

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

How Long Does Encouragement Last?

by Allen Jones

Hot weather doesn't bother me if I can feel a breeze. One of the hottest summers I can remember was 1987—not much of a breeze that year. I was entering my freshmen year of football camp. I readily admit I was intimidated! Our little high school was known for "good football." I rode my bike to practice every day that summer and was excited to be there, but was quite anxious to look around and see all the well-known athletes in our locker room as I was dealing with the heat, and then I learned "we little freshmen" were going to practice with the varsity for the first month of football camp.

Back then, heat indexes were not monitored, and frequent water breaks were discouraged. On top of that, we practiced every day in "full gear." We wore every single piece of padding to condition (a fancy way of saying we would run until we almost passed out), and were hit with extra weight on our bodies. That had it's own way of being discouraging. The freshmen coach was Bobby Duvall and he was a spark of encouragement daily. He knew we were at the bottom of the totem pole and struggling. He constantly reminded us, "You can do more than you think can," or "Nothing is as bad as it seems." Thirty-six years later, I still say Coach Duvall's words to myself when I go through the choppy waters of life. I am still amazed at how at these words of courage still resonate with me after all this time.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, continues to give us words of courage two thousand years later! So many encouraging words from Jesus include:

John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful."

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The Encouragement Group meets on Thursday's at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come serve with us as we reach into our community!

**Sunday Classes 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:10 a.m.
Wed. Services 6:00 p.m.**



**Melbourne Church of Christ
A Place to Belong**

Elders

Danny Brightwell 307-5714	Alan Love 243-4608
Shelby Qualls 291-7424	David Brightwell 307-5714

Deacons

Joe Cooper
291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
217-1109
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR 72556

Family News

- Sharon Watson is scheduled for knee surgery on March 26. Please keep her in your prayers for a successful surgery and speedy recovery.
- Please bring Kleenex for the Pioneer Nursing Home. See Betty or Ramona for further details.
- Two memorial contributions were given for Jim Fowler.
- Mary Melton received a bad mammogram report and will have further testing. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Ronnie Adkisson is not doing very well. Please keep him and Sally in your prayers as well as Derek and Deedra Watts.
- Debbie Crow's latest MRI was clear. She will have a follow up MRI in March.
- Sermons and bulletins available at Melbournechurchofchrist.com

OPENING PRAYER Alan Love
CLOSING PRAYER David Brightwell



MARCH

ANTHONY WESTON **DALTON GRIGG**
SANDERS LEE WYATT **BRENT QUALLS**

APRIL

KELLY DON WEBB **DANNY RUNION**
DANNY BRIGHTWELL **DAYLEE BRIGHTWELL**

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John 16:33, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart (be courageous)! I have overcome the world."

John 14:1-4, "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way where I am going."

A few days ago, Coach Duvall passed away. I once again find myself in the choppy waters of grief, confusion, and wishing I could hear his encouraging words once more. However, because of Jesus, I not only have an Advocate, a Friend, and Someone who loves me, but Someone who gave His life for me and everyone in this entire world. Jesus declares He wants us to follow Him. On the days I long to hear encouraging words from someone who was very good to me, I am thankful I can read the words of the One who died for me and defeated death for me...the encouraging words of Jesus last throughout this life and all the way to eternity!

Prayer List

Military: Derek Love **Officers:** Steve & Sherry Davidson, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson **Nursing Home:** Al Gillihan, Debbie Hoskinds, Imodean Webb, Troy Gaston, Sue Campbell, Barbara Watson, Bill Wiseman

Ted Kidd	Wilma Cooper	Peggy Hall	Dorothy Teague
Bill Roland	Treva Voyles	Hayden Phillips	Debbie Crow
Cornelia Summers	Christie Haney	Joanna Smith	Wayne Crosby
Brooke Partin	Gary Brown	Sanyia Austin	Charlotte Cooper
John Young	Regenia Gillihan	Robby Qualls	Regina Master
Shawna Teegarden	Jeanette Crosby	Youngblood	John Ward
Boyde Martin	Gage Barns		

March Birthdays

Tyler Webb 1 st	Jamie Grigg 1 st	Joyce Clark 2 nd
Justin Teague 5 th	Dorothy Teague 9 th	Jay Chaney 13 th
Tommy Taylor 21 st	Joe Guiltner 22 nd	Debbie Lord 23 rd
Mandy Haney Ward 28 th	Bill Roland 28 th	Chip Master 30 th
Andrea Martz 31 st		

March Anniversaries

David & Rita Hoskinds 3rd
 Jeff & Sarena Young 5th
 Dale & Anna Parish 9th

Dates to Remember

Ladies meet the 4th Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food.
 Men meet the 3rd Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.
 Family game night every 4th Sunday from 5-7 p.m.
 Potluck every 5th Sunday after services, please bring a dish.

Revelation 21:5-7, "He who sits on the throne said, "These words are faithful and true. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son."