

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
NOVEMBER 29, 2020

SICK/TEMPORARY: **Tabatha Clayton** and **Cody Hadley** were sick this past week. Both **Carl Hounshell** (December 17th) and **Sonny Stewart** are awaiting their second cataract surgeries. **Grayson Hadley's** best friend, five year old **Easton McCullough**, has been diagnosed with Bell's Palsy; the hope is that it is temporary.

PROTRACTED: **Janice Bailey**—Alzheimers; **Scooter Birmingham** (friend of **Destiny Clayton**); **Brian Brown** (**Paul Brown's** nephew)—epilepsy; **Shelly Cates**—fibromyalgia; **Gladys Marie Elrod** (**Mary Ray's** son-in-law's mother)—congestive heart failure; **Addliae Farrow** (**Tabatha Clayton's** great niece)—heart; **Bubba Farrow** (**Emma Farrow's** son)—Alzheimer's; **Jimmy Ferguson** (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; **Jerry Floate** (of this community)—liver transplant; **Kaylie Hadley**—UCTD; **Paula Harrison**—Meniere's Disease; **Wanda Jackson**—a-fib; **Monica La Rock** (granddaughter of **Orelia Ferguson** and mother of **Noah**); **Garrett Lentz** (son of a co-worker of **Cody Hadley**)—seizures; **Sheila Massey**—Bell's palsy; **Becky Munns** (**Tabatha Clayton's** aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; **Shelby Peyton**—knee; **Robert Rawson** (preacher at **Crockett**)—diabetes; **Ray Reynold's** (**Sheila Massey** and **Mary West's** dad)—memory trouble; **Brett Rutherford** (**Dan Cates'** friend)—MS; **Tammy Turner** (a preacher's wife whom we support)—dementia; **Francis Wallace** (friend of **Mary Ray**).

CANCER: **Clifton Angel** (preacher at **Coldwater**)—thyroid; **Sherry Brown** (retired MSOP secretary); **Alicia Busby** (from the community); **Gary Darnell** (**Ella Darnell's** son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; **Brenda Davis** (a grandmother of **Edra** and **Ryan Farrow**); **Tom Gordon** (**Cody Hadley's** grandfather); **Nathan Jones** (the **Hounshells'** neighbors' 16 year old family member)—brain; **Sara Kiestler** (an FHU student)—Hodgkin's; **Wade Loggins** (member of congregation in **Elkmont, AL**); **Dorothy Mosher** (wife of an MSOP instructor); **Carol Ogelsby** (family of **Sonny Stewart** and the **Browns**)—stomach; **Tommy Pierce** (the **Browns'** friend); **John Riley** (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; **Tiffany Taylor** (the **Browns'** friend); and **Tabby Waters** (**Tabatha Clayton's** sister-in-law)—leukemia.

SHUT-IN: **Marie Crockett** (home), **Emma Farrow** (in a care facility in **Sardis**), **Orelia Ferguson** (home), and **Annette Cates** (**Dan Cates'** mother who is at home in **Pensacola, FL**).

SERVING: **Dylan** and **Maggie Cooper** (Air Force, Offut AFB, Neb.), **Cameron Hadley** (**Grayson Hadley's** dad—Marines, Hawaii), **Jacob Petrowski** (grandson of former members here—Marines, soon to be let out). Also, please continue to pray for **Kyle Embrey** (**Syble Embrey's** grandson—policeman) and all other military [especially who are going or remain abroad] and for all those in authority that we might live "quiet and peaceable" lives (I Timothy 2:1,2).

Independence Church of Christ
8543 Highway 305
Coldwater, MS 38618

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The Informer



8543 Highway 305

Coldwater, MS 38618

662-560-8045

www.independencechurchofchrist.org

Services: Sunday 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 4:45 p.m. (pew-packers), 5 p.m.
Wednesday 7:15 p.m.

