OUR RECORD

ATTENDANCE:	**August 31, 2008**
BIBLE CLASS:	**200**
WORSHIP AM:	**219**
WORSHIP PM:	**178**
CONTRIBUTION:	**$8,788.10**

* *

Count Contribution for September
Shawn Sanford, Bob Battles, Ray Bearden

Adamsville Church of Christ
4207 Veterans Memorial Dr.
Adamsville, AL 35005

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Please worship with us at the following times:

SUNDAY
Bible Class 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 5:00 PM

TUESDAY (September-May)
Bible Class 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAY
Bible Class 7:00 PM

(all are code 205)

EVANGELISTS:	**Cell**	**Home**
Ronnie Hayes	566-2171	648-4034
Minister		
Ashley Kizer	706-3651	
Associate Minister		

SECRETARIES:	**Home**
Janice Key	674-1619
Tracie Sanford	648-1690
Ann Kilgore	647-0953
Office	674-5659
Fax	674-5678
Line Up Line	674-4530

E-Mail: acofc@bellsouth.net
Website: www.acoc.org

ELDERS:	**Cell**	**Home**
Cecil Gilbert	516-4181	648-5471
Don Griffin	529-5546	674-1312
Leon Jackson	602-3465	674-7817
Eulan McCaleb	915-8673	798-1727
Paul McCaleb	915-8356	791-1757
Tommy Reid		798-2567
Ray Skelton	903-8483	674-5332
Butch Wallace	602-7156	648-3751
Gary Weaver	542-5617	674-9213

DEACONS:	
Bob Battles	674-0011
Ray Bearden	491-5245
Roland Crawford	648-8301
Barry Hyche	647-3629
Lewis Mobley	798-0694
Nick Rouse	648-0629
Jimmy Rivers	491-0605
Shane Sanford	648-4022
Shawn Sanford	648-1690

The Visitor

The Church of Christ
Adamsville, Alabama
VOLUME XXXVIII
September 7, 2008
NUMBER 34

THE SIN OF ABSENTEEISM

Bobby Duncan

Absenteeism is not tolerated in most of our affairs. Our schools, our businesses, civic organizations—all require us to be present at least unless there is a real reason for our absence. Even then our absences may result in our being terminated. In church, however, some seem to think absenteeism is a matter of small concern. Absenteeism is a sin. There are at least a dozen reasons why such is the case.

(1) ***Absenteeism shows one's contempt for the Lord.*** When we carelessly neglect to keep our appointments with men, we are showing our contempt for them. What of one who fails to keep his appointment with the Lord?

(2) ***Absenteeism is disobedience to a plain command***. Hebrews 10:25 says, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

(3) ***Absenteeism is a failure to do a known good.*** James 4:17 says, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

(4) ***Absenteeism is a failure to give and receive needed encouragement.*** Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking…"

(5) ***Absenteeism contributes to ignorance***. Brother Franklin Camp said if one attends the service and is attentive, he will learn at least one thing each time he comes. This means in ten years the person who came only to the worship period on Sunday Morning would learn about 520 things in ten years, while the one came to all the services during that same period would learn about four times as much, or 2080 things.

(6) ***Absenteeism sets a bad example.*** Would you advise others not to be faithful and regular in attendance? That is what you do when you are needlessly absent.

(7) ***Absenteeism discourages the faithful.*** It is so encouraging to see people who are regular and faithful in attendance, but the failure to attend on the part of some is so discouraging.

(8) ***Absenteeism is a failure to let one's light shine.*** Think of the opportunities to influence others for good by faithful attendance. Yet some will neglect to attend and, therefore, neglect these opportunities.

(9) Absenteeism is a failure to put God first. Matthew 6:33 says, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these thing shall be added unto you." Will one who is putting God first be negligent in his attendance?

(10) Absenteeism is a sin directly against God. All sin is against God, but refusing to attend is sinning against God

(11) Absenteeism is a public sin. ***A***ll sin is bad, but public sin must be confessed publicly in order to be forgiven.

(12) Absenteeism is a sin the likes of which would close the doors of the church. Suppose every member of the church decided to be absent. Then there would be no service. The only sin necessary to closing the doors of the church is the sin of absenteeism.

Let us be sure we do not become guilty of the terrible sin of absenteeism. If you have been guilty of this sin, repent, make a public confession, and pray for God's forgiveness. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say the we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us" (1 John 1:8-10).