

# Melbourne Church of Christ

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

## Elders Leading with Compassion

by Allen Webster

**Elders face problems of all shapes and sizes. A few years of putting out fires can leave to burn out. They can come to rule with an iron fist rather than a velvet touch, more of the shepherd's rod than his crook. Early Roman philosopher Publilius Syrus said, "You can accomplish by kindness what you cannot by force." Peter explained that elders take the oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over close in your charge, but being examples to the flock (1 Peter 5:2-3)."**

**A couple facing a divorce will be more open to counsel from elders with tear filled eyes and voices with tender emotion. A wayward member will be more likely to humbly return when elders gently plead and softly admonish. A congregation that sees the compassion of an eldership as they have to exercise church discipline will stand behind their leaders decision. Heartfelt love for lost souls leads to congregational support.**

**The Bible often pictures elders as shepherds, a figure that emphasizes care, concern, and compassion. When a sheep is missing, a shepherd lovingly pursues it and compassionately brings it back (Luke 15:4-7). The shepherd-elder, "restores in a spirit of gentleness," considering himself "lest you too be tempted (Galatians 6:1)."**

**The word restore is a medical term that has reference to setting a broken bone. An elder seeking to restore an erring child of God goes with trepidation, knowing that the stakes are high. He goes with compassion, just as a doctor would set a broken arm. Such elders are worth cherishing and complimenting: "Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching (1 Timothy 5:17)."**

**May we always keep our elders encouraged and prayed over. Their ministry is vital to the present and future of the church!**

Online services available at  
[Melbournechurchofchrist.com](http://Melbournechurchofchrist.com)  
[Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/melbournechurchofchrist)  
[Citylinktv.com/channel/melbourne/](http://Citylinktv.com/channel/melbourne/)



Melbourne  
 Church of Christ  
 A Place to Belong

**Elders**

Danny Brightwell  
 291-3439  
 Shelby Qualls  
 346-5255

**Deacons**

Bryan Phillips    David Brightwell  
 373-0546            291-1122  
 Alan Love            Joe Cooper  
 243-4608            291-4653

**Minister**

Ryan Lloyd  
 368-7886  
 Melbourne CoC  
 Box 267  
 Melbourne, AR 72556

## Family News

- Dottie McWherter's new address is:  
 Box 1304  
 801 Benton Ave.  
 Searcy, AR 72143
- Ted Kidd had an emergency gallbladder removal surgery and is in rehab at Pioneer Nursing Home, he is recovering well.
- \* Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

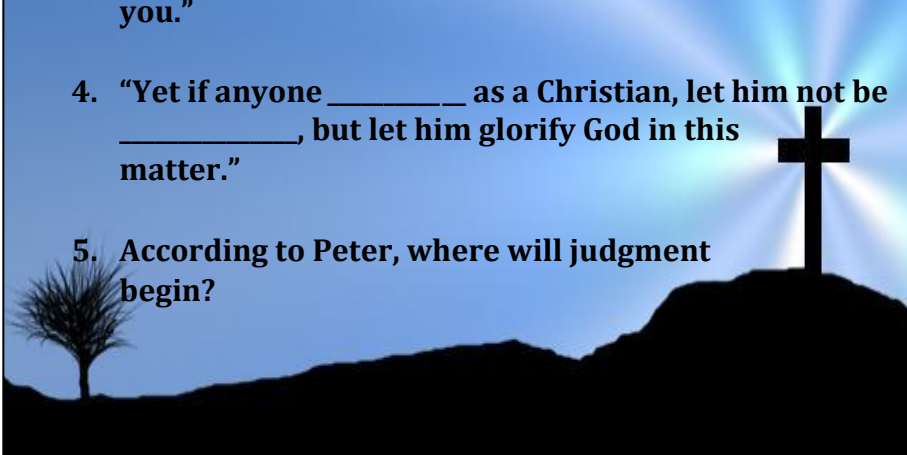
	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
<b>SONG LEADER</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>OPENING PRAYER</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>CLOSING PRAYER</b>	TBA	TBA



**Self-Served**

### Bible Quiz: 1 Peter 4:12-19

1. "Beloved, do not think it \_\_\_\_\_ concerning the \_\_\_\_\_ trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;
2. True or False: Peter says Christians should rejoice to partake in Christ's sufferings.
3. "If you are \_\_\_\_\_ for the name of Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you."
4. "Yet if anyone \_\_\_\_\_ as a Christian, let him not be \_\_\_\_\_, but let him glorify God in this matter."
5. According to Peter, where will judgment begin?



### Prayer List

**Military:** Derek Love, Tyler Talkington, A.J. Talkington

**Officers:** Steven & Sherry Davidson, Josh Morehead, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

<b>Health:</b>	Joyce Newbrey	Donnie Vest	Joanna Smith
Joe Guiltner	Dan Clark	Wilma Cooper	Wayne Crosby
Tracy Thomas	Brooke Partin	Troy Gaston	James Nicholson
Bill Roland	Hayden Phillips	Donny Smith	Joanne Weston
Bill Wiseman	Debbie Nicholson	Helen King	Phil Haagenon
Mary Kosmitis	Tommy Washington	Jim Fowler	Dale Smith
Buddy James	Ivy Jo Slade	Jeff Young	Andrew Weaver
Johnny Guthrie	Charlotte Cooper	Cecilia Broughton	Sue Campbell
Bob & Arlene Davidson	Chip & Regina Masters		Earl Stephens
Dorothy Teague	Ted & Sanyia Austin	Ted Kidd	Richard Gunter

**Nursing Home:** Lucille Linn, Debbie Hoskinds, Holly Stroud, Emma Jean Cooper

### March Birthdays

Tyler Webb 1 <sup>st</sup>	Joyce Clark 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Justin Teague 9 <sup>th</sup>
Dorothy Teague 9 <sup>th</sup>	Jay Chaney 13 <sup>th</sup>	Tommy Taylor 21 <sup>st</sup>
Joe Guiltner 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mandy Haney Ward 28 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Roland 28 <sup>th</sup>
Michael Washington 28 <sup>th</sup>		

### March Anniversaries

David & Rita Hoskinds 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Jeff & Sarena Young 5<sup>th</sup>

**1 Timothy 6:20-21, "Jesus said to Simon Peter a second time, "Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me?" Peter said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." He said to Peter the third time, "Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to Jesus the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."  
 Jesus said, "Tend My sheep."**