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<http://www.pippincoc.com/>

<b>Sunday AM Bible Study</b>	9:30 AM
<b>Sunday AM Worship</b>	10:30 AM
<b>Sunday PM Worship</b>	5:30 PM
<b>Wednesday Bible Class</b>	7:00 PM

## Elders

<b>Eddie Frizzell</b>	(931) 526-3505
<b>Gary Medley</b>	(931) 528-8768
<b>Roger Mayberry</b>	(931) 537-3265

## Deacons

<b>Colonel Wheeler</b>	(931) 526-5808
<b>Greg Frizzell</b>	(931) 265-2192
<b>Jonathan Medley</b>	(931) 854-0960
<b>Kale Burchett</b>	(615) 533-9134

## Preacher

<b>Randy Bybee</b>	(931) 268-0912
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## Welcome

The Pippin church of Christ extends to you a cordial welcome. We hope the services have been uplifting, and you will want to return at every opportunity.

Our purpose in meeting is to worship God in Spirit and in truth. God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and Truth. John 4:24

## How to Become a Christian

Hear the Word - Romans 10:17  
Believe - Mark 16:15  
Repent of Past Sins - Luke 13:3  
Confess - Romans 10:9  
Be Baptized - Acts 2:38  
Remain Faithful - Revelation 2:10

## Radio Programs

The Lord's Way  
AM 920 WLIV - Tuesdays @ 10:10AM

A Challenge to Think  
AM 1400 WHUB - Sundays @ 9:05AM

## For the Record, Week of 1/29/16

<b>Sunday Class</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Sunday AM</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Sunday PM</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>52</b>

Volume 34, No. 6

## If We Never Meet Again

*Jason Jackson (Christian Courier)*

Final words are cherished. On November 5, 1994, President Reagan wrote a farewell address to the nation, announcing the onset of Alzheimer's disease. He characterized the diagnosis by saying, "I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life." Sometimes, we don't have the chance to say goodbye.

Contemplate your life. What would you say to your Christian family if you had reason to believe that you would never meet again this side of heaven? Paul's meeting with the Ephesian elders at Miletus was a moment like that.

At the center of Paul's farewell was the importance of the church. The Holy Spirit had made these elders overseers of it; Christ had purchased the church with his blood. These facts moved Paul to stress the necessity of spiritual shepherding for the flock. The keynote of his final remarks was supported by the recollection of Paul's own life and work when he lived in Ephesus. His example should be followed; his encouragement was credible.

Paul reminded them of how he lived. For about three years (Acts 20:31), Paul worked in Ephesus—first in the synagogue for three months and then in the school of Tyrannus. He lived "among them." They knew how Paul behaved. They saw him frequently for several years. His life was consistent, for his spiritual interest in them was evident from the first day and all the time he was in Ephesus. Paul did not get on a spiritual hot streak only to cool off when wind blew another direction. He was solid as a rock—consistent Paul rehearsed how he served the Lord. The apostle knew that his teaching to the Ephesians was a service to Christ. He discharged his apostolic duties with humility, with tears, and with trials. These three traits are worthy of elaboration.

### Humility

Paul served with humility. This was no boast. It was a true statement. Paul's former life kept him from boasting (1 Tim. 1:12-16). His thorn in the flesh kept him from inappropriate pride (2 Cor. 12:7). And Paul's understanding of the gospel of grace helped him stay humble, having a proper view of himself, others, and God (Eph. 3:7-12).

### Tears

Paul served with tears. The apostle agonized for the lost and for his stubborn kinsmen (Rom. 9:2-3). He wept at the sins of brethren and the spiritual apathy of some churches (2 Cor. 2:4). Paul lamented because of insincere preachers (Phil. 3:18). He cried when he departed from Miletus as well (Acts 20:37). Paul served with tears because he loved the souls of men, especially those of the household of faith. One who is more concerned about his own skin, rather than the souls of men and women, is a mere hireling (cf. Jn. 10:12-13).

### Trials

Paul served in spite of trials from the Jews. Paul was a wanted man, hounded by the Jews much of the time. The unbelieving Jews pursued him in Damascus, after his conversion (Acts 9:23), in Iconium (14:5), in Lystra where he was stoned (14:19), in Thessalonica (17:5), in Berea (17:13), in Corinth (18:12), and also in Ephesus (20:18-19; cf. 2 Cor. 1:8-10). And more persecution was on the way (20:23). Paul's success and timeless influence were not the results of a problem-free ministry. We learn that faithfulness cannot be postponed until we have all our problems sorted out. We need to glorify God by serving him in good times and bad, like the beloved apostle.

Paul also reminded them of what he never did. "I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable ..." (Acts 20:20). The term "shrink" was used of lowering the sails—a term that Paul no doubt heard when sailing on the Mediterranean. Paul never lowered the sails in his spiritual work with people. In other words, Paul did not make decisions about what to preach or promote based upon personal interests. He did not fail to preach things out of fear of losing support. He did not fail to encourage congregations to give to the needy in Jerusalem, fearing that they would "not take care of him first."

