

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE TODAY:

| | AM | PM |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Announcements | David Bryant | |
| Opening Prayer | Dale Aden | Nick Bryant |
| Lead Singing | Freeman Mahan | Dale Ballentine |
| Scripture Reading | Steve Foster | Noah Brasher |
| Closing Prayer | David Brasher | Dale Ballentine |
| Lord's Table | David Brasher* | |
| | Mark Wright* | |
| | Monte Morris | |
| | Edward Ford | |
| | Kyle Foster | |
| | Jacob Keen | |



Trezevant Church of Christ

114 Church Street
Trezevant TN 38258

The Follower

March 15, 2020

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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- SUNDAY:** Bible Class 9:00 AM
 Worship 10:00 AM & 5:00 PM
 (Meet-Eat-Meet each fifth Sunday)
- WEDNESDAY:** Bible Study 6:30 PM

How Is Your Self Control?

The fruits of the spirit are recorded for us in **Galatians 5:22-23**, one of which is temperance, or self-control. Peter tells us we are to add this particular virtue to our faith in order to make our calling and election sure (**2 Pet. 1:5-10**). The Scriptures are replete with examples of this quality, both of those who exhibited it and those who did not.

Adam and Eve set our first example of failure to practice self-control when they ate of the forbidden fruit in the garden (**Gen. 3:6**.) Their first-born Cain, likewise, did not exhibit self-control when his offering was rejected; he instead went out and murdered his brother (**Gen. 4:1-8**). Moses did not exercise self-control when he struck the rock instead of speaking to it in the wilderness (**Num. 20:6-12**). David, the man after God's own heart, demonstrated a total lack of self-control when he desired Bathsheba so much that, though she was the wife of another man, he deceived and even committed murder in order to have her for his own (**2 Sam. 11**). In each of these examples, the failure to practice self-control not only affected the guilty, but others as well.

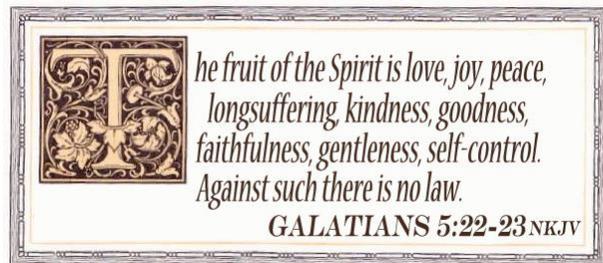
But the Scriptures also provide us great examples of those who did practice self-control. *(Continued next page)*

Joseph remained firm in his continued rejection of the sexual advances of Potiphar's wife (**Gen. 39:7ff**). Though Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednigo were threatened, they refused to be enticed to deny God and worship other gods/men (**Dan. 1, 3, 6**). Jesus Himself set the perfect example for us when, in a weakened physical state, He stood firm in resisting the temptations of Satan (**Matt. 4:1ff**). And when in His final hours He endured the torture of hostile examinations, cruel beatings, and death on the cross (**Matt. 26-27**), He fulfilled prophecy by neither reviling nor threatening (**1 Pet. 2:23**): *He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth (Isa. 53:7).*

How often do we fail to exhibit self-control in our lives? For example, how are you doing with that diet? What about that bad habit you know you need to give up? How firm is your resolve in managing your finances? Far too often we take the easy way out. But if we cannot exercise self-control over such simple things, how can we expect to practice self-control over weightier matters such as sin and the effect it has on our lives now and for eternity?

Though we are encouraged to add self-control to our faith, we need help in order to be successful. As God's children, His Word and the avenue of prayer are always available to help us maintain self-control in all we do. Are you really interested in improving your self-control? If so, let God and His Word become a bigger part of your life.

~Freeman



Remember in Prayer . . .

- **Jimmy** has been moved to the rehab facility in McKenzie.
- **Wanda** came home Friday, but at this time both she and **Sherrill** are battling strep.
- **Ponna's** thyroid surgery went well Thursday; she came home Friday and continues to recuperate at home.

News and Notes . . .

- **We welcome our visitors!** Please complete a visitor card and place in the collection tray. We ask that you stay around a while and let us get acquainted with you.
- **Devo** Wednesday night: **Freeman**
- Ladies are invited to a **Bridal Tea** honoring **Morgan Lawrence** next Sunday, March 22, from 2:00 until 4:00 PM at White Woods Barn in Milan. Those wishing to contribute to a group gift should see Rita, Pam, or Ponna **today**, and **all who plan to attend the tea are asked to sign the sheet in the foyer.**
- March being a five-Sunday month, we will enjoy a **Fellowship Meal** on the 29th, and it will be a **Meet-Eat-Meet** day.
- **Gospel Meeting at Bishop Street in Union City** begins today and continues through Wednesday. The guest speaker is B.J. Clarke; all evening services begin at 7:00.

MEMORY VERSE - Proverbs 16:25:

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.