



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

[www.nacoc.us](http://www.nacoc.us)

January 28, 2014

## The Distance Between God and Man

Mike King



An interesting story is told by *Warren Bird* about the construction of Emerson Hall on the campus of Harvard University. During the construction, President *Charles Eliot* invited psychologist and philosopher *William James* to suggest a suitable inscription for the stone lintel over the doors of the new home of the philosophy department.

*Mr. James*, after some reflection, sent President *Eliot* a line from the Greek philosopher Protagoras: “Man is the measure of all things.”

*Mr. James* never heard back from President *Eliot*, but his curiosity was stirred when spotting artisans working on a scaffold hidden by a canvas. One morning after the scaffold and canvas were removed the inscription was revealed: “*What is man that thou art mindful of him?*”

The president of the university had replaced *Mr. James*' suggestion with words from the Psalmist. The author of the article discussing this event commented, “Between these two lines lies the great distance between the God-centered and the human-centered points of view.”

If an inscription could be etched that would best declare or represent your philosophy of life, how would it read. There is a kinship between a man's philosophy of life and the writing of an epitaph on his tombstone. The former gives insight as to how a person thinks their life should be lived while the latter is an assessment of his life in retrospect or after the fact.

Each of us has before us some major choices to make in life, but none so paramount as to who it is that we shall serve in life. Hear Joshua's commitment to his God: “*And if it seem evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day who you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord*” (Josh. 24:15). Paul summarized his life so succinctly in his statement to the Philippians: “*For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain*” (Phil. 1:21).

## THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2014

**Announcements:** Brad Pounders  
**Sound Room:** Matt Jennings  
**Usher:** Chris Smithey

**Lead Singing:** Sun. A.M.: Richard Jennings  
Sun. P.M.: Greg Harrison  
Wed.: Ray Kennedy

### Sunday Prayers:

Feb. 2:  
A.M. Dan Cobb  
Ronnie Griggs  
P.M. Paul Ormon  
Harold Crowe  
Feb. 9:  
A.M. Jason Jennings  
Daniel Drummond  
P.M. Harold Russell  
Burrell Walton  
Feb. 16:  
A.M. Mark Jennings  
Bill Lyon  
P.M. Gary Turner  
Phil Young  
Feb. 23:  
A.M. Troy Robertson  
Terry Stubblefield  
P.M. Richard Adams  
Bobby Marques

### Lord's Supper:

North Head: Steve Todd  
North Helper I: Shane Crotts  
North Helper II: Alvin Parks  
South Head: Lonnie Weaver  
South Helper I: Josh George  
South Helper II: Anderson Parks

### Scripture Reading:

Feb. 2 — Thomas Wall  
Feb. 9 — Cody Clemmer  
Feb. 16 — Hunter Jennings  
Feb. 23 — Tyler Weaver

### Wednesday Prayers:

Feb. 5 — Randy Wall; Ronnie Griggs  
Feb. 12 — Phillip Young; Perry Jones  
Feb. 19 — Bill Botts; Ruston Adams  
Feb. 26 — David Clayton; Olen Clark

### Greeters:

Feb. 2 — Troy & Novene Robertson  
Feb. 9 — Lonnie & Nicki Weaver  
Feb. 16 — Richard & Kathy Jennings  
Feb. 23 — Roger & Kathy Clayton

### Usher & Lock:

Feb. 2 — Brad Pounders  
Feb. 9 — Harold Russell  
Feb. 16 — Randy Wall  
Feb. 23 — Lonnie Weaver

**Host Youth Devo:** Brad & April Pounders

**Prepare Communion:** Kathy Jennings

## GOSSIP

As we all know, the church's most spiritual members gossip about their brethren. If a man continually berates the church, its leadership, its efforts, that proves that he is a dedicated Christian.



And while we're at it, everyone knows that a gossip is always very concerned about checking the facts before he speaks, and cares deeply for the well-being of those about whom he speaks.

Oh, and one more thing: I was once an NBA player for the Los Angeles Lakers and won an Oscar for the movie I was in.

The truth is that words are far more potent than we give them credit. Words build and give life — or maim, injure, and take life. When our words leave our mouths (or our pens, or when we hit “send”) they have a life all their own.

Solomon calls a gossip a person who “lacks sense.” Yet we frequently treat him as if he is full of godly wisdom. *“Whoever belittles his neighbor lacks sense, but a man of understanding remains silent. Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered”* (Prov. 11:12,13,ESV).

We speak our harsh words flippantly, even casually, yet do not think that like a burning match, tossed carelessly out of a car window, we might cause a forest fire.

*“The words of the wicked lie in wait for blood, but the mouth of the upright delivers him”* (Prov. 12:6).

Please allow me to be forthright: a gossip is neither wise nor insightful, still less loving. He is hard on others, inspires no one to live better, and has harmed God's people over and over again.

The Christian is called upon to develop his ability to use words, to be kind and thoughtful with them. *“Gracious words are like honeycomb, sweetness to the soul, and health to the body”* (Prov. 16:24).

It was Will Rogers who said, “The only time people dislike gossip is when the gossip is about them.”

We have all been victim of gossip, whether face-to-face or on the internet; the hurt we felt should be motivation enough to stop gossiping.

