

**Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:**

Judy Coley – C-Scan Results  
Jessie Riddle  
Delores Hendrickson  
Karen Sproles – recovering from foot surgery  
Teddy Burgess (friend of Evelyn Murphy)  
Ken Roosa – Severe neck problem (Surgery scheduled for February, 2020)  
Darryl Grimes, cancer treatment (Ken and Sherrie Roosa’s son-in-law)  
Rick Sciver – Bone cancer treatment (Ken Roosa’s brother)  
Randy Murray, cancer treatments, (Cindy Murray’s husband)  
Zachary Baxter, Susie Burdsall/Riddle’s grandson, deployed in the U.S. Navy  
Edwin Parnell, cancer (Mike Parnell’s brother)  
Larry Waymire – Missionary from West Tenn. Cancer isolated in one eye.  
Eric Bowlen – Several severe health issues  
Al and Gertrude Reynolds – Daughter-in-law passed  
Evelyn Murphy – Recovering from shoulder replacement  
Ernest Brown – Diagnosed with cancer in his eye.  
Derrick Burdsall – Broken leg & back injured in fall  
(Tim& Liz Burdsall’s son)  
Melani Dodge – In need of our prayers and encouragement  
Jean Collins – Loss of family member  
Joni McConnell – Sister & Family living in Australia (Fires)  
Jimmy & James – Prayers for their families who have some problems

**Pray For Our Shut-ins:**

Goldie Gilbert  
Gloria Hale

**New Addresses –**

<b>Dave &amp; Tina Knoy</b>	<b>Goldie Gilbert</b>
<b>3811 Cramer</b>	<b>Grand Valley Room 106</b>
<b>Martinsville, IN 46151</b>	<b>1501 Hubert Circle</b>
	<b>Martinsville, IN 46151</b>

**Pray For The Work We Are Supporting:**

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia)  
Charles DiPalma (Mission work in Australia and New Zealand)  
Northwest Florida School of Biblical Studies

**Upcoming Events:**

Tomorrow with **all** of its Blessings!

**God’s Plan For Our Salvation:**

1. **Hearing** the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).
2. **Believing** what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).
3. **Repentance** (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).
4. **Confession** (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).
5. **Baptism** (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3,4).
6. After the above five steps, **Faithful Christian Living** (I Peter 2:11,

January 19, 2020

***MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST***

**540 E. Morgan Street  
Martinsville, IN 46151  
(765) 342-6027**



**Schedule of Services:**

**Sunday**

Bible Study – 9:30 AM  
Worship – 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM

**Wednesday**

Bible Study – 7:00 PM

**Thursday**

Ladies Bible Study – 11:00 AM (March – October)

**Radio Program:**

“Preparing For Eternity”  
Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

**Website:**

[www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org](http://www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org)

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

## 1 Thessalonians 5:16 "Rejoice always."

It's not what the text says, but what the text doesn't say. The context reads as we'd commonly call today a list of bullet points. For instance, we find:

- Rejoice always (16)
- Pray without ceasing (17)
- In everything give thanks (18)
- Do not quench the Spirit (19)
- Do not despise prophetic utterances (20)
- Examine everything carefully (21)
- Abstain from every form of evil (22)

Simple and practical reminders of how our walk with the Lord should be.

First, Paul doesn't go into detail telling us why we need to do these things. They didn't have to be taught why. They just needed a reminder to do these things.

Second, Paul doesn't bring up great examples from the O.T. showing the value of doing these things. He just gave a list of things to do.

Third, Paul doesn't paint a picture of what life looks like if we don't do those things.

I look at that list and think about how we preach these days. Most of us would not dare get up on a Sunday and say, "I want to share with you seven thoughts that will make a difference in your week." Then, read these seven bullet points as Paul wrote them and sit down. It'd take about two minutes to do that. The congregation would feel cheated.

Could it be that Paul understood that the young Thessalonian believers knew and understood these things? They already knew. He was merely trying to motivate them and move them to action. They knew why. It was a matter of remembering to do these things.

All of this gets to the profound importance of knowing your audience. Jesus understood His audience. Paul, through the Holy Spirit, knew his audience. Possibly we are spending too much time trying to explain things to people who already know what we are saying. Rather than teaching, and trying to show, maybe we need to be motivating and moving some to action. Preaching the word involves challenging complacent people to do what they know they ought to do. They simply

aren't doing it. It's not knowing, but the doing that needs to be worked on. We must know our audience.

And, all of that leads to the idea of application. A sermon without any application is nothing more than sharing information and a college lecture. A sermon ought to persuade a person to action. Jesus preached sermons that were Simple, Practical, Plain, Understandable, Memorable, Useful, Helpful and Life changing. Look at the sermon on the mount. It was Pointed, but practical, Plain, but powerful. Look at the model prayer that as spoke in Short statements and Simple words. Jesus was preaching to Fishermen, Housewives, Slaves and Common laborers. Not dumb, but not intellectual elites, either. God chose a common language fit for a common people. The message, although from Heaven, was something that the common man would understand.

This is simply a call to speak to the audience. The audience is composed of all kinds and types of people. Are we speaking their language? Do they understand and more so are we handing them things that they can use? What are the things that are keeping these people awake at night? It's their families, worried about them. Thinking about money and if there will be enough in the future. Health and Life are their kinds of things that Jesus took to the people. Showing how trusting in God, they can be righteous people. It's those same things that we need to be preaching these days. It's where the people are at and it's what the people need.

Paul spoke with a series of simple, profound and powerful bullet points. They understood what Paul meant. They got it. He could say in brief statements what some of us are trying to say in 45 minutes. Maybe we ought to learn from these things. It's not the length but the content. We must know the audience and speak to them in such a way that it will make a difference in their lives.

The Gospel needs to land on everyone's front porch! That's the key.

Roger Shouse