

We are so glad that you are with us today! Our service will be to praise and worship God and to encourage and uplift us to face another week. We will sing (Eph. 5:19, Col. 3:16), pray (James 5:15-18), and partake of the Lord's Supper to remember our Savior's sacrifice on the cross (Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 11:23-26). We will also give back a portion of the monetary blessings that God has granted us so that we can carry out His work in our community (1 Cor. 16:2, 2 Cor. 9:7). We will also study a lesson from His Word that will hopefully be applicable to our daily lives, so that we can be equipped to handle the pressures of this world and reach those outside of Christ (2 Tim. 2:15).

Order of Worship

Announcements

Song (#718) We Shall Assemble

Song (#779) I Love You, Lord

Opening Prayer

Song (#350) When My Love to Christ Grows Weak

Partake of the Lords Supper

Song (#704) Bind Us Together

Song (#705) A Common Love

Song (#480) Blessed Assurance

Song (PP) God Is Calling The Prodigal

Scripture Reading - Luke 15:28-32

Message - "Finding Myself In A Story"

Jeremy Green

Song (#936) Lord, I'm Coming Home

Song (#755) God Be With You

Closing Prayer



ELLIJAY
CHURCH OF CHRIST

351 North Main Street

Ellijay, GA 30540

Office 706-635-2950

Newsline 706-276-7283

Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 AM

Morning Worship 10:30 AM

Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders

Bob Burton - 706-698-1345

Curtis Kingsley - 706-276-6045

Mark Pettit - 706-276-6610

Deacons

Bob Burkewitz - 706-276-2456

Rob Burton - 706-889-4947

Josh Chancey - 706-669-6848

Nathan Collier - 706-669-0726

Dennis Dove - 706-669-0021

Tim Hall - 706-669-0915

Junior Jenkins - 706-273-6972

John Johnson - 706-669-0422

Brandon Jones - 706-273-8762

Barry Kingsley - 706-276-7842

Jason Ledford - 706-669-4504

Tate McCoy - 706-273-3538

John Painter - 706-889-7822

Will Parker - 706-889-1021

Barry Pritchett - 706-276-3799

Garry Rittenberry - 706-276-4846

Ministers

Jeremy Green

jeremy@ellijaychurchofchrist.org

334-614-1503

Butch Jones

butchjones@ellijay.com

706-273-0841

Chase Sharp

256-701-1541

chase@ellijaychurchofchrist.org

Missionary

Michael Dunbar

Highgate, Jamaica

Free Bible Correspondence is available by contacting the church office or Cleah Boaz at 706-636-4516.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Donna Holland Sanford - 6th

Kathy Rochester - 6th

Danny Hensley - 9th

Tito Rodas - 9th

Harley Weaver - 9th

Brantley Jones - 10th

Terry & Kathy Rochester - 6th

Facebook - Ellijay Church of Christ

Twitter - @ellijaycoc

Instagram - ellijaychurchofchrist



THE HEART OF A MAN PLANS
HIS WAY, BUT THE LORD
ESTABLISHES HIS STEPS.

PROVERBS 16:9

Let Us Rise Up and Build
Envelopes are available on the back of the pews to make your donation to the Building Fund for the new Fellowship Hall/ Education Building. Total funds through 2/1/17 in the Building and Emergency Fund total \$268,802.69 PLEASE CONTINUE TO DONATE.

Week of February 26th

Contribution.....	\$7761
Budget.....	\$7000
Weekly Average YTD.....	\$7371
Bible Study.....	102
AM Worship.....	197
PM Worship.....	106
Wednesday Evening.....	92

Worship Assignments

March 5th

Announcements Butch Jones
Scripture Reading Spencer Hall
Open Prayer Tim Hall
Song Leading Barry Kingsley
Close Prayer Mark Pettit
Head Table Ken White

Assist J. Barr M. Wilson
J. Ralston M. Johnson
J. Stephens T. Rochester
E. Mulkey B. Parker

Usher D. Ledford
J. Ledford
Tu. Hall
L. Burton

Greeters Q&J Holloway
J&A Cole
J&K Cochran

Evening

Announcements Butch Jones
Open Prayer Miles Peebles
Song Leading Barry Kingsley
Close Prayer Marvin Pritchett
Communion Ken White