He did not view the work of the church as an "us" against "them" mentality, as if congregations were in competition. Paul knew what was profitable for them to hear and do, and he encouraged what was right—not what was personally convenient or self serving. Such a spiritual disposition needs to be resurrected in many preachers, elders, and congregations. *Continued on back...*

## SERMON TOPICS

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Morning	<b>Crossing the Rubicon</b>	Matthew 19:9
Evening	<b>God and Wristwatches</b>	Galatians 4:4

## PRAYER LIST

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**HULAN FLATT** - has recently been out due to health problems.

**JENNIE JACKSON** - recently fell and broke her coccyx bone. She is in lots of pain, but continuing to recover.

**THOSE BATTLING ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES** - Betty Long (friend of the Bybee family), Burt Montgomery (co-worker of Josh Lawson), Cathy Phillips (cousin of Geneva Smallwood), Herbie Fox (nephew of Geneva Smallwood), John and Doris Stafford, Junior and Pearl Sherfield, Karma Carter (wife of Jonathan Carter, nephew of Denise York), Marie Eckel, Pam Heidel (friend of Betty Boswell)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Pippin church of Christ Podcast Now Available

The Pippin church of Christ Podcast is now available on iTunes. A podcast is a digital audio recording that's available for free on your computer, phone, or tablet. All sermons preached at Pippin will be available for download and listening. To subscribe to the podcast, use the "Podcasts" app on your iPhone or use iTunes on your computer.

### February 12 - Soup & Chili Fellowship

There will be a soup and chili fellowship meal February 12 after the evening services. Please make plans to attend. A sign-up sheet for soups and other items has been placed in the foyer.

### February 17 - Middle Tennessee Friday Night Singing

Findley church of Christ in Sparta, TN will host a Friday night singing on February 17 at 7:00pm. Refreshments following the singing.

### March 3rd - 5th - Marriage Seminar

Crossville church of Christ will host a marriage seminar March 3 - 5 with guest speaker Jim Dearman.

### Bulletin Updates

The bulletin is a great communication tool. If you have updates, additions or removals of sick please let Adam or Amy Swallows know so we can make the appropriate updates and changes.

### Electronic Bulletins

If you are interested in receiving an electronic copy of the bulletin prior to Sunday via email, you can sign up at [www.pippincoc.com](http://www.pippincoc.com) and enter your email address in the box on the right of the page.

### *If We Never Meet Again continued...*

With souls in the balance, Paul declared what was profitable. He preached useful information. He taught publicly—a matter of necessity and worship. He taught from house to house—not a substitute for the public proclamation of God's word, but a necessity for helping people grow. He testified to Jews and Greeks the requirements of the gospel. He never lowered the sails, compromised the truth, or hindered the church through his personal conduct. With a consistent example and sincere dedication, Paul offered credible encouragement to the Ephesians in this timeless farewell—stay the course and lead with love.

## All Month - February

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<b>Table</b>	Greg Frizzell
<b>Table Assist</b>	Andrew Pippin Andrew Scott Chad York Josh Lawson

### Sunday AM Worship

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<b>Announcements</b>	Lester Boles
<b>Lead Singing</b>	Jonathan Medley
<b>Read Scripture</b>	Andrew Scott
<b>First Prayer</b>	Gary Medley
<b>Last Prayer</b>	Mike Martin
<b>Greet at Door</b>	John & Myra Jones
<b>Slide Production</b>	Joe Brown

### Sunday PM Worship

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<b>Announcements</b>	Lester Boles
<b>Lead Singing</b>	Jonathan Medley
<b>Read Scripture</b>	James Scott
<b>First Prayer</b>	Andrew Pippin
<b>Last Prayer</b>	Josh Lawson
<b>Slide Production</b>	Joe Brown

### Wednesday Bible Class

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<b>Announcements</b>	Lester Boles
<b>Lead Singing</b>	Eddie Frizzell
<b>Read Scripture</b>	Matt Donegan
<b>First Prayer</b>	Wendall Smallwood
<b>Last Prayer</b>	Dale Flatt
<b>Slide Production</b>	Joe Brown

### Happy Birthday

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Vestle Hensley	2/7
Jenna Medley	2/9
William Hale	2/11
Lindsay Frizzell	2/12
Amy Burchett	2/13
Marie Eckel	2/15
Leslie Wattenbarger	2/19

### Daily Bible Reading

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Genesis 46-48; Matthew 23:1-22	2/5
Genesis 49-50; Matthew 23:23-39	2/6
Exodus 1-3; Matthew 24:1-28	2/7
Exodus 4-6; Matthew 24:29-51	2/8
Exodus 7-8; Matthew 25:1-30	2/9
Exodus 9-11; Matthew 25:31-46	2/10
Exodus 12-13; Matthew 26:1-35	2/11

### Question for the Week

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How long did David reign as king in Hebron?

### Answer to Previous Question

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What was the name of Timothy's grandmother?

Lois; 2 Tim. 1:5