

Looking for Loopholes

One of the most popular entertainers of the Vaudeville era was W.C. Fields (1880-1946). While Fields could make audiences roar with laughter, he was certainly not a Christian and made no pretense of his disdain for the Bible. Thus, it came as a great shock when one of Fields' friends, visiting him in the hospital near the end of his life, found him reading the Bible one day. When asked what he was doing, Fields, ever the comedian, replied, *"Just looking for loopholes."*

Friends, one day we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. In **2 Corinthians 5:10**, we read, *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."* On that great day, we will be judged by the word of God. Jesus Christ said, *"He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him — the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day"* (**John 12:48**).

God's law, unlike man's, has no loopholes. No lawyer will be able to fool the Judge of all men or be able to negotiate a plea bargain. **Hebrews 9:27** reminds us, *"...it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment..."* If the Judgment Day were today, where would you spend eternity, in heaven or hell?

Travis L. Quertermous
Church of Christ
Dexter, MO
Bulletin Digest (June 2008)

MINISTERS

Thank you for
your prayers!

Campus Minister
Brad Tolbert

Secretary
Joshua Pettigrew

ELDERS

Mike Beard
Larry Fisackerly
Joe Moore

Deacons

Marty Baker
Chris Bryant
Ray Linder
Jason Meier
Jeff Newton
Joshua Pettigrew
Kerry Rice
Jeremy Wilson

Assemblies

SUNDAY
Bible Study 9:30 AM
Assembly 10:30 AM
Assembly 5:00 PM
Live on Facebook

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 6:30 PM



MONTICELLO

CHURCH OF CHRIST

"...speaking the truth in love..." Eph. 4:15

March 27, 2022

But What do the Rules Say?

For much of my life I have concerned myself with following the rules. It is part of who I am. I am the oldest of four children and have always felt responsible. I encouraged my younger siblings to follow the rules my parents set and watched out for their safety. When it came to my Christian life, I approached it much the same way. I wanted to have a list of rules that I could follow to know that I was doing it the way God wanted me to. The problem was when you study the New Testament that does not seem to be the way God intended us to live.

Peter writes instructions to help us *"make your calling and election sure."* (**2 Peter 1:10**) When we look at what Peter wrote he does not give us a list of rules to follow, instead he talks about those things that are internal, that can help us to be more like God. God intends for us to become like Christ and imbue our lives with His characteristics. When we become like Christ, we will naturally do what God wants.

"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." (**2 Peter 1:5-8**)

Peter tells us how to accomplish this challenging feat. God has given us everything we need. *"His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires."* (**2 Peter 1:3,4**) Knowing Jesus and the love that God has for us directs our choices and our actions. While the New Testament includes some lists we consider to be rules our lives and our actions should come from love and a desire to live like Christ. Knowing the Word is to know Jesus and that is what we base our lives on. Each step we take each discussion we make should follow in the steps of Christ. ~Brad Tolbert

Memory Verse

"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."

- James 1:2 (NIV)

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HEART-TO-HEART

Jerry Smith has tachycardia but is responding well to treatment.

Mandy Tolbert will be having elbow surgery March 31st.

Jimmy Higgins's mother suffered a heart attack last weekend. She is in the hospital in Pine Bluff and has recovered enough to be moved to her own room.

Let's keep the family of **Tammy Adair** in our prayers after her passing last week.

The family of **Nancy Chapman** after her passing.

Ricky Epps (minister for the McGehee church of Christ) is having some heart issues that will require surgery this week. He is under doctor's orders not to work for some time.

Mason Ingram, a teenager in Children's hospital scheduled to receive a kidney transplant.

Turner Roberts who is having surgery on his hand this week.

The family of **Tom Wooten** who passed away.

TODAY'S EVENTS

-Worship livestreamed at 10:30

-Small Study Groups at 5:00

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members:

Linda Bates...Tony & Judy Beard...Terry Boykin... Roger & Margaret Harris... Jennifer Knight... Ray Leonard... Joe and Peggy Moore...LaVerne Potter...Eddy & Suzette Russell.. Cheryl Shirey... Jerry Smith... Rita Stiles... Mandy Tolbert... Carolyn Wilson...Donnie & Janice Wright

Shut-ins:

Jean Enlow...Betty McGuire...Bob & Pat Turner... Marie Wooten

Serving in the Military:

Mollie Aldridge...Corey Bryant...Bradyn Curtis... Noah Draper... David Foret... Taylor Koonce... Tucker Koonce...Matthew May... Justin Mills... Neil Rampy ... Christian Stepanovich... Mathew Tannehill...

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Family of Tammy Adair... Chris Beard... Rusty Blanks... Naomi Burrow...Candice Carter... family of Nancy Chapman... the church in Ukraine... Eliane Clay... Alli Cooper...family of Crystal Gibson...Ricky Epps... Niylah Jacobs...Tina Jarvius... Johnny Jeter...Deane Johnson...Jim Looney... Shirley Majors... Kathryn McDonough... Skylar McDougald... Kent Measal...Rick Naron... Austin & Andrea Oesch...Loyce Ray.. Christy Rice...Turner Roberts...Leah Rye... Janice Sawyer... Keith Sowell... Katie Strickland... Robert and Sue Thomas...Bob Tolson...Sissy Tucker...James Walton... Mark Wyers... Daisy and Lily Wilkerson... William Woods... Sue Woodard... family of Tom Wooten

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Today!	27	Anna Miller
	30	LaVerne Potter
April	1	Drake Collins
	2	Tom & Denon Weaver
	3	Betty McGuire Shawn & Jill Curtis
	4	David Wilson
	6	Terry Boykin
	11	Angela Stewart
	12	Lydia Meier
	14	Colton Knight
	21	Cordell Stewart
	22	Carolyn Ashcraft
	24	Margaret Harris

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

28	1 Samuel 25-28
29	1 Samuel 29-31
30	2 Samuel 1-4
31	2 Samuel 5-7
1	2 Samuel 8-10
2	2 Samuel 11-13
3	2 Samuel 14-16



Heart-To-Heart cont'd...

The victims of the shooting last Saturday night in **Dumas**.

The victims of the storm system that passed through recently. Also remember the congregations of the Lord's people who are affected by these disasters.

Congratulations to **Caroline Wilson** who made the Jr. Billies cheerleading squad.

The deadline to bring items for **Ukraine** has been extended to **March 30th**.

All *Ladies* are invited to the **Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Class** every Wednesday morning at 10:00 in room 134 at the building.

There are still openings to feed the **Wee-vils For Christ** students this semester. Check the sign up sheet in the foyer.

Best Choice labels are still being collected. Place the **UPC labels** in the box in room 134. The proceeds go to the **Paragould Children's Home**.

Note of thanks:

"Thank you so much for the beautiful peace lily you sent to Lawayne's funeral. You are all so thoughtful, and we have always loved our Monticello family. Always, Donna Baker & Family"

Attendance

Bible Class 84
Sunday AM Worship... 100
Sunday PM Worship 64
Wed. Evening 61
Contribution \$2,502

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Monticello, AR 71657 phone: 870-367-3919

MISSIONS

Truth for Today
In Search of the
Lord's Way
Ghana Radio

NURSERY

Communion Preparation

Mar 27 Pam Beard
Apr 3 Pam Beard
Apr 10 Terry Boykin
Apr 17 Terry Boykin

Ladies March Duties

Cards: Jill Curtis
Food: Fran Calvert
Laura Smith