PREPARE COMMUNION

September - Rodney Williams October - Allen & Garner

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

TODAY - Bonnie Jones * October 6 - Loretta Carson

CHILDREN'S HOME NEEDS

Hamburger Helper * Paper Towels * Trash Bags (13 Gallon) * Cream of Chicken Soup * Shampoo or Conditioner * Ibuprofen * pick up date December 16 <u>OUR RECORD FOR LAST WEEK</u>

> Attendance - 128 Contribution - 4031

FOOD PANTRY

SEPTEMBER ITEMS: SPAGHETTI NOODLES Canned spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, canned fruit (no applesauce). Cash donations also gratefully accepted

Happy Birthday:



October 4: Faye Dockins Kalee Howard October 6: McKenzie Beaird

Jordan McGowan Judy Snyder

Bible Trivia:

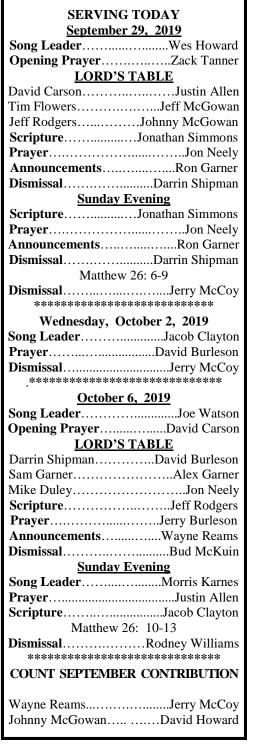
What Bible character shot an arrow through a man's body and who was the man who died?

Last Week's Answer:

Noah was the first drunkard to be talked about in the Bible (Genesis 9: 20,21)



We are down to the last 10 or so families who have yet to submit a photo for our directory. If you are one of them, please see Amy or Trish about having your photo taken. Thank you.





TRUE LIGHT

September 29, 2019

A BURN, TWO BLISTERS AND A CUT

Some recent weekend work left my hands a bit damaged - a burn, two blisters and a cut. If left uncovered to heal, they looked bad. If covered with bandages, they invited many questions. All four wounds looked worse than they were. All four healed completely in time.

People were both kind and curious about the wounds. As they noticed, they either asked about them or offered some comment. I still appreciate their concern.

Wounds that we can see are the easy ones. It's acceptable to ask about them and to express concern. Unseen wounds are a different, much more complicated matter.

I wonder if Abram knew the level of Lot's error when "he pitched his tent even as far as Sodom" (Genesis 13:12). Because we know the story, we see the phrase as ominous foreshadowing. The next verse demands that we do. It's hard to do right and be right when surrounded by people who are "exceedingly wicked and sinful against the Lord." Sometimes we can see the peril, but we're helpless to

stop the chain of events.

Wounds that we can see are the easy ones. It's acceptable to ask about them and to express concern. Unseen wounds are a different, much more complicated matter.

I wonder if Abram could sense the danger when Sarai offered him her servant as a concubine (Genesis 16). God's plan of one man married to one woman for life had been clear from the be-

ginning (Genesis 2). Human attempts to "Help God out" often end in pain. The plan upset the dynamics of their camp. When Hagar "had conceived, her mistress became despised in her eyes" (16:4). Sarai blamed Abram for the wound (16:5), and the cycle of pain deepened.

I wonder how Leah found the heart to cope with her wound of being first wife, but second choice, to Jacob (Genesis 29ff). Rachel felt envy because Leah had children while she did not (Genesis 30:1). Her envy led to demands that Jacob could not meet, to frustration, and to anger. It led Rachel to repeat the same error that Sarai made. It set the stage for favoritism, rivalry, deceit, and years of remorse. Sin exacts awful cost. The way of the transgressor has always been difficult (Proverbs 13:15).

I wonder if Ishmael ever healed from being sent away by Abraham (Genesis 21). Not just sent away, but imperiled in the Wilderness of Beersheba. Yes, God heard his cries (21:17) and sent an angel to intervene. Yes, God promised to make Ishmael a great nation (21:18). But trauma runs deep, and its effects are often hidden. Unseen wounds are often the most cruel.

I wonder if the Egyptians around Joseph could see his sadness. Sold as a slave by his brothers, knowing that he would have been killed except for Rueben's kindness and the providence of God (Genesis 37). I wonder if Jacob realized how his parental favoritism contributed to his sorry situation. Day after day, his remaining sons saw his abject grief (Genesis 37: 34-35). How maintaining their lie must have weighed on their hearts (Genesis 42: 21-22)! **Continued on inside**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

TODAY: Fifth Sunday early evening service and potluck meal. We will eat following morning worship and have a 1 p.m. evening service. Everyone is encouraged to stay for the meal

September 29 - Oct 2: Harding Lectureships. The theme is "Fan the Flame." More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Wednesday Fellowship Meal: Baked spaghetti, garden salad, garlic bread. Desserts will be needed October 4-6: Gospel Meeting at Fisk church of Christ. The speaker is Art Smith from Crowley's Ridge College.

