



May 17, 2020

Volume XXVIII—Issue 20

**When I Don't Have the Answers**

One of the challenges to maintaining our faith is an unrealistic view of what God has promised and what he hasn't promised. If we think that being a Christian will exempt us from hardship in this life, then our faith is jeopardized when difficulties arise in our life.

First of all, one of the things that becomes clear as we read in the Bible of the lives of faithful saints who have preceded us is that **faithfulness to God often brings pain and hardship into our lives**. Daniel was thrown into a den of hungry lions because he was faithful in prayer to God. He knew why. Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego, Daniel's faithful companions, knew why they were thrown into the fiery furnace. They made a clear choice. They knew the consequences. Moses made a choice to defend a fellow Israelite. That choice had consequences that totally changed the course of his life. Hebrews chapter 11 speaks of "Others [who were] were tortured and refused to be released . . ." So, there are times and situations where we make a choice to be faithful to God and we know that there will likely be consequences. We understand why those difficulties come.

Then there are times when we may suffer because of **disobedience or unfaithfulness**. Those trials challenge our sincerity. Do we acknowledge our fault and accept the responsibility, or do we play the victim and blame others? Adam comes to mind – "It's the woman you gave me!" David comes to mind when confronted with his sin, he repented. God's punishment of Israel by sending them into exile is an obvious result of sinfulness and disobedience. We can understand why such suffering comes . . . if we are willing to be honest about our actions.

But there are other times when difficulties come into our lives that **the reason is not so clear**. Certainly, Job comes to mind. He suffered incredible hardships, not because he wasn't faithful, but because he WAS faithful! He didn't know why it was happening. Some suffering comes because of the times in which we live. One hundred faithful prophets were forced to live in caves and depend on someone else to keep them alive during the time of Ahab and Jezebel (I Kings 18). Daniel was carried away from his family as a slave as a young boy. Remember Joseph's story of being sold into slavery by his brothers. Such suffering is difficult to understand and accept.

We also suffer some things in life because we are humans and we have a physical body. That body isn't designed to last forever. God's prophet Eli died at a ripe age of 98. "His eyes were set so that he could not see." He was blind. Solomon describes some of the struggles of aging (trembling hands, bent back, failing teeth, eyes and ears, inability to sleep, etc.) in poetic language in Ecclesiastes 12. But it doesn't feel very "poetic."

So, there is no one single answer for our questions about suffering and difficulty in life. We may or may not know why something happens. If we are experiencing difficulty in our life, let's pray for wisdom to know if it is the result of sin of which we need to repent. If so, repent. But if not, let's remember that "Faith is still trusting God when you don't have the answers!"

- Ken Stegall

**Welcome to Woodland Oaks Church of Christ**

We are honored you have chosen to worship with us this morning. Thank you for visiting us today! We look forward to meeting you!

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday** 9:15 AM Bible Classes - **Online Streaming Only**  
 10:15 AM Morning Assembly - **Online Streaming Only**  
 6:00 PM Evening Assembly - **TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED**  
**Wednesday** 7:00 PM Bible Class - **Online Streaming Only**

May 17, 2020

**Elder of the Day** Gary Erwin

**Communion Leader** Doug Peak

**Adult Bible Classes:**

**"A Study of the Holy Spirit"**  
by Dave Short Sundays in Chapel Center Auditorium

**"Search for Significance"** by Rick Whitworth  
Sundays in Worship Center A101

**"Faithful Fathers"**  
by Scott Blake & Ken Stegall Sundays in Worship Center A102

**"Fueled by Christ: Powering Positive Change in a Divided and Distracted World"** by David Sparks  
Wednesdays in Worship Center Auditorium

**Teen Bible Classes:**

**"I Kings"** Senior High (9th-12th) by Jordan Fontenot  
Sundays in Chapel Center C201

**"Toolkit for Christian Living"** Junior High (7th-8th)  
by Rick Medford & Eric Alarid, Sundays in Chapel Center Magnolia Room

**"Guy Talk"** 7th-12th Guys by Jordan Fontenot  
Wednesdays in Chapel Center C201

**"Girl Talk"** 7th-12th Girls by Ellen Fontenot  
Wednesdays in Chapel Center C203

**Treehouse Kids Bible Classes:**

0-1 years	A103	1st grade	B202
1 year-olds	A105/106	2nd grade	B203
2 year-olds	A107	3rd grade	B206
3 year-olds	A108	4th grade	B208
Pre-K	A109	5th-6th grade	B209
Kindergarten	B200		

A **Facility Map** and other information is available at the Welcome Center. A **Secure Check-in System** is active for children ages 0 to 4 years.

