

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
Speaker, Robert Emerson
Study Sunday **Postponed**
Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
Worship Sunday Eve **Postponed**
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

“...I have made the Lord GOD
my refuge, that I may tell of all
Your works.” —Psalm 73:28



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Servants during May:

Songleader: Stanley (3), Larry (10),
David (17), Peter (24), Chandler (31)

Reading: David

Announcements: Stanley

Table: Larry, Chandler, Mike, Marty

Wednesday Lesson: Stanley (6), Kris (13),
Larry (20), Stanley (27)

Lawn Mowing (week starting): Kris
(3), Larry (10), Kris (17), Marty
(24), Stanley (31)

Singing: Perhaps 6/28?

Area Meetings: We will update as
we find out more information...

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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Number 5

Much More Than Mere Safety

By Gary Henry

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go,” Josh 1:9.

DOES THE TERM “CONSERVATIVE” HAVE A POSITIVE OR A NEGATIVE CONNOTATION TO YOU? The word means “tending to conserve” and indicates a wish to preserve or protect that which is presently being held. A conservative approach to something is an approach that wishes to maximize safety and minimize risk. And whether conservatism is good or bad depends totally on the nature and relative value of what a person is trying to conserve.

Conservatism is a good thing when it prompts us to protect

valuable things that should not be thrown away. But there is a danger: conservatism often causes us to make safety our main priority in situations where other values should be given higher rank.


Imagine a baseball player who has reached first base and is considering whether to “steal” second base on the next pitch. Will he take the risk or will he play it safe and stay on first base? He shouldn’t take the risk foolishly, of course, but the worst thing he could possibly do is *TRY TO HAVE IT BOTH WAYS AT ONCE*. No player in the world can reach second base with one foot still safely on first!

In our lives as Christians, there is more to think about than mere safety. There will be times when we need to put ourselves at risk,

moving at the Lord's bidding into territory that is "dangerous." At such times, we can leave safety behind in the confidence that the Lord will be with us every step of the way and help us with whatever difficulties may arise. God never commands anything that He doesn't make it possible for us to do, so He would say to us as He said to Joshua, "Be strong and of good courage."

We need to have a greater and grander vision of our lives in the Lord. We need to aspire to more than coziness and comfort in this

world. The really good things almost always lie outside our comfort zones, and yes, they do involve risk. But a life without any risk is a life without any accomplishment, so let's quit putting such a premium on safety. In the Lord, much more is possible than our safety-conscious thoughts have ever dared to imagine.


"Vision encompasses vast vistas outside the realm of the predictable, the safe, the expected" (Charles R. Swindoll). 

Be Grateful and Don't Complain

By Nathan Lee & Eric Wallace

Consider Exodus 15:22-18:27...

It is incredible to see how quickly the Israelites started to complain and lose faith in God. Not even one week since leaving Egypt and they already started to complain. We can empathize with them a little, understanding how precious water is to life and how their expectations after deliverance were not exactly met. But there was no excuse to complain to the same God who just released them from hundreds of years of slavery! Why did the people complain? Psalm 106:12f tells us the reason: the

people forgot. We often read the phrase, "we are a forgetful people," and while that may be true, what are we really forgetting? When we don't look back and remember past deliverances from oppression/sin, we can forget and not be grateful. God's people did not remember that the Lord delivered them from slavery, and we cannot forget that He has delivered us from the bondage of sin. A grateful heart is a heart that remembers past deliverances and learns not to grumble while living in a twisted and crooked society (cf. Phil 2:5-18). 


Optional Works of God?

By Whit Sasser

I often hear when encouraging participation in some Christian duty, "that it is optional." This gets me to thinking. Is anything optional with God? It strikes me as dangerous to think "we don't have to do this good work... it is not required." I think I know what is meant, that certain things are not commanded of us, but permitted of God, but the attitude is dangerous and here is why.


The Bible says things like "Be ready unto every good work," or "If you know to do good and do not do so, it is sinful," or "Be zealous for good works," or "Maintain good works."

I am concerned that some are seeking to dumb down their salvation to the least bit required. How slow can a person go, and still cross the finish line? Missing: is the "Extra Mile" mentality.

And how do we determine which good works the Lord has both instructed us to do and through His providence given opportunity to do, are optional? Is that not judging God's word? Deciding which is required and which is optional? James 2 says we are not to judge God's word. We are to be doers of the word. 

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for **Jimmy Gorley** from the Forkland area, Kentucky: a preacher of the gospel, little known, but instrumental in **Kris'** life. He is not expected to be much longer on this earth. We also continue to mourn the loss of our sister, **Hazel Teeples**. At the time of this writing, **Tim** is feeling pretty sick, and asking for prayer.

Please continue to pray for **Lois Adams, Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis, Dot Hice, and Polly McNatt...** 

*Although we were spread out in the building, we are thankful to have met again **this past Wednesday!** Please see the meeting times for the next few weeks on the back of this bulletin... Also, because we are back to meeting, the bulletin will return to its shorter four page format.*