More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

October 6-11: Gospel Meeting at Lilbourn church of Christ. Ron Griffin is the guest speaker. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Looking Ahead

Ladies Lunch Out October 8 at 11:30 at Sandy Ridge Smokehouse in East Prairie. We will take the van and depart from the church parking lot at 10:45. PLEASE make sure to sign up if you plan to attend

Hayride and Youth Rally October 19 at the Magill Farm, beginning at 1:30 p.m. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Gospel Meeting at Bernie Oct. 20-23 with Alex Bayes. Be praying for a successful meeting

Mary and Martha will not meet in October due to the Gospel Meeting at Bernie

BYC Ladies Retreat Oct. 25 & 26, hosted by the Advance congregation. The theme is "If the Shoe Fits." The cost is \$15 for Friday or Saturday; \$25 for both days. T shirts are available for \$12. Ladies are asked to bring a colorful pair of new socks to be donated to the children's home. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the fover - please sign up by October 16 if you plan to attend so a number can be sent in for food and t shirts

Thomason "Farewell Tour" Spooktacular Oct 25. This will be the final party before retirement!

Wednesday Night Ladies Christmas Party December 6 at the home of Trish Baldwin. More information to follow

Ladies Holiday Brunch December 12 at the home of Amy Thomason. More information to follow

Ladies Ornament Exchange December 16 in the fellowship room. More information to follow

Christmas Dinner December 25 at noon in the fellowship room. Everyone is invited

Continued from front:

I wonder if David had a clue about the depth and duration of Nathan's words from 2 Samuel 12:10, "The sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me ... " Rape, murder, treason, and civil war. Atrocity upon atrocity because of a cycle of sin that began in one selfish act.

David surely knew that it was a self-inflicted wound. Do we know, too?

Bill Bagents, via Mars Hill Messenger



but whoever shows contempt for their ways will die. - PROVERBS 19:16 NIV

Lifting up in Prayer...

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pansy Zimmerman still isn't feeling well. She had a doctor's appointment Friday *Trish Baldwin's test results have all come out well * Curtis McClard does not have multiple myeloma and will have a PET scan Tuesday * Reba Owens is dealing with circulation issues and infection in her toe * Darlene McGowan will have additional breast cancer surgery October 11 * Alvin Miller (Judy Duley's dad) was released from the hospital Wednesday and is doing better * Ronnie and Gloria Moore are still sick with the flu * Bill and Beverly Pruitt have both been sick * David Carson will have surgery on his sinuses October 1 * Helen McGowan will have another procedure October 9 to prepare her for dialysis * Marty Watson recently fell, hit his head and is at the nursing home in Campbell for rehab * Lola Johnson had an appointment Friday in preparation for home dialysis * Christy Mercado (Linda Jones' daughter) will have a laparoscopic hysterectomy Oct. 11 * Megan Brenna had her baby Wednesday and brain surgery was scheduled for Friday * Jeff Brown (friend of Darrell Zimmerman) will be having a steel plate put in his neck October 28 and has requested prayers

CONTINUING PRAYERS

(congregational)

Louella Akers * John David Barnett * David Burleson * Jerry Burleson * Pam Claeys * Billie Cooper * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Grant Howard * Curtis McClard Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan Donna McKuin * Ida Roberts * Gayle Rodgers * Waynetta Rodgers * Elwood Rush * Jane Smith * David Terrill * Max Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Joy Watson * Marty Watson Sharlette Watson * Woody Wood * Darrell Zimmerman Pansy Zimmerman *

CONTINUING PRAYERS (non congregational)

Cancer

Pauline Bratcher Roxanne Carson Sherry Chambers Jackie Cooper Bill Fitzpatrick Peggy Hampton Kristi Hargrave LeAnn Jacques Tommy Jacques Pam Jeralds Andy Kelley Connie Lemmons Annette Lumsden Phil McKuin Christy Mercado Betty Nicholson Donnie Rawlings Gerald Robertson Deanna Rogers Bobby Thornton

Other Health Issues

Megan Brenna (brain tumor/pregnancy) Amy Green (poor health) DeeDee Burch (auto accident) Mary Burke (poor health) Renee Goodman (serious health issues) Clvde Jacques Lola Johnson (kidney) Beckie King (MS) Nikki Lawrence (migraines) Sonja Mays (poor health) Alvin Miller (poor health) Tom Provance Gene Rowland Traci Suiter (poor health) Paige Tanner (congestive heart failure) Geraldine Tomah (poor health) Kay Wright (declining health)

OUR SHUT INS

Central Garden: Cypress Point: Winchester Place:

Joy Watson #8 Travis Cooper, #7 Elwood Rush, #6

Lois McKuin #117

Bertha Skidgell #218

Winchester Nursing Home:

Sue Flowers #208

Ridgeview Living:

Max Terrill #207 Isaac Wheeler #201

Shirley Johnson #225

Crowley Ridge Nursing: Fern Botsch, #103

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