



Tallapoosa church of Christ

"And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32

Welcome Visitors

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We are blessed by your attendance and worshipping with us.

Prayer Request

-
- Jason Rowell
- Teddy Cauthen
- Pete Bridges
- Pat Blumer
- Bonnie Godwin
- Jeremy/Candyce Isabell
- Diane Aldridge
- Kenny Laminack
- Carlos Payne
- Troy & Sarah Stapler
- Raymond Clanton

Birthdays & Anniversaries

-
- Nathan Hotalen 6
- Sammy Cole 6
- Brenda Cash 8
- Jodi Willis 11
- Kimberly Wilkerson 17
- Brandon Estvanko 23
- Edith Laminack 26
- Joe & Amy Mallory 13
- Alan & Kim Wilkerson 16

A Lazy Man's Burden

Growing up, some of us were taught about the "lazy man's burden."

For those who have never heard the phrase, the idea is quite simple: the lazy man, trying to avoid work, ends up making more work for himself. The classic example is the man who does not want to make multiple trips, and so staggers under an overbearing load, trying to carry everything all at once.



How do you handle the task before you?

Quite often, a little extra thought, and forethought, can make a job easier and quicker. While some things might seem like extra work, they are, in fact, the logical means of being efficient. Or, to put it another way, a lot of people

I AM
the LORD
your God...
You shall have
NO
other gods
before Me.



God's Plan of Salvation

1. Hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17; Acts 16:32)
2. Believe what is taught (Mark 16:16; Heb 11:6)
3. Repentance (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)
4. Confession (Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:9-10)
5. Baptism (1 Peter 3:21; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Rom. 6:3-4)
6. After the above five steps, faithful

This Week Leading Worship:

Sunday Morning:

Announcements	Harel Otwell
Scripture	Korbin Cauthen
Song Leader	Brennan Mallory
Opening Prayer	Wayne Aldridge
Table	Caden Mallory Kenny Laminack

Assisting

Closing Prayer Tony Hotalen

Sunday Evening:

Announcements
Scripture
Song Leader
Opening Prayer/Table
Closing Prayer

Next Week Leading Worship:

Sunday Morning:

Announcements	Kelly Cauthen
Scripture	Camp Mallory
Song Leader	Harel Otwell
Opening Prayer	Joe Mallory
Table	Tony Hotalen Cory Payne

Assisting

Closing Prayer Brandon Estvanko

Sunday Evening:

Announcements
Scripture
Song Leader
Opening Prayer/Table
Closing Prayer

end up doing a lot more work because they didn't take the time to properly prepare for the job.

The Bible, in the writings of Solomon, speaks to this truth. "If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed(Ecclesiastes 10:10; ESV)."

If you take the time to sharpen your ax, you end up doing less work. If you are lazy and don't take care of your tools, you end up doing more work.

Closely related to this is the idea of gaining knowledge ahead of an endeavor so as to make a particular task quicker and easier. Again, from the same section of Scripture, Solomon writes, "The toil of a fool wearies him, for he does not know the way to the city(Ecclesiastes 10:15; ESV)."

As many wives have told their husbands over the years, "you should have asked for directions." Wandering around, lost, because you did not take the time to actually learn the route to where you are going only makes the trip more arduous.

These are ideas that are true of physical tasks, and physical journeys, but they are equally applicable to our spiritual labors, and our spiritual journey.

One might think of Saul of Tarsus, who was asked by our risen Lord, "Is it hard for you to kick against the goads (Acts 26:14)?" Jesus recognized that Saul had made choices which made his life harder. Saul had failed to ascertain the proper path that God wanted him to be on, and so ended up going the wrong way.

The Scriptures teach us, "there is a way that seem right to a man, but the end of that way is death (Proverbs 14:12)." We are going to journey far in the wrong direction, making the wrong choices, if we don't take the time to stop and ask God for directions in life.

We read elsewhere in the Bible of another man, Ezra. Of him, God says, "For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel(Ezra 7:10; NKJV)." In the words of Solomon, Ezra had taken the time to

Reminders:

www.tallapoosacoc.com

facebook.com/tallapoosachurchofchrist

Sunday Bible study: 10AM

Sunday Worship: 11AM

Sunday Afternoon:

Wednesday Bible study: 7PM (Zoom)

Joe Mallory, Minister

770-597-5009

Cory Payne, Bulletin

770-328-1745

sharpen his iron. He had spent time studying God's word, he had made a choice to do God's word, and he was ready to teach others what God had said. Instead of wasting many years going the wrong way, only to find himself lost, Ezra was on the path God wanted him to be on.

In the first Psalm we read, "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stand in the way of the sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night(Psalm 1:1-2)." If you want to be going the right direction, God has given us that which we can study in order to properly prepare ourselves.

In a similar way, in Ecclesiastes we also read this pertinent advice: "Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, 'I have no pleasure in them (Ecclesiastes 12:1; ESV).'" If one starts early, preparing to do what God wants them to do, avoided will be all the various burdens that come from a life spent in rebelling against God.

The lazy man suffers physically because he does not prepare himself properly for the jobs of life, or because he tries to take shortcuts. In a similar manner, when we are spiritually lazy, taking the path of least resistance, we are going to very frequently find we suffer from a similar burden.

But there is a solution. Jesus calls to us, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light (Matthew 11:29-30; ESV)."

Yes, there is work God wants us to be doing (cf. Ephesians 2:10), but the more we try to avoid that work, the harder the burdens we will be bearing. Let's prepare ourselves to be pleasing to God and so do our best to avoid the burden that comes with being spiritually lazy.

Jonathan McAnulty