March 8th

Announcements Jason Ledford
Song Leading Dillon Ledford
Prayer Landon Burton
Devo Jeremy Green

March 12th

Butch Jones
Tucker Hall
Garry Rittenberry
Nathan Collier
Curtis Kingsley
Chase Sharp

L. Mulkey L. Burton
Ry. Cochran Sp. Hall
D. Ledford Q. Collier
M. Hadden W. Gregory

Br. Jones

J. Ralston
M. Wilson
T. Rochester
M&R Pritchett
B&T Weeks
J. Mailen D. Green

Evening

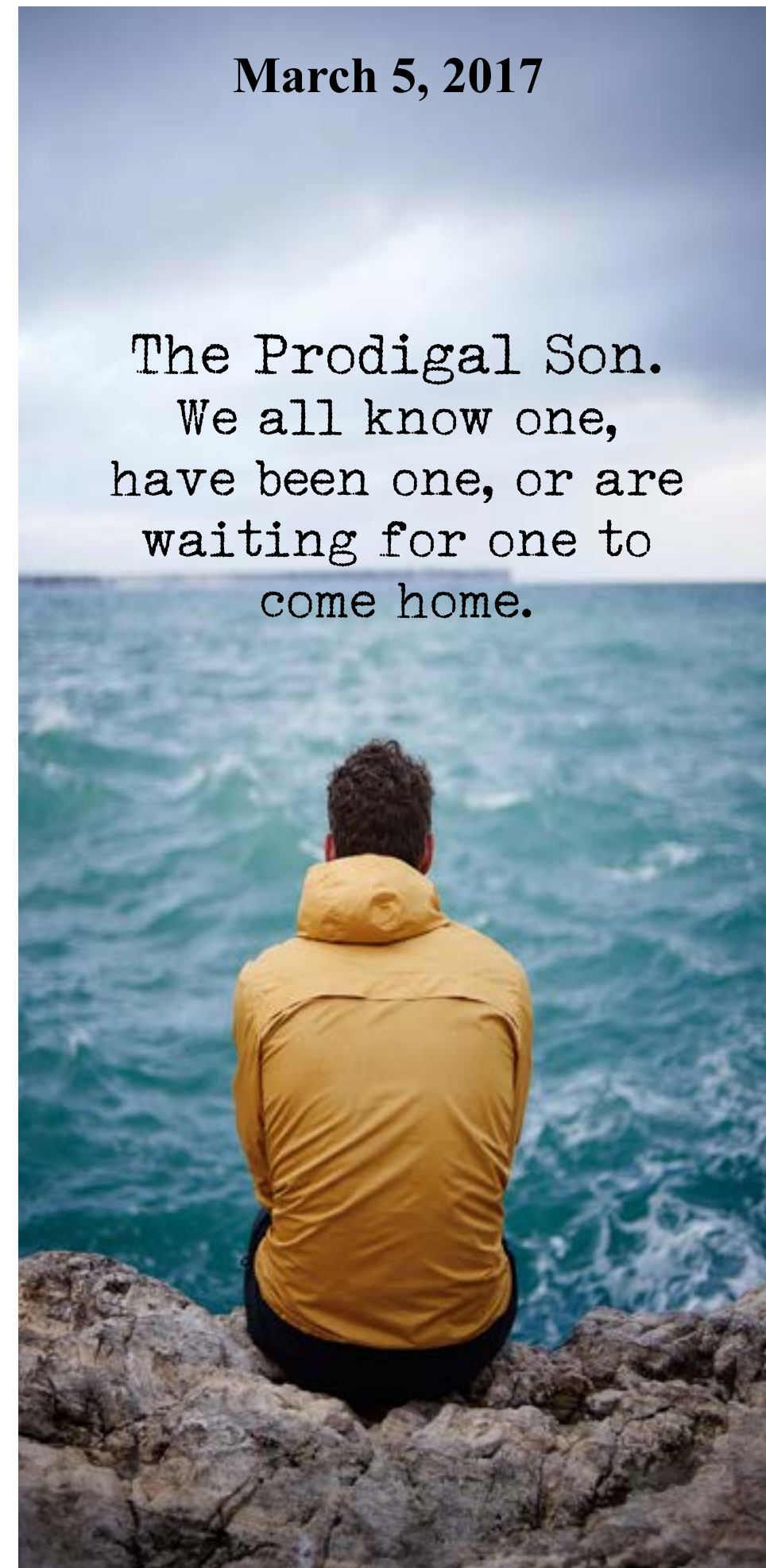
Butch Jones
Josh Chancey
Nathan Collier
Gerald Chancy
Chase Sharp

