

# EASTERN SHORE CHURCH OF CHRIST

JULY 12, 2020



**Minister:** Bryant Evans **Youth Minister:** Jonathan Ling

**Minister, Awarawaunau Church of Christ in Guyana:** Elvis Bernard  
**Student, Northwest Florida School of Biblical Studies:** Jeffrey King

## Elders

Sid Chupek  
Scott Kelly  
John Langham  
Jonathan Ling

## Deacons

Chad Chupek  
Tim Kenney  
Scott Lloyd

## Sunday

Bible Class 9 AM  
Worship 10 AM  
Worship 5 PM

## Wednesday

Bible Study 7 PM

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P. O. Box 38  
Daphne, AL 36526

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## Today's Sermon

Will a Man Question God?  
Job 40:6-9

<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:

<sup>7</sup> "Dress for action like a man;

I will question you, and you make it known to me.

<sup>8</sup> Will you even put me in the wrong?

Will you condemn me that you may be in the right?

<sup>9</sup> Have you an arm like God,

and can you thunder with a voice like his?

**Job 40:6-9 ESV**

## A Note from the Elders

The elders have determined that we will resume in-person assemblies on Wednesday night beginning this week. Our Sunday schedule will remain the same for now.

We will provide the Fellowship Hall for those who desire to only be among people wearing masks by restricting it to mask wearers only.

If you do wear a mask, you may come into the auditorium or remain in the Fellowship Hall as you think best.

**The following sessions are being held on Zoom:**

**Sunday:**

**Ladies Bible Class:** 5 PM with Cindy Hatcher.

Meeting ID: 226 263 641. Password: 070248

**Middle/High School Bible Class:**

5 PM with Jonathan Ling.

Meeting ID: 927 4522 5780. Password: 201073

**Adult Bible Class** 5 PM with Bryant.

Meeting ID is 455 441 168. Password: 1209.

**Tuesday:**

**Men's Bible Class** 9 AM with Bryant.

Meeting ID: 455 441 168. Password: 1209

**Saturday:**

**Ladies Monthly Bible Class**

9 AM on the 3rd Saturday of every month

Meeting ID: 868 4220 0022. Password: 912419

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**Wednesday Midweek Bible Study : (at the church building and Live Stream)**

(Please note: The Fellowship Hall is reserved for those who want to be in a mask-only setting. Only people with masks may be in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited into the auditorium if they wish.

**You can now make your Contribution payment**

at the church website, [easternshorechurch.org](http://easternshorechurch.org) or you can mail your check to:

PO Box 38 Daphne, AL 36526

**Communion supplies and face masks** can be picked up at the church building.

**New Address for Jo Ann McDonald:**

608 40th Street South

Birmingham, AL 35222

**Bob & Linda Ledford** have not been feeling well.

Cards can be sent to them in TN at:

2009 Country Club Drive

Tullahoma, TN 37388

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

- 07/18 Logan Ling
- 07/20 Donna Neu
- 07/21 Jordan Cagle
- 07/28 Kent Purser
- 07/29 Mallory Jessee  
Jonathan & Susan Ling
- 07/30 Amanda Lloyd
- 08/01 Linda Farris
- 08/02 Gail Bush
- 08/04 MaeBelle Perry
- 08/06 Peter Verrett
- 08/11 Brenda Davis  
Kelsey Ribeau
- 08/13 Holland Chupek  
TR & Marvetta Clevenger  
Fred & Jackie Hicks
- 08/14 Nelda Sanford
- 08/16 Ann Christopher
- 08/18 Robert Jones
- 08/19 Cindy Hatcher
- 08/22 Tim & Patrice Kenney
- 08/23 Rick Hovater  
Jeff King
- 08/26 Robert & Linda Jones
- 08/30 Jesse Olive
- 08/31 Bob & Linda Ledford

**Please keep in your prayers:**

**Julie Doughty** having ongoing health problems (daughter of Jerry Doughty).

**Caleb Culpepper** is still recovering from a brain injury from a motorcycle accident (student of Bobbi Evans).

**Mike Martin** is now home recovering.

**Bob & Linda Ledford** are not feeling well.

**Spanish Fort Church** had two of their members test positive for COVID.

**Please remember our friends and loved ones who are fighting cancer:**

**Gus Stranch**— leukemia (great nephew of Patti Van Iderstine).

**Kristy Laster**— Liver cancer (friend of Isenhowers).

**Jeff Stewart**— Brain cancer. (friend of Jerry Doughty).

**Sharon Vandevender**- cancer (wife of Donna Neu's nephew).

**Sarah Kennedy**- breast cancer (friend of Patti Van Iderstine).

**Darnell Jackson**- breast cancer (mother of Jaqueline King).

**Matt Castellano**- Prostate cancer (former member & friend of the Isenhowers).

**Melissa Ellison**— Cervical Cancer (sister of Amanda Olive).

**Betty Haynes**— Ovarian Cancer (mother of Melinda Sanford).

**James Doughty**— Cancer (brother of Jerry Doughty).

**Please keep our shut-ins in your prayers:**

**MaeBelle Perry, Lum Morrison, Elizabeth Till, Hampton and Gail Bush, James & Ann Christopher.**

# Christian Priorities

By: Wayne Jackson for “*The Christian Courier*”

One of the most demanding and frequently ignored admonitions from Jesus Christ is found in his renowned Sermon on the Mount: “You are to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all of these things [basic needs] will be added to you” (Matthew 6:33). This is one of the most challenging, and yet neglected, mandates of Christ—even by many who profess to be his loyal followers.

