

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

September 29, 2019

Wading Pools

This may come as a great shock to many of you, but wading pools are not designed for adults. Wading pools are for toddlers and young children. They are colorful and shallow, a safe place for youngsters to splash around in and get wet. Kids may get the idea that they are “*swimming*” or feel “*big*,” but they are still just in a wading pool.

Wading pools are not for adults (*unless, of course, their children or grandchildren are playing in them*). The reasons are obvious. To begin with, there’s just not much room for an adult. But more importantly, you can’t do the “*cannonball*” in wading pools, or play water polo. You can’t even float on an air mattress or doggie paddle in them! For those kinds of activities you have to have a larger pool and deeper water. Sure, the dangers increase in the deeper pools, but so do the opportunities for fun.

Children are not content with wading pools very long. Eventually, they are drawn to the deeper pools where there is more freedom and challenge ... and fulfillment.

Unfortunately, there are a lot of “*adult*” Christians still content with splashing around in spiritual “*wading pools*”. They feel safe

and are satisfied to merely sit in the shallow water and splash around like children. We expect the young Christians to get used to the “*water*” by playing in shallow water, but we know something is wrong if adult age Christians are still playing in “*wading pools*” like children.

God never intended for his children to stay in the shallow water spiritually. He expects every one of us to grow up and take the plunge into the deeper water. To do that requires mature thinking and activity (*Hebrews 5:13-6:3*).

Someone said once, “*A mind is a terrible thing to waste.*” That is never truer than in regards to developing your spiritual thinking. The apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians: *Brothers, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.*

1 Corinthians 14:20 (NIV)

There are so many opportunities in the deeper waters. There are blessings and joys that are indescribable. There is strength and comfort and power available that those who are content to play in the “*wading pools*” just cannot imagine.

Exercise your minds. Read books that will develop and deepen your spiritual thinking. Get into discussions that will challenge you to probe for answers. Don’t just skip over the difficult passages in the Bible, explore them. Get help if you need it, but make up your mind to learn all you can about God and his word. Stop slashing around in the wading pools! Dive into the deep water! God will bless you for it.

— Joe Chesser

Amen

To Joe’s article, I must add a hardy “*Amen.*” It’s so easy to become apathetic and just drift along waiting on others to provide all we need for spiritual health and strength. Far too many get little other spiritual nourishment than that they receive in the assembly each week. Typically, the preacher studies and does his best to provide a wholesome spiritual diet from the pulpit, but one meal a week is not

enough to keep a goldfish healthy and growing, much less your soul/spirit.

May I urge you to take Joe's article to heart, especially the last paragraph. We all need to study more and to exercise our brains as we would any other muscle, but maybe that's the problem. Maybe you're like me and also don't exercise your other muscles as much as we need to. ☺ Let's all commit to read and study God's word.

My style of preaching is to try to go into a subject in some depth, but with the limited time we are together, that goal presents a credible challenge to accomplish. However, if you take the weekly outline and use it to expand your study, you will benefit more than you might think. As well, I try to word things differently than you have heard them over and over through the years. The goal in this is to stimulate thought and motivate study. However, all any preacher can do is put the water of life before you. You alone must drink it so don't let yourself become dehydrated. (Jn. 4:13ff ; Rev 22: 17) wp

12th Annual Singing ... Saturday, October 26
Tell everyone that's just 3 weeks and 6 days from now.

Gospel Meeting

Elm Grove Church of Christ
September 30- October 2, 2019 (Flyer is on the
7576 River Rd. , Iuka, IL 62849 bulletin board)

Gospel Meeting

Southside Church of Christ
1100 17th Street (Flyer is on the
Mattoon, IL 61938 bulletin board)
October 14-19, 2019

Leadership in the Local Church

Classes .. October 17-20
(Pre-Register at gsoponline.org)
Collinsville Church of Christ

Pride Packages : We'll start a new list next week.

Birthday : Greg Reynolds September 29

Reading : I Corinthians 10: 1-15

NEXT WEEK : (October 6, 2019)

Song Leader : Stan

Scripture Reader : Ryan

Table & Announcements : Tim

Prayer List : .

Bob Wearherford : Bob is the father-in-law of Jason, Stan's son. He is in serious condition. They removed a cancer from his colon and discovered the cancer had spread to his liver. He is home now and will soon start chemo, but tests have now indicated that he may also have cancer in his lungs.

Betty Lowe : Awaiting treatment for cancer & heart condition. We have no update on her.

Doris Faulkner : Doris is now in room 600 of the Alzheimer's unit in the Manor. She'll enjoy visits, but introduce yourself.

Shelly Kruger : Pete's young niece is battling cancer and it's a real struggle. She is in urgent need of prayers.

Ruby Bradd : The 2 yr old daughter of Stephen & Ranae will undergo another round of chemo treatments this week. This is a very aggressive form of treatment, but the stakes are high.

Larry Miles : He is seeking a second opinion before having the cancer removed.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Ruby, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel,

Others with ongoing issues :

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Bruce Miller: Madonna's brother-in-law is holding his own.

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend has severe kidney failure due to diabetes. His condition is deteriorating.

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Ya'll Come !

