

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

Preacher / bulletin editor:

Kris Vilander, (256) 472-1065

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*"...like newborn babies,
long for the pure milk
of the word, so that by
it you may grow in
respect to salvation..."*
—1 Peter 2:2

**Servants during April:**

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

Reading: David**Announcements:** Marty

Table: Mike B, Larry, Mike M,
Stanley

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

Lawn Mowing: Stanley (4), Robert (11),
Larry (18), Kris (25)

**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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What Does this "Gospel Meeting" Mean to You?

By Steve Klein

Our gospel meeting begins today. What does our gospel meeting mean to you?

Does our gospel meeting mean a special opportunity to reach out to the community? Years ago, this was the primary purpose of gospel meetings. People of all faiths would often come from miles around in horse drawn wagons to hear the gospel. Nowadays, most folks would rather stay home and watch TV. This modern apathy regarding spiritual things has certainly hampered the effectiveness of gospel meetings in the area of evangelism. But surely there are still some souls we can reach in our community with the precious message of Jesus, and gospel meetings provide an opportunity for the entire congregation to work together to do so.

Does our gospel meeting mean an opportunity to grow in our Lord? We are commanded to grow "in the grace and knowledge" of Christ, 2 Pet 3:18. We are to desire God's word as a baby longs for milk, 1 Peter 2:2.

Does our gospel meeting mean an opportunity to get our batteries recharged? Most of us are familiar with rechargeable batteries—many of us use them in cell phones and other electronic equipment. We know that if the battery is drained, the equipment doesn't work! Even so, it's easy for Christians to become weary, drained, and exhausted. Gospel meetings can be like a breath of fresh air! By drawing closer to God, His word, and our brethren we can find new strength and zeal to "fight the good fight faith," 1 Tim 6:12, Psa 85:6, Isa 40:28-31.

Does our gospel meeting mean an opportunity to examine and evaluate our lives? Honest self-reflection is a must for Christians, 2 Cor 13:5. Gospel meetings provide an important occasion for all of us to look at ourselves in the light of God's word, Jas 1:21-27.

A gospel meeting is such an opportunity to show love and support for the Lord and his church; it can't be taken lightly! What should it mean to you and me?

What should our gospel meeting mean to a mother and father responsible for the spiritual development of their children?

What should our gospel meeting mean to me as a friend to so many who will one day meet God in judgment?

What should our gospel meeting mean to me as a citizen in a community

which is beset with so many sorrows which the gospel of Christ is designed to relieve?


What should our gospel meeting mean to me as a Bible teacher responsible to present the whole counsel of God to my class?

What should our gospel meeting mean to an elder charged with the spiritual leadership of the Lord's congregation?

What should our gospel meeting mean to a deacon in the Lord's church charged to "use the office of a deacon well," 1 Tim 3:13?

What should our gospel meeting mean to a new convert?

What should this gospel meeting mean to you? What **does** it mean?


—Adapted from articles by Gary McDade & Mike Vestal 

across the city and that her son had urged her to attend with us. Her son was foreman in a plant over the very man mentioned above who exhorted the people when I preached. Her son so admired the morals of his worker that he told his mother, "that church must be all right" because that man went there.

Of course, I do not mean that the morality of the people necessarily makes a church right. People may indeed be moral and still be very wrong doctrinally. On the other hand, regardless of the purity of doctrine that is preached, a church can't be right before God and fruitful among men unless the morals of the members are above reproach. In fact, correctness (scripturalness) in worship, work and organization is made attractive to the world by genuine morality and good works, Mt 5:15,16.

When Christians teach the whole truth, many people will reject it and rebel against it. Yet some may be won to receptiveness and later to obedience through the godliness of Christians.

Conversely, any scriptural position a church may take is made quite inconsequential to the world if the people do not live in holiness. A preacher's sermon on morals falls very flat if the congregation does not exemplify the highest ideals. Especially the leaders (elders, deacons, preachers, etc.) and their wives need to maintain untainted reputations that will portray the very same ideals as are proclaimed in the sermons.

Instead of always whining and complaining about the morals of the world about us, God's people would do better to just demonstrate, in the pulpit and the pew, the qualities that are desirable. Let us say and do, preach and live moral purity of the very highest possible degree. Let the thoughts of our minds, the words of our lips and the deeds of our bodies be holy, godly and righteous altogether. This would abound to the glory of God, to satisfaction in life and usefulness to the world. 

Morals in the Pulpit and in the Pew

By Leslie Diestelkamp

Once, when I preached a sermon on morals, a mature man in the congregation asked to speak. For perhaps two or three minutes he exhorted the people, giving complete endorsement to what I had preached. I believe his endorsement may have impressed the people more than my sermon had. It would be a good thing, everywhere, if elders and/or other mature, devout men would publicly concur in teaching of truth on moral

matters. The more worldly ones would then come to realize that morality is a matter for all, not just for preachers. We need more morals in the pew as well as in the pulpit.

In the same city where I preached the above-mentioned sermon, an elderly lady attended the services. I visited her, and in the course of such I inquired how she happened to attend. She said that "her church" was far



Come with open Bibles!

Our meeting with Bill Hall is here!

Sun 10:00 am, 11:00 am, and 5:00 pm

Mon - Fri 7:00 pm

Remember in Prayer

Joyce has a PET scan scheduled for Monday... please pray that her medicine has been effective, and that God would grant wisdom to those

treating her; and please don't neglect praying for **Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis, and Tim and Dot Hice.** 