

“We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise”

by Andy Baker

Hebrews reads to a people who have taken their eyes off of the prize. The writer threw them a lifeline with this book as an exhortation to remain faithful, to hang in there. The sum way they accomplish this is by keeping their eyes focused on Jesus, listening intently to His message to the Father (Heb. 1:1-4; 12:1-3). In the last chapter of the book, the writer gives some very practical commands for these people to keep their eyes on Jesus. Of note is the command given in Hebrews 13:15, “Therefore, by Him, let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.” Consider for a moment the principles for consideration from this verse:

All praise we can offer to God is made possible by Jesus. All beauty in the heavens or on the earth is attributed to God by Jesus (Col. 1:16-17). Consider the goodness of the plan of salvation by God through Jesus (Jas. 1:17-18). These things were set in motion by the Father, revealed by the Spirit, but were accomplished ultimately through the willingness, obedience, and ability of the Son. By the Son, we have access to the Father in prayer, in grace, in salvation, and in praise (Jn. 14:6; II Cor. 5:18-21; Heb. 13:15). We give God thanks for the loving obedience of the Savior, and the song of our hearts should reflect our gratitude.

When we offer praises, we are offering sacrifices to God. Worship to God demands that we bring Him something. In fact, man is never to approach God in worship without anything to give Him. Among the sacrifices we offer are: ourselves, our generosity, our tender hearts, our finances, and our praise in word and in song (Rom. 12:1; Heb. 13:16; Ps. 51:16-17; Phil. 4:14; Heb. 13:15). Give God the very best of the fruit of our lips as sacrifice because of our Perfect Sacrifice.

When praises are offered to God, they are to be coupled with thanksgiving. Giving praise can be generic, but it is more meaningful when it is specific. A father can tell his child, “I’m so proud of you,” but how much more meaningful is it when the father praises something specific, “I’m so proud that you shared your toy with your sister. You’re becoming just like Jesus!” When we offer songs of praise and thanks to God, thanksgiving must be a part of our worship. The songs we sing should always tell of His excellent greatness and let Him know specifically how thankful to Him that we are to be His people and to call Him our Father. Such will keep Him near to our hearts and keep us near to His.



STERLINGTON

Church of Christ



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Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

9/14/25

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Those to Serve

Today

Announcements- Travis Rogers **Opening prayer-** Rick Cook
Communion- Wayne Fowler **Closing Prayer-** Damien Miller
Sermon- Don DeLukie

Next Sunday

Announcements- Lyle Russell **Opening prayer-** Arthur Binford
Communion- Wayne Fowler **Closing Prayer-** David Reppond
Sermon- Don DeLukie

Announcements

— **Better Conference:** The Sterlington Church is co-sponsoring a conference for helping Preachers and Ministers. September 23, 2005 at 8:30-2 pm. See the flyer in the foyer for more details.

— **Check the bulletin board in the foyer for local events and Gospel Meetings happening in our area.**

— **Question & Answer Series:** Our next Question & Answer Series will be when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

— **Children's Home Collection:** Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer.



Scan the QR
code to visit
our website.



Please Pray For:

Oddie Cameron, Gavin McDaniel, Rick Cook, Tyler Gillikin, Eli Simmons, Sheila Long, Carol Fletcher, Blayne Atkins, Vee Boren, Kari Johnstone, Rhonda Rogers, Ralph Malone, Lynn Urban, Diane Alexander, Rhonda Rogers.

Bereaved: Family of Leon Riley, Charlie Kirk, Lewin Gray.

Needing Long-Term Prayers:

Pam Few, Debbie Walker, Carey Day, Leo & Shirley Goodwin, Tommy Franklin, Arthur Binford, Dan Ross Jr, Dena White, Larry & Joanne Randolph, Bettye Flowers, Dave & Linda Garriss, Sharon White-Ross, Bobby Barker, Cindy Smith, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



September Birthdays

9 - Carlon Hollis
16 - Tyrese McFarland
17 - Sherry Miller
18 - Wanda Simpson
19 - Linda Herlong
22 - Jodie Chisley
23 - Maddie Magee
27 - Shirley Goodwin

September Anniversaries

5 - Matt and Danielle Scharf
25 - Lyle and Miriam Russell