March 15th

Barry Pritchett
Daniel Sisson
Carl Hall
Chase Sharp

March 5, 2017

The Prodigal Son.
We all know one,
have been one, or are
waiting for one to
come home.



Family News

Kathleen Sisson remains in Emory Hospital.

Samantha Hill is waiting on results from an ultrasound done last week.

Tim Ramsey remains in critical condition and in need of our prayers.

George Hall is back home and will continue therapy there. The family is requesting no visitors at this time.

Anita Tucker has been sick with double pneumonia.

Sandra Parker is undergoing treatment for kidney stones.

Dean Hunter has the flu.

Susan Jones is sick with sinus problems.

Josh and Elise Wright have both been sick the last few days.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING
 Eulyeen Callihan, Pauline Mullinax,
 Gladys Logan Shultz, Polly Cochran

Others to Remember

Zach Pritchett, Jeff Carns, Tim Ramsey, CiCi Rivera, Ernestine Hall, Burt Hinton, Bonnie Smith, Laura Huckabay, Phillip Johnson, Jeremy Ferrell, Billy Teems, Glenell Fricks, Perlle Mae Sluder, Bobbie Miller, Harold Shepherd, Pam Hall, Joyce Bennett, Shannon Queen

CANCER PATIENTS
 Andrew Lowe, Dorothy Gaddis, Mary Hensley, Harry Dennard, Steve Sisson, Charles Weeks, Billy Stells, Donald Watkins, Susie Rep, Morris Hill, Chris Watkins, John Watts, Cathy Thurman Patterson, Mindy Banks, Phillip Weeks, Bobbie Miller, Vernon Rodman, Travis Lucas, Clifford West, Lynn Tudor

Upcoming Events

- TODAY - **New Bible classes** start
- TODAY - **Song Leading Class**, 5:00 p.m.
- TODAY - **Snak-n-Yak** - Meal is pot luck
- 5th-9th - **Faulkner Lectureship**
- 6th - **Georgia School of Preaching class starts**
- 7th - **Ladies Weekly Bible Class**, 9:30 a.m.
- 9th - **Men's Devotional**, 8:30 a.m.
- 10th- **L2L Workshop**, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- 11th - **Men's Leadership Conference**
- 17th - **Family Game Night**
- 19th - **Scrapbook Work Day**

New Georgia School of Preaching class starts TOMORROW, March 6th on "Revelation" and will be taught by David Decker. It is open to anyone wanting to attend, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. A sign up sheet is posted beside the bulletin board.



FRIENDS DAY SUNDAY APRIL 23RD



Copies of the Great Smoky Mountain Church of Christ Fire Report are available on the table in the foyer.

How to Lose Our Moral Voice – Steve Higginbotham

Several of today's sins would not have been openly discussed in yesterday's churches. Things that were once considered abhorrent have been normalized in our culture. Consequently, Christians are rightfully alarmed. We fear for the future of our nation and the world in which our children and grandchildren will live.

