

TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday:	
Bible Classes	10:00 A.M.
Worship Service	11:00 A.M.
Worship Service	6:00 P.M.
Wednesday:	
Bible Classes	7:00 P.M.

Preacher & Editor

Dick Blackford

Office	(870) 933-9134
Home	(870) 919-2266

Elders

Kemuel Camp	(870) 930-6970
Scott Stubblefield	(870) 934-8874

Deacons

Phillip Cassidy	(870) 623-2588
Jeff Ladyman	(479) 236-5365
Steve Lands	(870) 974-1976
Travis Moody	(870) 650-1649

Website:	stoneridgechurchofchrist.com
Email:	stoneridgechurchofchrist@gmail.com
Address:	514 Airport Rd, Jonesboro AR, 72405
Find us on:	Facebook and YouTube

THE BIBLE AND THE BIBLE ONLY, MAKES CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS ONLY. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS COMPOSED OF CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE NOT JOINED A DENOMINATION.



StoneRidge
Church of Christ
where CHRIST is the chief cornerstone
1 Peter 2:7

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Certainty In An Uncertain World

Life is "...a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away" (Js 4:14).

We all thought we understood that life is filled with a lot of uncertainties – and then we had the pandemic. We told ourselves that we could be content with less – and then we had the pandemic. We said we wouldn't worry about our health or jobs or toilet paper – and then we had the pandemic.

For most of us, the uncertainty of the pandemic was what made it hard. Will there be food in the stores? What will this do to me financially? What will the government do? Will I or a loved one get sick? Who will die? Like all physical challenges, the temptation is to fail to see these as faith challenges.

Faith challenges are not won by ignoring physical challenges. Physical challenges test whether or not we will maintain and use our faith as we navigate them. It is about who or what we will consistently trust. It is about who or what we look to for certainty.

Knowing What We Know. "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?...Can you send out lightnings? Does the eagle mount up at your command, and make its nest on high?...Have you an arm like God?" (Read Job 38-41). God is God and we are not! There are things we *know*, but there are many things which we simply do not know. God is our certainty in an uncertain world.

Knowing What We Don't Know. One of the keys to trusting God is the → ▲

from front page

ability to recognize our limitations. Note James 4:13-16 – “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 profit’; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. 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.”

We can’t know what will happen tomorrow. “If the Lord wills...” takes certainty out of our own hands and puts it in the hands of God Who Knows Everything. God is our certainty in an uncertain world.

Knowing Why. When things don’t go according to the script we have written for our lives, our minds race to ask, “Why?” It’s a tough question, but believe it or not it has little, if any, relevance to what we are talking about. Did you know that, as far as we know, Job never found out *why* he suffered. No matter what happens, uncertainty in the world doesn’t change that God is our certainty.

Knowing Our Faith. Is our faith just a collect of facts and rules swirling around in our heads or is it a conviction of trust that makes us what we are and that dictates what we do? “*Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith...*” (2 Cor 13:5). Don’t just let life happen. Live and overcome in life by looking to God for direction, depending on Him for everything.

God is our only certainty in an uncertain world. – *David Diestelkamp*



Stay-at-home parents seldom beget go-to-church children.

If you live for the next world, you get this one in the deal; but if you live only for this world, you lose them both.

Life is a one-way street and we are not coming back.

Light My Candle, Lord

Psalm 18:28 - “For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.”

Light my candle, Lord,
Illuminate my way.
If others follow after me,
May they not be led astray.

Light my candle, Lord,
Help me keep it burning bright
And kindle a flame in others’ hearts
To set their steps aright.

Light my candle, Lord,
Let me not its glowing hide,
But lift it high in a darkened world
A beacon and a guide.

Light my candle, Lord,
That it may glorify thee,
Until it’s placed in heaven
To shine eternally. -*Jean Blackford*

News/Notes/Quotes (This bulletin was prepared in advance so we have no up-to-date news on the sick. Be sure to catch today’s announcements.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS. 1st – Freddy Horton, Martha Thetford; 2nd – Taylor Harbin; 9th - Brian Ellis; 14th – Kemuel Camp; 16th – Carol Cadlwell; 17th - David Ledgewood; 21st - Tyler Wilson; 25th - Beverly Allen, Karly Lands; 26th – Gary Bearden; 30th – Angela Johns