool party in June and a pontoon boat day at Lake Watauga in July. Again, I'd like to thank all the families that made both events a success. We couldn't have done it without you.

We plan on having an end of summer party on August 5th, a morning of prayer at Unicoi High School on August 6th, and a rafting trip on August 27th.

If you'd like to be put on a text or email list for student ministry updates, please contact me at 423-290-7616.



Thank you all! Please keep us in your prayers!



Greetings!

It's time for another update from the student ministry.

We finished our study of the doctrine of salvation on Sunday

mornings. I was correct that it would take the rest of June and July to complete it. From election to perseverance, the students have received a thorough introduction to what the Scriptures teach about salvation. We are now studying the doctrine of mankind. We'll cover the creation of humanity, the image of God in humanity, the fall of humanity, and the nature of humanity.

On Sunday nights, we're completing our study of the Book of Proverbs. It's been a long study but a very rewarding study. Now we're going to begin a study of the Book of Psalms. It'll cover a gamut of doctrines and applications. I preached several psalms when I led a nursing home ministry in college, so I look forward to revisiting this marvelous book.



This is my someday soon! Letter.

Hey Pops! "What happens when we die?" Well young man, the short answer to that question is 2

Corinthians 5:8, "absent from the body; present with the Lord." This is only true for believers in Jesus Christ. To interpret correctly what Paul is revealing in that verse begins with understanding the contrast between physical birth and spiritual birth. Study scripture enough to show yourself approved of God, a workman that needs not reproof. Do this you will begin to see the patterns in God's order of creation. Extensive contemplation illuminates precept patterns as in this case, natural precedes spiritual. Biblical examples start with Cain and Abel, then Ishmael and Isaac and continue through Esau and Jacob. Every person in the first "Adam" has been born in a natural body. 2 Corinthians 5:1 speaks of an "earthly house." Since this "tent" will dissolve back into the ground, Paul informs believers about "a building from God, eternal in the heavens. A house not made with hands." Sadly, this natural birth places every person in "enmity with God" (Romans 5:10). The wrath of God abides on all, for all have sinned (Romans 3:10). Also, all are born with an inherited sin nature propelling each into a spiritual death of eternal separation from God. The only HOPE to escape this death has been provided in Messiah Jesus. Through His death, burial and resurrection, spiritual birth from above is possible. Faith in the person of Jesus Christ and willingness to confess His name will produce salvation (Romans 8:15). Romans 8:15 declares this as the "sprit of adoption" with the Spirit being a "down payment." Paul told the Corinthians, "Truly this is a miraculous plan hidden in the mind of God to make salvation available in Jesus alone." The "Lifegiving Spirit, the Last Adam," opens the door of spiritual communication. There is only one human ever, to perfectly satisfy God's holiness, Jesus alone! John 6:40 further clarifies, "everyone who sees Jesus and believes what scripture says about him may have everlasting life. This miracle of salvation makes a person complete and new from the inside out. However, your natural body cannot be in the presence of El Shaddai! There is yet something unfinished about our salvation process. To answer your question: The soul and the new spiritual life translate into the presence of Jesus at the moment of death. The physical body decays into dust from which it was taken. The explanation of this phenomenon in Philippians 3:20, Paul pens that Jesus "shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the power where by HE is able to subdue all things unto himself." In fact, "we await the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body" (Romans 8:23). KNOW THIS! "God will bring with Him those who through Jesus sleep" (1 Thessalonians 4:14). This is what happens when a Believer dies.

Curtis



As summer break is coming to an end, we want to praise God for keeping us safe this summer. We have enjoyed many events and have made lasting memories. Thank you for your prayers and monetary support. Kids camp provided an excellent environment for the chil-

dren to learn about living for God(Colossians 3:23). I have enjoyed every minute with the children and know that seeds have been sown. We will trust the Lord for the increase.

We are praying for an awesome upcoming school year for students, teachers and school administrators. May the teachers be bold concerning the truth and may the students be eager to learn. May the coaches be good role models and may athletes play with 100% effort. We pray for a safe school year for our entire community.

Concerning our current curriculum, we are studying Answers in Genesis during Sunday School. We are studying the fruit of the spirit during the Sunday Worship Service. We are finishing up on the ten commandments study on Sunday and Wednesday nights. We are looking forward to Awana starting back in September and need as many helpers as possible to assist the children in studying the Word. Bible drill will be gearing up soon as well. There is a lot to look forward to within the coming months.

As always, we need volunteers for the children's department. We need individuals with a servant's heart to staff our babies/kids classes on a rotating basis. If you are willing to serve please let me know asap.

Blessings and love to you all, Alicia Smith, Children's Director

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AUGUST

Birthda

Martha Silvers, Geraldine Banks, Grace Clark, Shannon Engle, 3 Cadie Caudle, 4 Dallas Lloyd,
Hugh Barker, Thomas Cooper, 6 Dave Burgner, Marie Honeycutt, Sam Breen, 8 Nathanael Crutchfield,
9 Linda Vincil, 10 Casey Pate, Dick Ford, 11 Susie Riddle, Oziah Ricker, 13 Jennifer Bennett,
14 Terri Graham, 15 Betty Stephens, 16 Madelyn Crawford, Garret Edwards, 17 Scott Rainey,
18 Elizabeth Pleasant, Levi Graham, Mike Durham, 19 Pam Solomon, Emma Griffith, Allan Solomon,
21 Andrew Barnett, Bobbie Ledford, 27 Peggy Barker, 28 Darryl Bryant, Bill Gray, Jess Sifford,
29 Judy Colinger, Douglas Fritz

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of

Karl Thomas by Jo Ann Cole to Calvary Cares by David Crutchfield to Consolidated Missions by Ray & Barbara Ollis by Mildred Silvers by Gene & Betty Frye by Lois Yelton by Leonard & Jean Bowman to Calvary Cares by Dorcas/Homemakers Class to Building Fund by Winsome Sunday School Class to Building Fund Glea McBride by Clara Curtis to Consolidated Missions by Allen & Shirley Rogers

> **Dick Bradford** by Kathy Allen

to Consolidated Missions by David Crutchfield by Sheldon & Tina Roark by Tommy & Phyllis Bennett

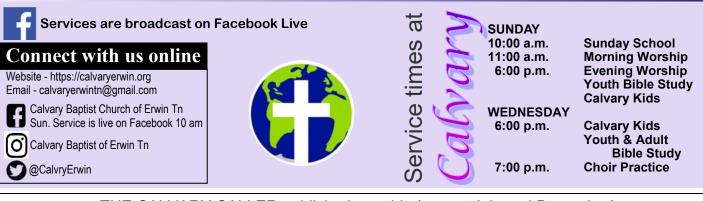
> *Joyce Miller by Almira Miller*

Ray White by Diana Davis

In Honor of

Paul Dempke by Diana Davis

Joyce Miller by Almira Miller



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