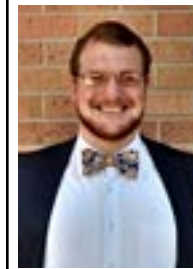
So out of concern, we have become vocal. We speak out. We stand up for Jesus. We forcefully and frequently use social media to condemn these sins that were once shameful, but are now becoming accepted as mainstream, normal behaviors. But in order to have a moral voice in our culture, we must be consistent. We cannot be viewed as being militantly opposed to some sins while seemingly overlooking other sins which are condemned on the same moral principles. In other words, we have to correct our "selective outrage" against some sins and not others if the world is to ever take us seriously. For example:

Homosexuality. As the practice of homosexuality has become normalized in our culture, Christians have become more and more vocal in their opposition to it. But why be known for your opposition to homosexual behavior which is not God's plan for sexual expression, and be silent with reference to pre-marital, heterosexual behavior? Aren't they both a deviation of God's divine arrangement? Statistics show that virginity, even among Christian singles is decreasing more and more. Where's the outrage? Where's the vocal, militant cry against this sin? When are we going to rid ourselves of the dismissive attitude that says, "Boys will be boys?" If you feel compelled to stop listening to artists, and watching shows that promote the homosexual agenda, do you also feel compelled to stop listening to artists, and watching shows that promote pre-marital sexual promiscuity? Until we become as vocal against pre-marital, heterosexual sin as we are homosexual sin, the world won't take us seriously.

Same-Sex Marriage. Countless Christians have rallied in defense of the biblical pattern for marriage. We have shamelessly vocalized our opposition to same-sex marriage, as well we should, but where is our voice when it comes to the topic of "divorce and remarriage?" When's the last time you have seen or posted a tweet, meme, graphic or Facebook post against the sin of divorce? On the other hand, when's the last time you have seen or posted something condemning same-sex marriage? Both divorce and same-sex marriage are a deviation from God's pattern for the home. Far more people are engaging in the sin of "divorce and remarriage" than the sin of same-sex marriage, so where's our voice? Where are the posts? Where are the graphics and memes? Why the selective outrage?

Transgenderism. While most people who lived in our grandparents' generation would be shocked to learn that transgenderism is something the church would have to speak out against, here we are. But tell me, before you speak out against transgenderism, which is a deviation of God's designed gender roles, have you also spoken out against men abdicating their spiritual leadership in the home and church, which is also a deviation of God's designed gender role? If not, how can we condemn one while justifying the other? Bruce (Caitlyn) Jenner is a much easier target than the men and women we personally know who have abdicated their God-given roles. But the world sees through the subjectivity of such selective outrage.

Friends, my point in bringing these matters to our attention is not to minimize, normalize, or justify any sin. Nor is the intent to cause people to say less about these sins. Quite the contrary. The purpose of this article is to cause us to realize that any deviation from God's divinely appointed roles or relationships is sinful. Don't allow your outrage against sin be selective. "Abhor that which is evil and cleave to that which is good" (Romans 12:9). Don't give the world reason to dismiss your moral voice because they see in you an unwillingness to condemn all sin. Give it some thought.



Cut to the Chase

Growing up in Huntsville, the biggest claim to fame was the city's part in helping to put mankind into space. Huntsville is home to the U.S Space and Rocket Center, as well as the Marshall Space Flight Center, both securing the history of Huntsville in the "Space Race". I have spent countless hours during my childhood at these museums, imagining all the wonders of the universe and the mysteries that they hold. It is amazing how our minds work as children. There are no limits to what we can do, no boundaries, and there is an innocence that we will never experience again. The minds of children are truly amazing.

I think then we should take notice when Jesus uses children as an image to teach. In Mark chapter 10, verses 13-16, Jesus teaches us a valuable lesson about being Christians using children to help us understand. Jesus states that anyone who doesn't receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it. How would a child accept the kingdom of God? Children do not see the limits or boundaries of this world. They do not know about the woes of men or the worries of this world. A child is innocent, believing what they are told and unmarred by the harshness and cynicism of this world. In this way we are to follow Christ. We should have the minds of children, limitless, and unbound by this world, when it comes to following Christ. Of course, there is so much more that could be said about these verses, but that would more than likely fill up more than this article. Therefore, let us all be more like children, innocent in mind, word, and deed. Let us look to follow Christ with a childlike mind, unburdened by this world. Let us learn to truly be children of God.

Scrapbook Work Day Sunday, March 19
 Between morning and evening services
 Children & Adults Lunch will be provided

Lesson Notes:

ATTENTION MEN

2017 Christian Men's Leadership Conference
 Saturday, March 11
 Central Dalton

Sign up sheet is posted