

PALM BETHEL NEWS

VOL 3 NO 4 PAGE 1

MAY 2003

PALM BETHEL HAS A PASTOR!

Elder Lowrance accepts

Palm Bethel Primitive Baptist Church is so thankful to God that their prayers have been answered and that a pastor has been sent by God to shepherd the flock.

Elder Bryce Lowrance notified Brother Paul Hutcheson Thursday May 1 that he feels it is God's will to accept the pastorship at Palm Bethel. Brother Lowrance said that the burden had now shifted to why he shouldn't accept the pastor's call and thus his phone call to our deacon.

Palm Bethel has had weekly prayer meetings after Sunday services asking for God's intervention and will in the pursuit of finding a pastor. Many a knee was on the floor in peoples homes praying also that a pastor would soon be found for the church. The membership was well aware that many churches had been seeking pastors for years to no avail. But this church felt a resurgence in faith and prayer and was confident that God would soon provide us with what we needed. The church wants its candlestick to shine brightly.

But, it is not over yet. Continual prayer is needed for the church and Elder Lowrance as both have large hurdles before them.

Palm Bethel now has to assist the new pastor in locating a home, moving and meeting other needs and this will require prayer and finances.

Brother Lowrance has the daunting task of moving his family; wife Terri and 3 children Jonah, 8 months; Gracie, 3; and Rebecca 4 from there present home in Lewisville Texas to West Palm Florida.

Selling a home there and buying here. Moving furniture and leaving behind family and friends that were a lifetime in the making and getting employed here.

But just like the present blessing the church is confident that God will continue to bless and provide. Though time frames are unknown.

Elder Lowrance was ordained at the Lewisville Primitive Baptist Church August past. The church is pastored by Elder Mike Ivey.

Many members of Palm Bethel first heard Bro. Bryce at the Florida Fellowship meeting and were so impressed with him that they were very pleased that he would be preaching at Palm Bethel on March 2nd. Since he was coming such a long distance he graciously accepted the challenge of preaching a Saturday service. There were many visitors that Saturday and Sunday and all were blessed by this young man. God was indeed supplying food to his flock. He was invited back.

Brother Bryce returned for another Saturday and Sunday service "spectacular" on April 26th and 27th. Again we had many visitors and we were all so thankful that he brought his wife and kids with him. They stayed with Brother Paul and Sister Margaret Hutcheson.

Sunday after services, lunch and the weekly prayer meeting all the membership was invited to meet with Elder Lowrance and family, at his request, at the home of Brother Jim and Sister Marcia Clarke's. This was so that the members could get to know him better and ask questions.

Those members that came had a wonderful time of fellowship with the Lowrance's and each other. During the course of discussion Bro. Lowrance explained that whatever decision was to be made, he could not announce until the end of the school year back home where he is a teacher. So the church should not be looking for an answer until after May 30th.

God had other plans.

The Lowrance's stayed in town for a few more days. They visited some local attractions, the beach and looked the area over before departing for home on Tuesday.

Then the welcome phone call on Thursday. "All things work together for good to those who love God."

May Services

Palm Bethel's first Sunday service will be by Brother James Allen from Little Union PB Church, Lithia Florida.

The following Sunday we will have Elder Chris Taylor from Antioch Church, Vero Beach, Fl.

Brother Charlie Dennis will be the speaker on the 18th.

For the final service of the month, Elder Lowrance will be preaching at Palm Bethel on the 25th

April Services

Brother James Allen from Little Union kicked off the church's April meetings. His sermon was "Doing Battle". We must use the whole armor of God. Scripture from Eph 6:13-17, Act 20: 28-38.

Elder Marty Hoskins from Zion PB Church, Brunswick Ga., was the visiting preacher on Sunday April 13th. His message was on the: "Pillar and ground of the Truth". Romans 13:1-5

Brother Charlie Dennis was the speaker on the 20th. His message started from

Genesis 1:1-5 and was on the "Awesomeness of God; Power-Love-Sacrifice".

The month finished up with services on Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th, respectively, with Elder Bryce Lowrance, Lewisville Texas.

The Saturday sermon was from 1Thess 5:16-18, "be glad always". Rejoice no matter what. The Sunday sermon was on "Revival" text from Matthew 5:13-16. "Our light is to shine for us to tell others."

Saturday we were pleased to have so many visitors from Antioch Church in Vero Beach.

Prayer List

Sister Edna Makers has been on our prayer list for some time as has Brother Alva Makers for a variety of medical problems. However, Sister Edna had a nasty fall at the nursing home on Sunday the 27th breaking the femur. She underwent surgery on the subsequent Wednesday and came through that fine.

Brother Richard also continually needs our prayers.

The church. It has been blessed but we still need to fight for Revival and for success at all the hurdles still to be faced.

