

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

March 12, 2023

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KNOW THE ENEMY

By Bill Burk, Crandall CoC, Crandall, TX

In order to be successful in battle, it is imperative that one knows his enemy. The more one understands the maneuvers of his foe the better equipped he will be to counter them. The adversary of every child of God is Satan. The Bible speaks of his wiles or schemes (Eph. 6:11). He sets snares or traps for men (I Tim. 3:6) He hurls fiery darts with great fury and consistency (Eph. 6:16). We have no reason to be ignorant of his devices. As one reads through the Scriptures we learn the following about the Devil.

He tempts. After our Lord was baptized “He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil” (Mt. 4:1). Two verses later he is referred to as “the Tempter”. He seeks to convince us that sinning is the better choice (I Jn. 2:15). He destroys. Jesus said, “He was a murderer from the beginning” (Jn. 8:44). In tempting the first pair, he was able to bring sin and death into the world. He only wants to divide men from God, destroy their hope of heaven, and devour their souls (I Pet. 5:8).

He lies. Jesus went on to say that Satan “is a liar and the father of it” Satan seeks to make truth seem as if it were error, right as if it were wrong and good as if it were bad (Isa. 5:20). He parades himself as “an angel of light” (II Cor. 11:14).

He loses. Satan is spoken of as a “strong man”. He is a formidable foe. Yet the Bible teaches that Jesus has defeated him. “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil” (I Jn. 3:8). Everlasting fire is his final destination (Mt. 25:41). However, through Jesus, those who fight the good fight will receive the crown of life, triumph and victory (I Cor. 2:14; II Tim. 4:8).

Do you know the enemy? Let’s diligently study the Book lest we be ignorant of his devices (II Cor. 2:11).

He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises. 2 Peter 1:4

Pray for the sick: You may not know some of them but God knows them and their needs, so let's lift them up to Him!

CONTINUING CONCERNS: Terry Hastings; Sandi Holt, Michelle Tucker, Pat Tucker, Dave Newberry, Myra's sister, Connie; Norma Hudson, Bobby Phillips, Grace Peterson, Ace Himes, Butch and Jenny Womersley and family.

All those battling COVID
On-going personal Bible studies
World turmoil; people of Russia and Ukraine
Our elders and deacons
Cipolla family and their work with children
"Celebrate Recovery"
Daniel and Christine; expecting a little one
Doris Mathis; broken clavicle
Terry Hastings; home but needs continued prayer
Dave Newberry; new complications
Anthony Cipolla; broken clavicle
New Christian brothers, Ashton and Shane.

FROM THE COMMUNITY:

Pugh family in their loss of Jamin and continued healing for Gracie and Jayleigh. Cade Vanderslice, surgery.

Opportunities for study and worship

Sunday: (In person and virtually at: www.laurelcoc.org)

Bible Classes	9:00 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.

Tuesday:

Women's Zoom Study	7:00 p.m.
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Wednesday

Men's prayer (Shawn's)	7:30 a.m.
Bible Study at building	6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Men's Bible study (Philip's)	8:30 a.m.
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Friday ladies' Paul study	10:30 a.m.
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We invite you to attend any of our service times, and we look forward to welcoming you, and pray

If you need Media help — connections, addresses, or general questions contact: Don Trader or Julio Brennick

CELEBRATE RECOVERY each Monday evening from 6-9 in the FLC. Meal at 6, meeting 7-9.

PAUL BIBLE STUDY at Cathy's each Fri. morning. Tai Chi led by Thea at 10:00. Fellowship/coffee at 10:30; 11-12 Bible study.

WOMEN TO WOMEN WORKSHOP Mar. 18th at 9:00 a.m. in the FLC. Bring your notebooks.

MEN'S DAY April 29th with speaker Dan Campbell. April's Potluck meal will be April 30.

EASTER EGG HUNT April 9. Bring wrapped candy.

Angels in Heaven and Laurel CoC are again rejoicing over the **baptism last Sunday of Shane Torlish!** Welcome Shane!

TUES. LADIES' ZOOM will begin Hebrews book.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture;

Prayer;

Table;

Announcements/Closing prayer; David-March Song Leader;

WHO WE ARE

The body of Christ in Laurel, Delaware is a family of believers knit together in love (Colossians 2:2), striving to serve God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24) and carrying the gospel to the lost (Matthew 28:18). We are an autonomous body with Christ only as our head, and elders shepherding the flock of God (Acts 20:28).

We have been entrusted with the gospel (I Thessalonians 2:4) and so it is that we speak. The congregation seeks to uphold the doctrine and practice of the first century church using the only true standard, the Bible, as our guide (2 Peter 1:3). It is our prayer that all would come to a knowledge of the truth and partake in that divine fellowship in the body of Christ, being immersed for the remission of sins, and beginning life anew with Christ as Lord (Acts 2:38, Romans 6:1). Our plea is that we might be one in Christ, and serve the Lord faithfully unto death to receive our crown (Revelation 2:10).