

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.
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Office (870) 933-9134

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

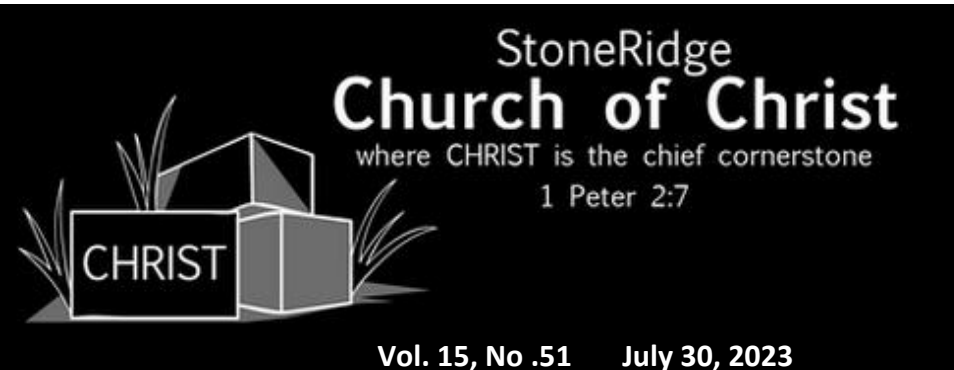
Preacher

John Mundy	870-623-5339
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Editor

Dick Blackford	870-919-2266
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**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.**



Which Apostle Had It The Easiest?

Which apostle had it easiest? James. That answer may be surprising. Even more surprising is why and how.

In Acts 12, James is martyred first among the apostles. Somemay question God's fairness, may even complain, "Why did God allow James to die but allowed Peter to live?" Considering the church was praying for Peter, we can assume they were praying for James too (Acts 12:5). So..."Why did God answer their prayer for Peter but not James?"

Such questions are myopic. We assume WHAT the church was praying. The early church could have been interceding on behalf of James and Peter in the same unexpected way wherein God answered their prayers with an astounding "yes!" They could have been praying for James and Peter's strength, instead of their release. They could have been praying for their spiritual safety over their physical safety. Are we too focused on freedom over faithfulness? Is our perception of ease too worldly?

One could say that James' mother had her "prayer" answered, but in a way unexpected. She demanded of Jesus, "Promise," she said to him, "that these two sons of mine may sit, one on your right and the other on your left, in your kingdom" (Matthew 20:20-21). Jesus responded such was not his to give.

However, all believers who overcome upon death sit on the throne with Jesus (Revelation 3:21). James's mother had her prayer answered but in a way never →

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expected. Be careful what you pray for! Answering prayers is God's way of surprising us. When James overcame through death, he began to sit on Jesus's throne with him! Surprise!

After James was beheaded, he entered into eternal peace first among the apostles. So, which apostle has been the safest the longest from all harm? Which apostle suffered less than the others? Which apostle has enjoyed the Father's presence the longest? Which apostle was first with Jesus on His throne? James.

Why did James have it the easiest? God allowed James to die. Sitting beside Jesus in eternity, do you think he was complaining about God being unfair? No. Who has enjoyed the ease of peace longer than any of the apostles? James. -Perry Hall



IF A MATTER is not serious enough to pray about, then it is not serious enough to worry about – and if it is serious enough to pray about, and we have prayed about it, then there is no need to worry about it.

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. **Matt Cossey** was taken to the ER Wednesday night with chest pain. They ruled out it being his heart but we haven't heard the final diagnosis. Prayers!... **Haley Kortan** has been fighting a stomach bug but is improving... **Pat Spencer** is continuing with chemo treatment. **Gail Brooks** is now at Encompass for therapy.....Pray for Lavonda Townsley's grandson is has special needs and is in long term care... Remember our shut-ins: **Madonna Vines** is confined at home.. **Betty Shrable** is confined to her home... ..**Bob** and **Jean Evans** are also confined at home...**Rhea Vines**, at Roger's house...**Gail Brooks** and **Rita Kieffer** are both at St. Bernard Village...**Shirley Coots** at Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** is at St. Elizabeth's Place... Pray for these!

YOUTH TRAINING AND LEADERSHIP! Our young leaders will meet tonight at 5 pm. This month they have been learning to pray and will be going over what they have learned. Last month they learned to make an outline for a short talk. Next month they will work on song leading. Pray for these young leaders as they grow. What a great opportunity!

GOSPEL MEETINGS

August 3-4 - 10th Annual Ladies Bible Study - Hwy 5 Mountain Home

PODCAST! Hear a lesson from God's word each morning from John Mundy on Facebook & YouTube, 8 am.

The birth of Christ brought God to man. The cross of Christ brought man to God.



The world is full of people who are making a good living but living poor lives.