Woodland Oaks Church of Christ  
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 Phone/Voicemail: (936) 273-0010  
 Email: [information@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:information@woodlandoaks.org)  
[www.woodlandoaks.org](http://www.woodlandoaks.org)



**Elders**

Scott Blake  
 Gary Erwin  
 Mark Freeman  
 Nathan Ingram

Butch Merriman  
 Elton Stubblefield  
 Raymond Walker

**Deacons**

**Administration** Joel Blake  
**Audio/Visual & Media** Mark Jetton  
**Building & Grounds** Larry Brabham  
 Ken Purvis

Todd Watrous  
**Children's Programs** Richard Hyde  
**Education** Matt Fitzgerald  
 Adam Fracht  
 Quinn Tolbert

**Family Life Center** Chris Davis  
**Fellowship** Tim Riggs  
**Finance** Jeff Fleming  
 Brandon Smith

**Foreign Missions** Paul Gidden  
 Brian Lee

**Information Technology** Al Ardito  
**Involvement** Frank Kerze

**Networks/Special Ministries** Jeremy Haynes  
**Sharing** Kyle Gordley  
 Bradley Welborn

**Reaching Out** Gavin Dao  
**Ushers** Tony Bloom  
 Ben Brockman

**Welcome Center/** Robert Shock  
**Visitor Contacts**  
**Visitation - Hospital &**  
**Homebound/Men's Ministry**

**Worship** Eric Kirkland  
 Bill Malone  
 Brant Mathis

**Youth** Matt Hemphill  
 Terence O'Connor

**Staff**

**Pulpit** Ken Stegall  
[kstegall@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:kstegall@woodlandoaks.org)

**Youth** Jordan Fontenot  
[jordan.fontenot@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:jordan.fontenot@woodlandoaks.org)

**Children's Coordinator** Jennifer Tolbert  
[jennifer.tolbert@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:jennifer.tolbert@woodlandoaks.org)

**Building Manager** Larry Brabham  
[larry.brabham@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:larry.brabham@woodlandoaks.org)

**Office Administrators** Karen Ardito  
[karen.ardito@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:karen.ardito@woodlandoaks.org)

Jessica Weatherholt  
[jessica.weatherholt@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:jessica.weatherholt@woodlandoaks.org)

**Last Week's Attendance**

**Sunday, May 10, 2020**

9:00 AM Bible Class	N/A
10:15 AM Worship	748 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	N/A
Contribution	\$19,892.82

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020**

7:00 PM Bible Class	N/A
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**Missions**

For updates regarding the mission efforts supported by WOCC, please visit our church website, [woodlandoaks.org](http://woodlandoaks.org), under Connect, click Ministries and Missions.

**Budget**

Actual unrestricted contributions through April 30, 2020 are \$443,329 compared with a budgeted amount of \$463,439 producing a deficit of (\$20,110).

**Notes**

## COVID-19 Update from Elders

May 8, 2020

Woodland Oaks Brothers and Sisters,

After much prayer, many meetings and discussions, we have targeted Sunday, May 24 as the date we will plan to reopen our worship assembly. This "soft" reopening will be for the morning worship assembly only. On-site classes, evening assemblies and fellowship activities will remain suspended for the time being. Details are being developed and will be communicated shortly. Please keep us and the decisions we need to make in your prayers.

The Elders

## Reminders

- Online streaming of **Sunday Bible Class** and **Morning Worship** will begin at 9:15 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. respectively
  - <http://woodlandoaks.org/media-center.html> or
  - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3r3Z5p1jFwx1g7rDUclVYA>
- No Sunday evening services
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class** begins at 7:00 p.m. Watch online via Facebook, #christpoweringchange, or the online streaming links above.
- All on-site activities, classes and fellowships remain temporarily suspended
- Now you may give online:
  - <https://woodlandoaks.givingfire.com/> or
  - Mail to our new PO Box at: Woodland Oaks Church of Christ  
6700 Woodlands Parkway  
Suite 230-252  
Spring, TX 77382
- Communion supplies are available for pick-up:
  - From the church office on Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
  - From the church drive-through (porte-cochere) on Saturdays from 10 a.m. - NOON

## Thank you

Dear church family,

On behalf of myself and my family, I want to thank you for the many cards, calls and e-mails of sympathy.

My son, Jack, Jr., passed at his home in Paris, TX on April 28 of a brain aneurysm. He was a gentle, loving man—always smiling and giving a hello hug and goodbye hug. He will be greatly missed.

We are thankful for your thoughtfulness.