Ministers: Every Christian

Elders: Dan Cates (662-560-8045)

Carl Hounshell (812-653-2358)

Evangelist: Dan Cates (662-560-8045; dsmccates@yahoo.com)

Missions [the latest reports from these works are on the bulletin board in the foyer]

Independence Mission Fund (next: tbd)

Memphis School of Preaching (Jonathan Jenkins)

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Jim and Tammy Turner (Fairfield, North Carolina)

Trent Kennedy family (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India [Providing Bibles]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

Pablo Horna (Costa Rica) [Overseeing funds]

Many one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

THE ENTITLEMENT MENTALITY, Part 1

Andy Sochor (plainbibleteaching.com)

Our society has developed what is often called an “entitlement mentality” – particularly among the young, but it is still widespread through all ages. Those with this attitude believe that because they exist, they are *entitled* to certain things (standard of living, happiness, interpretation of truth, etc.).

The Israelites adopted this mindset while they were in Egypt. Despite their sufferings, they became accustomed to what they enjoyed there. While they were enslaved, they “*cried out*” to God “*for help because of their bondage*” (Exodus 2:23). After a series of plagues, God delivered them from bondage (Exodus 13:3). However, even with their newly acquired freedom, they complained about what they lacked:

“The sons of Israel said to them, ‘Would that we had died by the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread to the full; for you have brought us our into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger’” (Exodus 16:3).

“The rabble who were among them had greedy desires; and also the sons of Israel wept again and said, ‘Who will give us meat to eat? We remember the fish which we used to eat free in Egypt, the cucumbers and the melons and the leeks and the onions and the garlic, but now our appetite is gone. There is nothing at all to look at except this manna’” (Numbers 11:4-6).

Many remembered what they had been “given” for “free” in Egypt – though they conveniently forgot the great price they paid (enslavement and oppression) for this “free” food – and thought they were entitled to it. This led them to complain against God and disregard the blessings He was providing them.

The “entitlement mentality” is contrary to a couple of fundamental characteristics we are to have as God’s people.

Contentment – Paul wrote, “*Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am*” (Philippians 4:11). The Israelites were not content with what God provided them (Numbers 11:6; Exodus 16:3). Many today are also not content with the blessings they have received from God and believe they are *entitled* to something more.

Submission to God – When people adopt an “entitlement mentality,” they will give their allegiance to the entity that will provide their “entitlements.” In the case of the Israelites, this was Egypt. In the case of many today, this is the civil government. Yet God’s people are to have “*no other gods before [Him]*” (Exodus 20:3). We are to submit to God, not the entity that may be able to provide the “entitlements” we desire (cf. Acts 5:29). But too many people are willing to treat rulers as “*a god*” if they are “*fed by*” them (Acts 12:20-22).

In this article, let us consider a few things that many people believe they are *entitled* to and contrast that belief with the Scriptures. (*To be continued next week*)

“That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:” (Ephesians 4:14,15)

BIBLE QUESTION:

This week’s question: How many carried the man sick of palsy to see Jesus?

Last week’s question: What did the captive, freed from captivity, bring back again with him?

Last week’s answer: “His sheaves” (*Psalms 126:6*)

SERMONS: “They Come unto Him, Bringing One Sick” (*Mark 2:1-12*)

“All the Counsel of God”: Blessings

DAILY BIBLE READING (November 30-December 6):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Acts	20:2				20:3-22:30	23-25	26-28
Romans	1-4	5-8	9-11	12-16			

SCRIPTURE READING (NOVEMBER): Thomas Massey (Mark 2:1-4)

(**DECEMBER**): Cody Hadley

PRESIDE LORD’S SUPPER MORNING (NOVEMBER): Cody Hadley

(**DECEMBER**): Thomas Massey

ASSIST LORD’S SUPPER (NOVEMBER): Ray Stanford and Mark Peyton

(**DECEMBER**): Paul Brown and Sonny Stewart

CLEAN BUILDING (NOVEMBER): The Masseys

(**DECEMBER**): Ella Darnell and Carolyn Stanford

PREPARE COMMUNION (NOVEMBER): Kaylie Hadley

(**DECEMBER**): Suzanne and Katie Brown

PANTRY NEEDS: Imperishables.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Carolyn Stanford	December 11	Paul Brown	December 22
Reese Kinney	December 27		

UPCOMING EVENTS (For particular details, check the bulletin board for flyers):

June 6-9, 2021

Gospel meeting with Brian Stewart.

WELCOME VISITORS!