

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
Speaker, Robert Emerson
 Study Sunday 10:00 AM
 Worship Sunday 11:00 AM
 Worship Sunday 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

What will you do with
 Jesus? Mt 27:22



Preacher / bulletin editor: Kris Vilander, (256) 472-1065

E-mail: kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org

Website: www.haysmillchurchofchrist.org

**Servants during August:**

Songleader: Larry (4), David (11),
 Chandler (18), Dwight (25)

Reading: Robert

Announcements: Marty

Table: Larry, Buddy, Mike, Lakin

Wednesday Lesson: Kris (7), Mike (14),
 Larry (21), Stanley (28)

Lawn Mowing (week starting): Billy

(4), Marty (11), Stanley (18), Robert
 (25)

Singing: Mrs. Leopard's, 19404 Elkton
 Road (25)

Area Meetings: Cartwright (TBA);
 Needmore (Haleyville, 18-20)

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road
 Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

"Examine everything carefully..." -1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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You've Taken all the Humanity Out of the Cockpit

By Kenny Chumbley

"He knows what we are made of, He remembers we are dust," (Psa 103:14, Moffit translation).

A couple weeks ago I watched Sully, the movie depicting the ditching on January 15, 2009, of US Airways Flight 1592, piloted by Captain Chelsey "Sully" Sullenberger, on the Hudson River, after both engines of his plane had been disabled by bird strikes. Sully's handling of the situation saved all 156 souls on board, and he was immediately hailed a hero. Some, however, accused him of mishandling the situation and tried to hold him culpable for the loss of the plane, claiming he had enough altitude and power to make it back to the airport.

At the public hearing, the National Transportation and Safety Board announced that pilots flying simulators—

programmed with all the settings of Sully's plane at the time of the incident—had been able to safely return to LaGuardia, which seemed to sustain the charges against Sullenberger. Here's what then ensued.

SULLY: "Can we get serious? ...We've all heard about the computer simulations... but I can't quite believe you still have not taken into account the human factor."

NTSB COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: "Human pilots and simulation showed you could make it back to the airport."

SULLY: "No they didn't. These pilots were not behaving like human beings, like people who are experiencing this for the first time... No one warned us. No one said you are going to lose both engines at a lower altitude than any jet in history..."

No one has ever trained for an incident like that; no one... You've allowed no time for analysis or decision making. In these simulations, you've taken all of the humanity out of the cockpit."

It turned out that even though the simulator pilots knew beforehand what was going to happen and what to do when it happened, it still took seventeen tries before they could get the plane back to LaGuardia. When the human factor was added to the test, and thirty seconds were allowed to elapse between the time of the bird strike and the turn for the airport, the simulator plane crashed short of the runway every time.

Am I off-base in guessing there have been times when all of us have taken the humanity out of the cockpit and judged a situation on the basis of ideal conditions apart from the human factor? How many preachers, for instance, have shamed struggling saints for their anxiety and worry, accusing them of little faith, and backing it up by quoting Matthew 6:25ff or Philippians 4:6, "be anxious for nothing"? When admonishing the anxious, how often has the human factor been forgotten or ignored? "Some people feel guilty about their anxieties and

regard them as a defect of faith. I don't agree at all. They are afflictions, not sins. Like all afflictions, they are, if we can so take them, our share in the Passion of Christ. For the beginning of the Passion—the first move, so to speak — is in Gethsemane" (C. S. Lewis, Letters to Malcolm, ch. 8). Lewis then notes that in Gethsemane, when "the torments of hope" were unleashed on Christ, He was anxious.

Not only that, but in Gethsemane, Christ asked for the very thing He said — just a few days before — He wouldn't ask for (Jn 12:27; Mk 14:35). Eliminate the human factor, and you'll never understand Gethsemane; or why Paul turned to Ananias, rather than turning the other cheek, to say, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall!" (Acts 23:3); or a thousand other reactions in Scripture and in life.

Before criticizing another for mishandling a situation, remember the human factor. Doing so might make us more patient and kind toward our brother in his struggle; it might even cause us to remember times when we've asked for mercy, because, after all, we're only human. 📖

BRING/ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO ATTEND. Use your half-empty automobile to bring others (children or adults) to our Bible studies. We cannot expect others to come unless we first invite and encourage them. Remember, we have classes for all ages.

PARENTS, HELP YOUR CHILDREN WITH THEIR BIBLE LESSONS. No doubt you are concerned about whether your children complete their school homework assignments. Are you as concerned about their Bible lessons? Do you know what they are studying? Do you ever discuss the Bible with them? Encourage your child to prepare the lesson if one has been assigned.

PARENTS, ASK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER HOW HE/SHE IS DOING IN THE CLASS. Perhaps there are some things you could do to help. Are you as concerned about your children's spiritual progress as you are his/her secular education?

OFFER A FEW WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO YOUR TEACHER (or to the teacher of your child). By so doing, you will not only let teachers know that you care, but will bolster their confidence and inspire them to greater efforts.

STUDY, STUDY, STUDY! You can attend every class that meets, but unless

you study (preferably, both before and after) it will be of little benefit. There are too many who let the teacher do all of the studying. Do you suppose that might be one reason why there are not more who are able to teach?

PARTICIPATE IN THE CLASS DISCUSSIONS. When you study your lesson and become enthusiastic about it you will find it difficult not to participate. Participation is a sure sign that the learning process is in motion.

VOLUNTEER TO TEACH. Good teachers for Bible classes are always in demand. Let someone know if you desire to be of help.

PRAY FOR THE TEACHERS AND THE RECEPTION OF THE LESSONS.

ATTEND EVERY BIBLE STUDY. These periods of study will make both you and the congregation stronger. We all need to continue to grow in the grace and the knowledge of the Lord (2 Peter 3:18). Can you think of a better or more important way to spend an hour?

Above all, don't let their labor be in vain. Do all that you can as a student of the Word and as a servant of the Lord. 📖

Bible Classes – What Can I Do?

By Bob Dickey

Perhaps not all of us can teach a class, but there are a number of ways in which we can help those who do teach and make our Bible classes of greater profit. Here is a list of some things you can do:

BRING YOUR CHILDREN (Don't just send them). With things the way they are in the world today, your children need all the help they can get — especially spiritual help. There is no better place for them than the Bible classes.

Remember in Prayer

Shirley got good news from her biopsy; **Dot** has been released to go to rehab, and requests prayers, but no visitors, currently; and **Bob Broadus** was released from the hospital on Friday. Please also remember our

sisters **Ruth Black** and **Madelene Britnell**, both in nursing homes; and don't forget to pray for **Lois Adams**, **Carolyn Dennis**, **Tim Hice**, **Polly McNatt**, and **Hazel Teeples**. 📖