#### **\*\*\*PREPARE COMMUNION\*\*\***

February - David and Loretta Carson March - Sam and Nicole Garner

#### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

TODAY - LaRhonda Billingsley \* March 3 - Loretta Carson

#### **CHILDREN'S HOME NEEDS**

Cereal \* Chocolate Chips \* Tissues (ie, Kleenex) \* Coffee \* Velveeta Cheese \* Picante Sauce/Salsa (PICK-UP MARCH 11)

#### **OUR RECORD FOR LAST WEEK**

Attendance - 102 Contribution \$4381

#### FOOD PANTRY

FEBRUARY ITEMS: CANNED SPAGHETTI SAUCE Cake mix, cereal, pork n beans. Cash donations also grate*fully accepted* 

# Happy Birthday:

February 24 - Linda Jones Wayne Reams February 25 - Kendra Summers February 26 - Henry Howard February 27 - Titus Dauck **Beverly Pruitt** March 2 - Mark Člavton

Birthday!

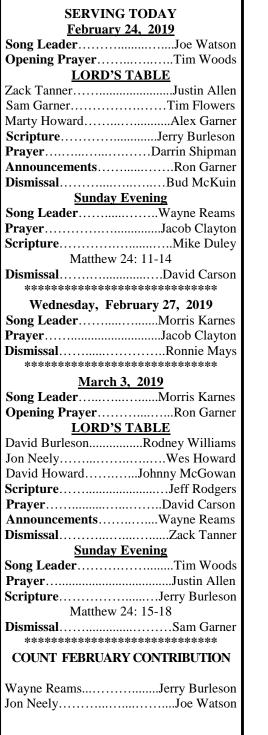
# **Bible Trivia:**

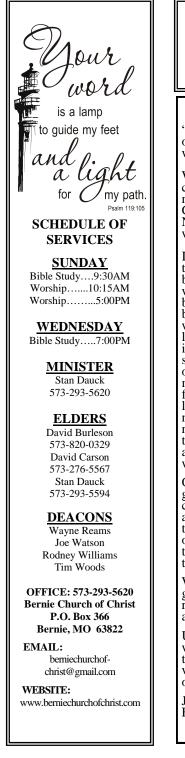
Two lawyers are mentioned in the Bible. What are their names?

# Last Week's Answer:

Jael was the name of the woman who gave a man butter and then killed him by driving a nail through his head (Judges 5:24-26)

New directory update: Progress is taking longer than anticipated, but Amy is still working diligently on our new directory as time allows. Meanwhile, if you have a new address or phone number not listed in our old directory, be sure to pass the information along to her.





# **TRUE LIGHT**

February 24, 2019

#### JESUS' POWER TO GET IT DONE

"What a dummy!" I thought to myself. I had plugged in one of my chargers into the outlet in the bathroom down the hall. I was staying with friends as I was working with their church. My friends weren't at home, and I couldn't get the plug to work.

What self-respecting person travels with so many gadgets that he runs out of electri-cal outlets in the bedroom? This person, as my family can attest. So, when my watch needed recharging, I plugged it into the outlet in the bathroom. Yes, I knew it was a GFCI outlet, but I thought it would work just fine. It didn't. Nothing. Zipola. Nada. No charge was happening in that outlet. Nothing else I tried to plug into that outlet worked, either.

I threw on my jeans, then ran out to the garage and started looking for the breaker panel. (Not something I would recommend of visiting guests, but I was desperate.) I found the guest bathroom breaker located on the panel with the GFCI circuits. Everything looked fine, but I flipped it, then reset it. I then ran back to the bathroom: still nothing. No power. So, I did the only thing I could think of next. I took my shower! After toweling off and feeling a bit more clear-headed, I looked at the outlet again. Suddenly, I noticed the little red test button was not fully engaged. How had I missed that? I punched in the red button with a click, and then, bingo! My charger worked perfectly.

Often, I fear, we make plans to do great things for the Lord and find we can't pull off what we had hoped to accomplish. We don't have the ability, the resources, the insight, the right opportunity, not to mention the spiritual and emotional strength to get them done.



We can have good intentions: if they are not prayer-incubated and Spirit-empowered plans and intentions, then they are going to fall short of our hopes and dreams.

We can blame part of our failure on the opposition of Satan. The evil one will go to great lengths to interfere with our work to reach people with the good news of Jesus - remember the birds, the scorching sun, and the thorns in Jesus' parable of the seed and the series of the seed of the second secon and the soils (Mark 4:1-7, 15-19).

Unfortunately, however, an even more significant reason for our failure has to do with our ignoring the importance of prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit. These two spiritual resources enable us to do what the Lord has called us to do. However, we often rely on our insight, the latest fad for evangelism, and what we have heard other churches do as we try to find ways to reach people in our communities.

