

## “Will Ye Also Go Away?”

While Jesus, the Messiah, was walking upon the earth teaching concerning His kingdom and His covenant, many people followed Him and became His disciples. However, not all of those who became disciples of Christ would continue to follow Him. John recorded, “From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God” (John 6:66-68). Why do individuals who have been obedient to Christ go back and walk no more with Him? There are a number of reasons:

(1) **Fear** has caused many to turn from Christ and walk no more with Him. This fear can be fear of failure, fear of suffering, or fear of persecution. Some are afraid of being questioned about why they believe what they believe. Some are afraid that they will be mocked and laughed at because of their stand with the minority. In the days of Gideon, there were 22,000 men of the Israelites who returned home before going into battle because they were “fearful and afraid” (Judg. 7:2-3). Will we depart from Christ because we are fearful of the fight of faith which is before us (1 Tim. 6:12)?

(2) **Family** has also turned many away from following after the Son of God. Sometimes after an individual is obedient to the Gospel, their family will ostracize them and refuse to associate with them on any level. Some individuals love their family more than they love God turning their backs on Christ and returning to their family ties upon the earth. Jesus said, “He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me” (Matt. 10:37). Will we go away from Christ because our family looks down upon our decision to be a Christian?

(3) **Favoritism** has caused some to depart from the true doctrine of Christ. Jonah allowed favoritism to keep him from obeying the command of God. Jonah was commanded to go into Nineveh and teach the Assyrians, but Jonah fled to Tarshish because he did not favor the Assyrians. He was prejudiced against these foreigners and was even displeased at their repentance and deliverance from punishment (Jonah 4:1). Will favoritism, or prejudice, cause us to depart from Christ’s teaching to proclaim the message of salvation to all mankind (Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16)?

(4) **Fortune** has turned individuals from following Christ because they love more their money more than they love God. The rich, young ruler allowed fortune to separate him from obedience to Christ. He went away sorrowful because he had great possessions (Matt. 19:22). Will our fortunes in this life turn us from following the Lamb of God?

(5) **Fantasy** has diverted some from following Christ to turning down the path of sin. The prodigal son (Luke 15) fantasized about the wonders of the far country and allowed his fantasy to take him to the bottom of the pig pen. Will fantasy of the other side, of what is out there in the world of sin, cause us to divert from following Christ?

(6) **Failure** and the fear of failure has caused some to depart from the path of life. The one talent man was afraid of failing his master so he simply buried his talent in the earth (Matt. 25:24-27). Others fail once to stand for the truth or to make the right decision; then they determine they can never do what is right. One failure should not prevent us from getting up and giving our best to try again. Will we allow failure to turn us away from Christ?

(7) **Fakes**, or hypocrites, are often given as the reason why individuals turn from Christ. Are we going to allow the actions of others to keep us from doing what is right? If I turn away from Christ because others are hypocrites, then I am facing the same punishment and in no better condition than the hypocrites. Will we go away from Christ because of fakes?

Chance

## Remember in Prayer

### Members:

**Annette Roddy** (David Burford’s sister) is at St. Vincent’s in 723

### Other Request for Prayer:

**David Robbins** (Kelly & Helen’s son)

**Bernice Wood** (Janice Parson’s sister) had surgery for breast cancer on Wednesday.

**Karen Ann Burton** (Helen Robbins’ niece) has breast cancer.

**Rebecca Dawes** (Mary Sanford’s daughter)

**Buddy & Frances Dunn** (Ann Kilgore’s brother and sister in law)

**Robert Freano** (Linda Blackwell’s dad)

**Jessica Ingle** (Leon & Jeanette’s granddaughter)

### Scheduled to Serve

**Sunday, October 25, 2009**

(changes are underlined)

**Elder in Charge:** **Paul McCaleb**

**Serve in Foyer:** **Bob Battles**

**Sound Room:** **David Knight**

**Ushers:** **Wayne Bishop, Fred Chambers**

**Song Leader:**

**AM: Brad Strange** **PM: Jamie Gilbert**

**Prayer:**

**AM: Gary Weaver** **PM: Chad Yeilding**

**Preside Lord’s Table:**

**AM: Chance Hicks** **PM: Lewis Mobley**

**Assist Lord’s Table:**

**AM: Shane Sanford, Tyler Sanford, Shawn Sanford,**

**Austin Sanford, Cory Sanford, Brian Wolfe**

**PM: Cecil Short**

**Closing Prayer:**

**AM: Grant Powell** **PM: Stentsen Ellenburg**

**Greeters:** **Ashley & Candace Kizer**

**Eulan & Robbie McCaleb**

**Speaker:**

**AM: Ronnie Hayes** **PM: Ronnie Hayes**

**Count Contribution for October**

**Roland Crawford, Barry Hyche, Jimmy Rivers**

## Youth Notes

**Monday Night Meditation** will meet each Monday at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall.

The next **Bible Bowl Test** will be given on Wednesday.

Oct 25 -- Jr/Sr. Devo @ Carla Tavel’s home

Oct. 28 -- Trunk or Treat following services

Oct. 29 -- Youth/Young Adult singing @ 7:00 PM

Oct. 30 -- Halloween Party @ Jamie & Kim

Gilbert’s home

## Mark Your Calendar

Dec. 31, 2009 -- New Year’s Eve Singing

### 2010

June 6-9 -- Gospel Meeting with **Garland Elkins**

Oct. 10-13 -- Gospel Meeting with **Keith Mosher Sr.**



**Josh and Katie**

**Courington**, and big sister **Hannah**,

welcome baby girl,

**Jaiden Ashley**.

She arrived

October 20, 2009 and

weighs 7 pounds and 14 ounces. Her proud grand-

parents are **David & Susan Courington** and **Tim**

and **Connie Shadix**.

## Visitation Team Meeting

Visitation Team #4 will meet on Sunday. Team #4

includes: Eulan & Robbie McCaleb, Paul & Alberta

McCaleb, Roland & Glenda Crawford, Lewis &

Mary Mobley, Randal & Belinda Chappell, William

& Janice Goolsby, Ronnie & Cindy Hayes, Nancy

Ingram, Roger Johnson, Janice Key, Bernard &

Teresa Majerik, Alan & Michelle McCaleb, Hunter

McCaleb, Sarah McCaleb, Brenda Madison, Butch &

Donna Myers, Janice Parsons, Glenda Terry, and

Finley Tuggle

## Franklin Camp Scholarship Fund

In Memory of

Ethel Gilbert

by

Eulan & Robbie McCaleb