The first consideration, of course, is the identity of the one making this demand. Does he have the right to issue such a rigorous obligation? If this is not understood, nothing productive will ever result. The following factors must be appreciated: Christ is your Creator (John 1:1-3; Hebrews 1:3), he is your Savior (Matthew 1:21), and he has been granted authority over you (John 17:2; Matthew 28:18). He thus has the right to command you and expect your obedience. If you do not acknowledge this truth, there is no way you can legitimately claim to be his disciple. Additionally, there are the following constituent elements of the command.

## “Seek”

The verb “seek” (zeteo – 117 times in the New Testament) is a verb in the command mood, and it stresses continuous activity. The word embraces several thoughts, such as “looking for,” “investigating,” “striving to obtain.” It embodies the idea of strenuous effort. Christians are not to prioritize their own interests, but those of their Lord foremost (Philippians 2:21).

## “First”

This adjective is employed adverbially to emphasize precedence. It signifies degree, as: “in the first place,” “above all,” “especially.” It is the very opposite of the disposition of the man who sought to follow Christ, but said: “[F]irst, let me go and bury my father” (Matthew 8:21). Jesus admonished the man; not because the man cared for his father, but because he did not appreciate the preeminence of his Lord. Legions are of the same caliber.

## “Kingdom of God”

The expression “kingdom of God,” in the sense of this context, is the “reign” of God in your life. Is he enthroned in your heart so that your entire existence is governed by his rule? The Creator of the universe will not be a mere appendage in your life. He is not a sometimes, weekend, casual point of interest.

## “And His Righteousness”

The term “righteousness” signifies living the way God wants you to; it is similar to Jesus’ proclamation to John the Baptist at the time of his baptism: “[I]t becomes us to fulfill all righteousness” (Matthew 3:15). One scholar has expressed the matter like this: “Righteousness is seen as God’s demand upon man. Righteousness refers to proper conduct before God.” The term assumes Jehovah’s sovereignty over man, and his perfect wisdom in dictating the appropriate way for people to live.

“Righteousness” is used of various acts of worship, such as giving, praying, or in the exercise of self-discipline—as in the case of fasting (Matthew 6:2, 5, 16). Obedience always should be to honor God, and not to solicit the attention or admiration of others (6:1). Those who engage in performance worship should give heed to this. Jesus taught his disciples that their righteousness must exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees (Matthew 5:20)—whose religion focused upon externals and neglected internals (Matthew 23:23). Too many today believe if your heart is right, it doesn’t make any difference what you do. Others go through superficial acts while their dispositions are rotten. Righteousness involves both attitude and action.

## Applications

It is a fact beyond dispute that it is easier to theorize about doing right than to practice it with passion. Too, it is very difficult to be honest—even with ourselves—in the matter of adjusting our priorities. This is because conflicts of interest arise that require the exercise of judgment, and our judgments don’t always agree with one another. At times we are conflicted even within ourselves.

Christian people are required to assemble on the Lord’s day (Revelation 1:10) for the purpose of worship and edification (Acts 20:7ff). Concerning the communion supper, for instance, the Lord commanded: “This do . . .” (Luke 22:19), and Paul’s charge to the Corinthians was prefaced with: “As I gave order . . . so also you are to do” (1 Corinthians 16:1-2). Normally, this is what faithful people do. This is implementing the righteousness of God, and devoted children of God make an earnest effort to be consistent in their worship.

However, what if a mother has a sick child who needs medical care? Is there not a “motherly righteousness” that, in this temporary instance, takes precedence over a worship assembly? No one in his right mind would dispute this.

Or consider this situation: Suppose a Christian physician is called to the hospital on Sunday morning to do emergency surgery to help save a person’s life? Would a faithful disciple be faulted for having to miss a service in such an instance? Who would so contend? No reasonable person. Motive plays a huge part in many of our decisions.

How would this parallel the person who consistently and whimsically forsakes services for the most trivial matters—a birthday party, sports events, or “I need some extra rest for Monday”? How about missing Christian worship to entertain relatives, or to attend a denominational church with a friend? Such rationalizations do not pass the credibility test.

He who “knows the hearts of all men” (Acts 1:24) knows precisely how serious we are about serving God. A facade of religiosity and “spiritual strut” does not pass muster with the Lord. And quite frankly, it is perfectly transparent to many others as well.

## **Privileged to Serve**

### **Sunday Morning**

Lord's Table (Presiding): John Langham

Leading Prayer: Todd Sanford  
Chad Chupek

Leading Singing Noah Evans

Scripture Reading: Logan Ling

### **Wednesday Evening**

Leading Prayer: Jeff King  
Jonathan Ling

Leading Singing Nathan Evans