

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~  
DECEMBER 20, 2020

**SICK/TEMPORARY:** **Shelby Peyton** has been under the weather recently. Both **Carl Hounshell** (December 17th) and **Sonny Stewart** are awaiting their second cataract surgeries. **Karter Shamblin** has been sick with stomach problems.

**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; **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; **Easton McCullough** (**Grayson Hadley**'s best friend)—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*

# INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

## The Informer



*8543 Highway 305*

*Coldwater, MS 38618*

*662-560-8045*

*[www.independencechurchofchrist.org](http://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](mailto: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 (Panama) [Overseeing funds]*

*Many one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts*

## THE ENTITLEMENT MENTALITY, Part 4

Andy Sochor (plainbibleteaching.com)

(Continued from last week) God created the institution of marriage in the beginning. After created Adam, He said, “*It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him*” (Genesis 2:18). He then created a woman for the man (Genesis 2:21-23). This was the foundation for all marriages that would follow: “*For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh*” (Genesis 2:24). Since God created the institution of marriage, He gets to make the rules about marriage and we must respect His rules: “*Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge*” (Hebrews 13:4). When Jesus taught about marriage, He said that marriage was for a “*male and female*” and “*the two shall become one flesh*” (Matthew 19:4-5). This ruled out homosexuality and polygamy. Furthermore, the Scriptures condemn the casual attitude toward divorce and remarriage that is common in our society. Paul wrote, “*For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband. So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man*” (Romans 7:2-3). This means that a person cannot marry another while his spouse is still living – the only exception to this is if one puts away his spouse for fornication (Matthew 19:9).

We are not entitled to marry whoever we want. Marriage can only be between one man and one woman. Once a couple is bound by God in marriage, they remain bound to one another until either death or one puts away his mate for fornication. Anything beyond that is contrary to God’s marriage law. Claiming that a couple *loves* each other does not make their unauthorized marriage any less of a sin.

### We Are Not Entitled to *Our Own Interpretation of the Truth*

This is at the heart of the “entitlement mentality.” It is the idea that all people can decide for themselves what is right for them – that there is no objective standard of right and wrong. Yet the Scriptures are clear that this is not the case.

Though everyone wants to believe what they want, this does not change the truth or the consequences of accepting what is false. The wise man said, “*There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death*” (Proverbs 14:12). God’s word is truth (John 17:17) and we must accept it. If we do not accept it, that does not change the fact that it is still the truth. Paul told Timothy, “*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth*” (2 Timothy 2:15). We

must learn how to handle the word of God properly rather than being like those who “*distort... the Scriptures, to their own destruction*” (2 Peter 3:16).

We are not entitled to our own interpretation of the truth. Instead, we need to accept the truth that is contained in the word of God.

### Conclusion

The “entitlement mentality” is dangerous because it is a threat to contentment and is a subtle beginning to one’s rebellion against God. We need to be content with all of the good things that God has given us (James 1:17) and submit to His will rather than pursuing our own selfish interests (Luke 9:23).

---

*“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: Emmaus was "about threescore furlongs" from what town?

Last week’s question: Who was the first convert in Philippi?

Last week’s answer: Lydia (*Acts 16:12-15*)

---

**SERMONS:** How Did Jesus *NOT* Sin? (*Hebrews 4:15*)

"All the Counsel of God": The Church

### DAILY BIBLE READING (December 21-27):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
<b>2 Timothy</b>	1-4		<b>Revelation</b>		1-3	4-6	7-9
<b>1 John</b>	1,2		3-5				
			<b>2 John</b>	1			
			<b>3 John</b>	1			
			<b>Jude</b>	1			

**SCRIPTURE READING (DECEMBER):** Cody Hadley (Hebrews 4:14-16)

(*JANUARY*): Carl Hounshell

**PRESIDE LORD’S SUPPER MORNING (DECEMBER):** Thomas Massey

(*JANUARY*): Dan Cates

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

(*JANUARY*): Conor Cates and Cody Hadley

**CLEAN BUILDING (DECEMBER):** The Masseys

(*JANUARY*): Suzanne and Katie Brown

**PREPARE COMMUNION (DECEMBER):** Kaylie Hadley

(*JANUARY*): Tabatha Clayton

**PANTRY NEEDS:** Imperishables.

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

December 20

**Devotional** and **game night** for the young people after evening services.