With Love, B. Jack Wilson, Sr., Ann, Mary Ellen and Lynn

## Announcements

The **Church Offices will be Closed** Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

**Members Needing Assistance** or members who would like to help those needing assistance, please contact Jeremy Haynes.

**Impact Houston Church of Christ Donations** are temporarily suspended. We will not collect donations at the church building until further notice.

## Youth News

There will be **Youth Virtual Bible Class** Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m., Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. You can watch on the BASIC YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCit8ZGyUoQr1EB61DYyDLiA/>.

Contact Jordan Fontenot for more information.

**Senior Day** will be May 23. Contact Jordan for more information.

**TREK** will be June 26-July 4. Those who would like to attend, sign up at: <https://bit.ly/2YiLGZi>. The second payment of \$75 is due May 31. The total balance of \$300 may be paid at any time. Please mail payments to the WOCC PO Box address.

**Camp Wyldewood** will have 3 sessions this summer. Session 1: July 5 - July 10 Session 2: July 12 - July 17 Session 3: July 19 - July 24. You can register and find more information on their website: [campwyldewood.org](http://campwyldewood.org).

## Treehouse Kids' News

There will be a **Virtual Children's Bible Class** with Mrs. Jenn Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Watch live on the Woodland Oaks Children's Ministry Facebook page.

## Sympathy

Deepest sympathy to Beth Brockman at the loss of her mother, and our sister, **Nancy Palmer**, Saturday, May 2. The memorial service will be Saturday, May 30 at 11:00 a.m. at WOCC. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Raintree Village Children's and Family Services or In Search of the Lord's Way.

Heartfelt condolences to Amy Long at the loss of her stepmother, **Vicki Randall**, Friday, May 8. She was laid to rest May 10 in Oklahoma City. Please keep Amy and the family in your prayers.

***A cart for all donations is in the Worship Center foyer.***

**MAY DONATION NEEDS:**

**WOCC Sharing Pantry: Canned Fruits & Vegetables, Beans**

**The Children's Home of Lubbock: Paper Towels**

## This Week

Today	9:15 a.m.	The Children's Home of Lubbock Donations Due
		Adult Bible Class-Online Streaming Only
		Youth Virtual Bible Class
	9:30 a.m.	Virtual Children's Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Worship - Online Streaming Only
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Youth Virtual Bible Study
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Virtual Children's Bible Class
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Virtual Bible Class
		Bible Class with David Sparks-Online Only
Saturday		Senior Day

## Upcoming Events

May 24	"Soft" Reopening
May 25	Church Offices Closed
May 30	Memorial Service for Nancy Palmer
May 31	2nd TREK Payment Due
June 5	Girls Vs. Guys Night
June 21	Youth Devo
June 26	3rd TREK Payment Due
June 26-July 4	Trek
July 19-24	Camp Wyldewood
July 19	4th TREK Payment Due
	Elder/Deacon Meeting

## Prayers

- ✠ **Robert Shock**/vocal cord surgery May 18 at Houston Methodist Downtown/he will be unable to speak for one week/texts and emails are welcome.
- ✠ **Elton Stubblefield**/heart valve replacement surgery went well/he is at home recovering.
- ✠ **Roxie Granger**/The Medical Resort at The Woodlands/room 207.
- ✠ **Bob McDougal**/cancer has returned.
- ✠ Members battling cancer: **Chuck Birt, Tom Campbell, Cynthia Haney, Terry Hopper, Bob McDougal, Joanie Roberts, Nancy Stucky.**
- ✠ Friends & family battling cancer: **Jennifer Woodward Banks, Teri Barker, David Bass, Paola Bejaran, Fred Conrad, Emily Cottle, Joe Guidry, Doris Higginbottom, Mike Howard, Jordan Love, JJ Lovoi, Jerry Malone, F.R. Mitchell, Malu Oliveira, Gerald Pereiro, Meghan Rudd, Tara Slusser, Leon Taylor, Marla West.**
- ✠ Please remember our members: **Kobby Ayensu, Ken Coleman, Mary Gambill, Laurie Riggs, Kaye Shock, Ella Westbrook, Wally Westbrook.**
- ✠ Please remember friends & family: **Dean & Carol Bass, Ashley Cobbe, Neil & Becky Courington, Hillary de Bruin, Leilani Palmer, Isaac Robinson, Margie Rushing, Brooke Allison Veale.**

## Expectant Families

Lizzie & Mike Stegall  
Jessica & Trey Polvado

If you could use meals during times of need, please contact the church office at 936-273-0010 or [information@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:information@woodlandoaks.org)