

Schedule of Meeting Times:

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

"Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. The one who does good is of God; the one who does evil has not seen God." —3 John 11



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

E-mail: kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org

Website: www.haysmillchurchofchrist.org

**Servants during September:**

Songleader: Peter (4), Stanley (11), Larry (18), David (25)

Reading: Robert

Announcements: Larry

Table: Stanley, David, Peter, Mike

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

Lawn Mowing (week starting): Kris (4), Marty (11), Stanley (18), Robert (25)

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road

Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

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

Volume 3

October 11, 2020

Number 25

Passing the Baton

By Troy Nicholson

In his book *Straight Talk*, Dr. James Dobson wrote:

"According to the Christian values which govern my life, my most important reason for living is to get the baton—the gospel—safely in the hands of my children. Of course, I want to place it in as many other hands as possible, and I'm deeply devoted to the ministry to families that God has given me. Nevertheless, my number one responsibility is to evangelize my own children. In the words of my dad, everything else appears 'pale and washed out' when compared with that fervent desire. Unless my son and daughter grasp the faith and take it with them around the track, it matters little how fast they run. Being first across the finish line is meaningless unless they carry the

baton with them." This mission of introducing one's children to the Christian faith can be likened to a three-man relay race. First, your father runs his lap around the track, carrying the baton, which represents the gospel of Jesus Christ. At the appropriate moment, he hands the baton to you, and you begin your journey around the track. Then finally, the time will come when you must get the baton safely in the hands of your child. But as any track coach will testify, relay races are won or lost in the transfer of the baton. There is a critical moment when all can be lost by a fumble or miscalculation. The baton is rarely dropped on the back side of the track when the runner has it firmly in his grasp. If failure is to occur, it will likely happen in the

exchange between generations!"

What are we as parents doing to be sure we place the baton of the gospel firmly in the hands of our children? We—especially fathers—are commanded to “bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord,” Eph 6:4. We need to all be like Abraham, whom God said would “command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice,” Gen 18:19. Are we bringing them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord? Are we doing what we should to teach them to keep His way?

As Moses stressed to the Israelites in Deut 6:6,7, it takes much of our time to pass the baton to our children; yet we allow ourselves to be pulled in so many different directions that it is easy to

not dedicate the time required... Are you running your race in such a way as to be able to one day say with Paul, “I have finished the race,” 2 Tim 4:7; to actually win the race, 1 Cor 9:24? How much joy can we truly achieve from the race without successfully passing the baton to our children, knowing that we failed to place it firmly within their hands? Just as physical runners put forth the time and effort needed to make a successful pass and win the race, only to receive a temporal crown, may we put for the time and effort needed to successfully pass the baton to our children, and receive an eternal crown.

Although scripture places great importance on parents teaching the next generation, grandparents play a critical role as well, Ex 10:2; Deut 4:9! 📖

Premarital Wall-Papering

By Robert Hines

We live in an age preoccupied with sex. It is used in ads to sell books, cars, vacations and toothpaste. And so it is no wonder young people think that they need to try out marriage by “living together”. We are told that the physical relationship is such an important part of marriage that the

man and woman involved need to have this experience to see if the marriage will be good.

I have an alternative: let the man and woman wallpaper a room together. Let them slop paste around, spill water, get in each other’s way, look at each other’s work, and learn

of each other’s patience, or the lack of it... there’s the way to see what it is going to be like!

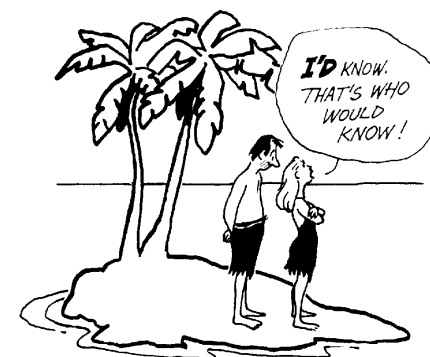
Young people: don’t be fooled by what the devil preaches in books, on television, and from the mouths of his disciples. Marriage is not primarily a physical relationship. It is a life-long commitment by two people who care about each other. Love and sex are not the same things.

Learn about each other. Spend time together. Plan as much for your marriage as you do for your wedding. Papering a room together is not as much of a joke as you think! How two people get along together and whether they have common ideas and goals make for the best of situations.

Jesus called living together “sin”, fornication. He placed the highest values on marriage, using it as the

figure to describe his relationship with the church, Eph 5. He wants you to have all the joy God gives—including that of the physical relationship in marriage. But, carefully consider that He shows a basis for marriage far beyond that of the world. In fact, it is in Him!

What do we teach our children and grandchildren about whom they should marry, 2 Cor 6:14-18? 📖



(And so would God.)

*To be almost persuaded...
is to be completely lost! —Acts 26:28*

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for **Lily Malone**, who will shortly have a bone marrow transplant.

Pam tested positive for Covid-19, so she and Buddy; both are in quarantine. **Jeremy** and **Lauren’s baby (Stanley and Alice’s grandbaby)** is still in NICU, but is doing well.

Please remember them all as you pray.

And let’s not forget pray for those that cannot meet with us, including **Lois Adams, Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, Polly McNatt, and Bernice Osburn.** 📖