Birthdays

It seems there is only one birthday this month, Sister Amanda Vermeil.

However, P.N. was remiss last month in mentioning birthdays so Happy belated birthdays to Sister Paula Antullis, Sister Martha Leggett, and Sister Edna Maners,.

In June Sister Marcia Clarke, Sister Trina Oliver, and Brother Russell Scott will be celebrating.

A Piece of Cake

Sometimes we wonder, "What did I do to deserve this", or "Why did God do this to me". Here is a wonderful explanation!

A daughter is telling her Mother how everything is going wrong: she's failing algebra, her boyfriend broke up with her, and her best friend is moving away. Meanwhile, her Mother is baking a cake and asks her daughter if she would like a snack, and the daughter says, "Absolutely Mom, I love your cake". "Here, have some cooking oil," her Mother offers. "Yuck", says her daughter. "How about a couple raw eggs?" "Gross, Mom!" "Would you like some flour then? Or maybe baking soda?" "Mom, those are all yucky!" To which the mother replies, "Yes, all those things seem bad all by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake! God works the same way. Many times we wonder why He would let us go through such bad and difficult times. But God knows that when He puts these things all in His order, they always work for good! We must trust Him and, eventually, they will all make something wonderful! God is crazy about you. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He lives everywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart. I hope your day is a "piece of cake"! - Hoyt Sparks

By prayer and Supplication

Listed below are five references to the phrase "prayer and supplication." We know that "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." With this knowledge firmly established and abundantly preached and taught, why is it that we often fail to engage in such prayer, while complaining that the Lord seems to have forsaken us?

By prayer and supplication we are able to approach the throne of God in such a way that He hears us and knows our petitions. Of course, He knows all this before we approach the throne in prayer, but we are taught to pray without ceasing, to bring our cares to Him and to leave them before Him. I believe this is to be done in order that we will realize just how dependent we are upon Him.

Prayer and supplication will bring about a much better perspective of life For us. When we engage in prayer and supplication we are being taught patience, humility, humbleness. We are shown our weaknesses and God strengths.

As you read the following verses, take your Bible and read all the Scripture relative to each verse.

1 Kings 8:38 - What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house:

1 Kings 8:54 - And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.

Acts 1:14 - These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Ephesians 6:18 - Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching there unto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Philippians 4:6 - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.--Elder Louis Culver

Meek does not mean weak

Have you ever considered the beatitude "*Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth*"

stated in Matthew 5:5? Just what does that convey to us?

Well, what it doesn't convey is weakness. Do you think Jesus was weak? He took on the whole religious community and ultimately the Roman state without looking back, without a second thought. He took on the most horrible way to die and faced it without a word. He took upon himself the sin of the world, our sin. It separated him from The Father for a time and he did it. Not for himself but for you and I. He defeated Satan for us. Meek yes, for He describes himself in Matthew 11:29 ... *for I am meek and lowly in heart*: ... But when he comes into Jerusalem knowing he's facing death; Matthew 21:5 *Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass*; Weak no, meekness didn't stop him from being steadfast in preaching his message he brought to all believers. He ignored the critics, showed the religious hypocrites to be fools, and marched on to the cross. On the way, he tossed the money changers and others that defiled God's house out of the temple with a whip he fashioned; John 2:14 *And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: 15 And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; 16 And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.*

The lesson for us, is to be steadfast, humble, but diligent in demonstrating our belief, forever being the light shining out of the darkness. To serve Him and not man, exhorting our brother. Showing by example the reason for our faith. 1 Peter 3:15 *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.* Not to be deterred by what the world thinks of us, concentrate that Jesus is the Christ the son of the living God! Not boastful but humble in spirit as you go 1 Peter 3:4 *But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.*

Let us take on the world, rebuking, exhorting and reproving but with humility and charity. Meekness of character but strong of spirit.– Brother Charlie Dennis

The American Way?

...Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore says liberty means "freedom to do whatever you want -- within the laws of God." But Moore told a citizens rights seminar in Alamogordo, New Mexico, over the weekend that liberty has been perverted to the point that "drugs, homosexuality, and abortion have become an acceptable way of life." He said the American "way of life is under attack" today from a belief system that opposes Christianity. A federal judge has ruled that Moore's installation of a Ten Commandments monument in Alabama's Judicial Building is unconstitutional. A federal appeals court is considering Moore's challenge to that ruling. –Agapepress

If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. -- James 1:26

"God doesn't owe you an explanation or reason for everything he asks you to do. Understanding can wait, but obedience can't. Instant obedience will teach you more about God than a lifetime of Bible discussions. In fact, you will never understand some commands until you obey them first. Obedience unlocks understanding."

Comments or subscription information to:
Brother Charlie Dennis c/o Palm Bethel Primitive Baptist Church
810 Florida Mango Road West Palm Beach, FL 33406