~ Stan Mitchell, Fortright.net 04/26/12



**PRAYER LIST**

**Joel Holley**, father of *Kim Clayton* suffered a stroke Mon., Jan. 26th and is in the Tupelo Hospital.

**Phyllis Popson** sister of *Sue Stroud* will have hip replacement surgery, Tues. Jan. 28th.

**Johnna Mills**, daughter of *Judy & Kevin Mills* and granddaughter of *Sue Stroud* is in a PA. hospital with pneumonia.

**Inez Barton**, grandmother of *Alyce Jennings* is recovering from the flu.

**Roger Clayton** is recovering from knee surgery and doing well.

**Jennie Bell**, is improving from her recent shoulder surgery and began rehab on Monday.

**Continual Prayer list:**

**Grace Anderson, Tony Cross, Alicia Dukes, Rivers Robertson, Hudson Grisham, Pat Reed, Nancy Petrowski, Justin Forsyth, Steve Stokes, Kelly Fryar, Donna & Roy Crow, Hugh Collins, Jack Dunlap, Prebble Foster, Terry Young**

**Shut-Ins:**

**Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Tauso Branch, Teresa Clark**

**Nursing Home/Assisted Living:**

**Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb, Maxine Carlisle, Jennie Frohn**

**Military List:**

**David & Barry Wilhite, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud**

**Bible Trivia**

For what did Nehemiah beat some men and pull out their hair? Nehemiah 13:25

- A. Marrying foreign-born women
- B. Profaning the Sabbath
- C. Charging a temple tax
- D. Blocking the gates of Jerusalem



**Wise Thoughts**

“ A cloudy day is no match for a sunny disposition.”



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



February 02..... Miriam Styers  
February 05..... Paige Young



**THANK YOU NOTES**

Thanks so much for the calls, cards, and food, and for the love that was shown to us while I was sick. This is truly a group of God’s children and we are so glad to be a part of this church family.

In Christian love, Bill & Grace Lyon

We sincerely thank you and appreciate the attention given to us during and after Jennie’s surgery. The prayers, food, cards and just being there was very helpful. We miss our church family and look forward to being back very soon. Again, thank you.

Rex & Jennie Bell



**BABY SHOWER**

You are invited to a baby shower for *Erica Crotts* Sunday, February 2nd, from 2:00-3:30pm at the fellowship building. *Erica* and *Martin* are expecting a baby girl the first of April. *Erica* is registered at Babies R Us, Calico Mushroom, and Wal-Mart.

**LADS TO LEADERS PRACTICE**

All youth participating in Lads to Leaders will have practice each Sunday afternoon beginning Feb. 2nd. Boys song leading and girls speech will practice at 4:00pm and boys speech and girls singing will begin practice at 5:00pm. Any youth who would like to take part, even if not participating in the convention in Memphis, are welcome. If you have any questions please see *Lonnie Weaver*.



**FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY!**

Mark your calendar and make plans to join us for Friends and Family Day Sunday, Feb. 23rd. We will have a meal following our morning worship services. Our evening services will be at 1:30. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us. We are looking forward to a great day!

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday School.....9:30  
Morning Worship.....10:30  
Evening Worship.....6:00  
Wednesday Bible Study....7:00

**MINISTER**

Mike King..... 507-0625  
Home ..... 534-6872  
Office..... 534-4649

**ELDERS**

Richard Jennings .....534-6671  
Troy Robertson .....534-3491

**DEACONS**

Greg Clayton.....252-9762  
Roger Clayton..... 538-8195  
Brad Pounders.....316-7931  
Harold Russell ..... 507-1180  
Randy Wall ..... 316-9255  
Lonnie Weaver..... 801-8448

**TO SERVE**

Scripture.....Thomas Wall  
A.M. Prayer.....Dan Cobb  
Closing Prayer.....J. L. Eaton  
P.M. Prayer.....Paul Ormon  
Closing.....Harold Crowe  
Wed.29.....Olen Clark  
Wed.1/29.....Bill Lyon  
Usher & Lock....Brad Pounders  
Greeter.....T & N Robertson

**OUR RECORD**

Sunday School.....129  
Sunday A.M.....155  
Sunday P.M.....NA  
Wednesday.....107  
Contribution.....\$3,323.60  
Budget.....\$3,989.47



**PANTRY ITEM**

**Juice**

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**“MASTER, HERE I AM”**

“Master, here I am, but don’t send me; Despite the whitened harvest of opportunity. I know the Great Commission, but I fail to see why I must personally fulfill it if I would please Thee.”

“Master, here I am, but don’t use me; You’ve given me much talent, but truthfully I’ll never use it anyway, I’m so busy. Let someone else go labor in my community.”

“Master, here I am, but don’t count on me; I may show up for worship if I find that I am free. I’ll eventually do my part and be found actively working for You, Master, but let’s just wait and see.”

“Master, here I am, but don’t watch me; I have some lifestyle choices that you just shouldn’t see. Please turn Your head, so I can sin in secrecy; Perhaps you will not notice my insincerity.”

“Master, here I am, but please don’t leave me! Sickness, trials, heart-ache all are pressing steadily. I promise? I think I meant, ‘Maybe.’”

“Master, here I am, and please Lord, forgive me! I haven’t been a servant, I’ve lived so selfishly. Unless I turn to righteousness, my life hurts Thee; So I’ll read Your word and trust each day, and follow faithfully.” (cf. Isaiah 6:5-8)

~ Neal Pollard, BulletinGold, 08/13