Jesus gave his parting instructions to his closest followers before he returned to the Father. Remember what he said - both what he commanded and promised - to them? Continued on inside

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Wednesday Fellowship Meal: Taco salad. Desserts will be needed March 3: The Spring Sunday School quarter begins. Materials will be available in the library February 27

**Looking Ahead Inspiration 2019** March 8 & 9 at the Dexter church of Christ. Joe Wells is the featured speaker and the theme is "Learn to Discern". A flyer is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Church Leadership Workshop March 9 at Heritage Christian University. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Daylight Savings Time begins March 10. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead an hour before bed March 9

Children's Home Grocery Pick-up March 11. Let's get the cart filled up

Ladies Lunch Out March 12 at 11:30 at La Estancia Mexican Restaurant in Malden.

Gospel Meeting at Gideon March 17-20 with guest speaker Brent Newton

Mary and Martha meeting March 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Potluck and Early Evening Services March 31. We will have a potluck meal following morning worship, followed by a 1 p.m. evening service

Gospel Meeting at Bernie with guest speaker Brent Newton April 7-10. Make plans now to be in attendance every night!

Ultimate Youth Rally at Germantown church of Christ May 24-26th

#### **Continued from front:**

On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:4-5, 8).

We can have good plans and good intentions: if they are not prayer-incubated and Spirit empowered plans and intentions, then they are going to fall short of our hopes and dreams. In effect, we hoped to have power, but we have forgotten to push the little red button. Without prayer and the Holy Spirit's power, we rely on our own plans, efforts, insights and power. Our circuit to heaven is cut off. Jesus' promised power doesn't flow to us. Our plans, efforts, insights, and power may get us down the road, but they will never be enough to help us arrive at God's divine destination. We never reach those we are trying to bring to Jesus.

Jesus' first disciples did what he asked. They returned to Jerusalem. They waited in prayer for the Lord to fulfill his promise (Acts 1: 2-14). And, when they were filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:32-36), they began their work that ultimately *turned the world upside down* (Acts 17:6 ESV).

As we read through the book of Acts, when the disciples followed Jesus' plan, they received what Jesus promised - power, open doors and new people added to the family of God. When they didn't, things slowed down, and the growth of Jesus' family stopped. Their human prejudices and shortsightedness kept the message confined to the people they thought they could reach, not the world Jesus had called them to impact.

As we look at our world so in need of Jesus, today, we must make sure the current of heaven's grace flows to us, and flows through us, to the world. Let's punch that little red button by hitting our knees and asking for the Holy Spirit's power to help us fulfill God's call to reach our lost world.

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

Lifting up in Prayer...

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Dee Dee Burch remains in St. Francis hospital in Cape following an automobile accident Tuesday \* Ken Durham had a hip replacement Thursday and is doing fine \* John David Barnett remains in the hospital at Poplar Bluff following a bout with pancreatitis \* Amy Green (David Carson's mother) had a PET scan Wednesday and is waiting for results \* Helen McGowan is still having a lot of pain \* Nikki Lawrence (Gideon) is suffering from debilitating migraines \* Kevin Mays is home \* Curtis McClard will have a total hip replacement Monday at Southeast Hospital \* Ronnie Mays will have stem cell treatment for his lungs March 18 in Cape Girardeau \*

## **CONTINUING PRAYERS**

#### (congregational)

**Cypress Point:** 

Louella Akers \* John David Barnett \* Mary Burke \* David Burleson \* Jerry Burleson \* Pam Claeys \* Billie Cooper \* Mike Duley \* Scott and Judy Flannery \* Sue Flowers \* Grant Howard \* Morris Karnes \* Sonja Mays \* Jeff McGowan \* Ida Roberts \* Gayle Rodgers \* Elwood Rush \* Jane Smith \* Max Snyder \* David Terrill \* Max Terrill \* Bettie Thurston \* Joy Watson \* Marty Watson \* Cindy Williams \* Darrell Zimmer-man \* Pansy Zimmerman \*

Sympathy is extended to Ted Mason in the loss of his mother. Gladys "Re" Mason. Re passed away Wednesday and her funeral was Saturday in Cabot, Arkansas.

Gideon Care Ctr. Sue Flowers, #102



## **CONTINUING PRAYERS**

#### (non congregational)

Cancer

Ryder Boles Roxanne Carson Debbie Chrisman **Bill Fitzpatrick Tommy Jacques** Connie Lemmons Annette Lumsden Phil McKuin Betty Nicholson Jessica Payne Donnie Rawlings Deanna Rogers Norman Swafford Diane Wilder

**Other Health Issues** 

Beaver Blocker (Alzheimer's) Roy Greer (COPD) Amy Green Clyde Jacques **Tommy Jacques** Beckie King (MS) Alvin Miller (poor health) Brian Mitchell (stroke) Tom Provance Gene Rowland Traci Suiter (poor health) Paige Tanner (congestive heart failure) Geraldine Tomah (poor health) Josh Townsend Dean Williams

**OUR SHUT INS** 

Winchester Place:

**Central Garden**: Fern Botsch #309 Mary Burke #303 Lois McKuin #117

Jov Watson #8

**Ridgeview Living/Malden:** 

Shirley Johnson Bertha Skidgell #201 Max Terrill #207 Isaac Wheeler

Travis Cooper, #7 Elwood Rush, #111

AT HOME: Pam Claeys, Scott & Judy Flannery, Gayle Rodgers