

Great or Late in '08

Looking forward to a new year? Only **YOU** can determine what kind of year this will be! Your choices, **my** choices, will determine whether or not 2008 will be great.

For some this will be a **GREAT YEAR** because they will decide to obey the Gospel, just like the examples of those in scripture on the day of Pentecost, "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:37,38). If you have never obeyed the Gospel of Christ, what are you waiting on? Please, make this the year that you open the Bible and your heart and decide to do what it says! We can see the power of the Word of God (Romans 1:16) in every conversion in the book of Acts. In the conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch we see that Philip "...began at the same scripture and preached unto him Jesus" (Acts 8:35). When this one was taught from the scriptures his question was, "...what doth hinder me to be baptized" (Acts 8:36). Philip answered, "...If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:37). They stopped the chariot and Philip "baptized him" (Acts 8:38). Will this be the year that you obey the Gospel of Christ?

It will be a **GREAT YEAR** for others who determine to work more than they ever have. Someone once said, "I'm blessed with work!" How true that is. There is nothing more satisfying, self-exzilerating, or that gives inner peace than that of working to please the Master. Christ knew the value of work when He said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (John 9:4). Paul also realized the value of hard work, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:6-8). At the close of each day will we pillow our head in satisfaction knowing we have worked in the Lord's kingdom?

It will be a **GREAT YEAR** for those who share the gospel of Christ with someone who is lost. The greatest gift we can give is the gospel of Christ. Those who are weak, sad, lost, erring, and separated need Christ. This year will be a great year to "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). There **will be** opportunities to share the Gospel. We must open our eyes and see them. Christ came to seek and save the lost. "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Paul's heart desire was for the lost. "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved" (Romans 10:1). More than ever before we must realize our responsibility to share the "Good News" of Jesus Christ.

What kind of year will it be for me? Next week we will look at "Late in '08".

Ronnie

PRAYER LIST

Sick

Earl Martin was taken back to St. Vincent's Hospital in bed 10 -- ICU.

Buddy Tubbs is in SICU at Princeton.

Gary Gibbs (the late Sam Gibbs' brother) is at Physician's Carraway in room 631.

Please continue to pray for...

*David Burford, Jean Cicero, Gwen Johnson,
Sara Morgan, Janice Parsons*

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the friends and family of **Ralph Manasco** (Beth's husband). He was laid to rest on Saturday. Our deepest sympathy is also extended to the friends and family of **Gracie Farris**. She was a former member here that passed away on Sunday. Also to the family and friends of **Edward Earl Whitfield** (brother in law of CheeVee Whitfield) who passed away Monday, January 7th.

Remember Our Shut In

Gertrude Blackwell- room 118 - Self Nursing Home, 131room 321-Gardendale Nursing Home, 420 Dean Drive Gardendale, AL 35071. **Ruby Glidewell** 120 Windsor Circle N., Graysville, AL 35073. **Vurvel Jones** c/o Camilla Newbill @ 1622 Stone Hedge Dr. W. Mobile, AL 36695.

Jewell Martin-Rm 12 A at Birmingham Nursing & Rehab, 1000 Dugan Ave., Birmingham, AL 35214. **Ruth Parsons**-5300 Hazelwood Rd., Adamsville, AL 35005.

Annette Roddy-1035 Cherry Ave. Adamsville, AL 35005.

Ginger Shadix- room 213 - Gardendale Nursing Home, 420 Dean Dr. Gardendale, AL 35071. **Bernice Snow** - Adams House 5017 King Dr., Adamsville, AL 35005

Beatrice Truett- C/O Jackie Franklin, 8307 9th S. Birmingham, AL 35206

Keenagers... Your next trip will be Thursday, January 17th to the Scottsboro Unclaimed Baggage. The bus will leave at 7:30 PM from the building. The cost will be \$5.00. We will get a biscuit on the way and stop to eat supper at Greenbrier BBQ. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer.

Ladies' Retreat

There is a sign up sheet in the foyer for the Ladies' Retreat on January 18-19. Please sign up as soon as possible.

Mark Your Calendar 2008

Jan. 13 --- Christian Education Sunday **Sam Long** guest speaker from Faulkner University

Jan. 18-19 --- Ladies' Retreat

Mar. 21-23 --- Lads/Leaders meet in Nashville

June 1 --- Homecoming

June 1-4 --- Gospel Meeting, Speaker: **John Daniel**

June 22-25 --- Vacation Bible School

July 18-19 --- Youth Rally

Oct. 12-15 --- Gospel Meeting, Speaker: **Larry Acuff**

Oct. 18 --- Family Fun Day @ Tannehill

Nov. 20 --- Thanksgiving Dinner

Dec. 31 --- New Year's Eve Singing

Sunday, January 13th is our **Christian Education Sunday** with guest speaker Sam Long. The 5th grade and up will be in the auditorium for class. Please make your plans to be here for worship and the great lessons focusing on education of our youth.

Youth Happenings

Saturday, January 12 - Youth Rally @ Oakman church of Christ

Sunday, January 20 - Area-Wide Youth Devotional @ Roebuck Parkway church of Christ

Franklin Camp Scholarship Fund

*In Memory of
Ralph Manasco
by Bob & Betty Daniel &
Eulan & Robbie McCaleb*

Attention Sunshine Girls:

This is a reminder about the support forms for China Mission and Indian Creek Youth Camp Project. Please turn in your forms indicating your support for each of the projects for 2008. Also the money is due for this support by January 15th. Remember you can pay annually, quarterly, or monthly. Please put the forms and your money in the Sunshine Girl box on the table in the classroom hallway or give them directly to **Carla Tavel**. If you do not have a form, see Carla and she will provide you with one.

All Girls participating in the **Leaderettes** speech please be working on your rough draft. We will meet on January 13th at 3:30.