

NORTH HAMILTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

that no matter what we do to climb our way out of a hole we keep falling back in. If we aren't careful, we can cave to the pressure and lose ourselves in the process.

What are we supposed to do? Does it make sense to just quit? Are we truly out of options when it seems we've tried them all? Here are seven questions worth considering:

1. How much do we trust God? Trials are all about trust. Either we believe God can and will do something, or we don't. It's just that simple. The difficult part is the application, especially in the midst of struggles. Doubt is a strong tool of the devil. He's used doubt since the beginning (Gen. 3:1-5), to drive a wedge between man and God. And if he can cause doubt through suffering, he can typically bring discouragement.

How often have people asked, "why God?" How many times have people pointed a finger to the skies and accused God of indifference? We may not verbally say it when we do, but so many reach the point of thinking God has abandoned them. If we find ourselves thinking this way, we are in grave danger of abandoning the only source of our escape. Think of it this way. If we feel like we are somehow distant from God, who moved? God is a fortress, our bedrock and our deliverer (Psa. 18:1). This means if I'm experiencing doubt and caving to the pressure of my problems, my faith in God is damaged.

Our God has never changed (Mal. 3:6). He is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb. 13:8). The same God that delivered the Israelites from the rigor of Egyptian bondage is the same God that reigns in the church. The same God that slew Goliath and shut the lions' mouths is the same one we praise in our assemblies. The same God that delivered Job from suffering and raised Jesus from the grave is the same one that will get us through our trials to the other side. It is a matter of trust. Are we brave enough to give our problems to God (1 Pet. 5:7)? Do we trust Him enough to work things out? Do we really believe that God is infinitely bigger than whatever finite problems we have in this life? We will never rise above our struggles higher than our own faith in God.



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FEBRUARY 3, 2020

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	
Willard Elsea	240-9539	Joe Anderson	Rick Essex
Art Greer	902-6295	Keith Herron	Brad Jones
Joel Laney	322-7828	Tommy Qualls	Chris Randolph
		Curt Stewart	Toby Ward

Minister

David B. Smith 667-1987

Minister's Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday, 9:00a.m. – Noon

Schedule of Services

Bible Classes	9:30 A.M.	Worship	10:30 A.M.
Sunday Evening	6:00 P.M.	Wednesday	7:00 P.M.

"When You Can't Catch a Break (Part 1)"

David B. Smith

Have you ever hit the point in life when it seems like you can't catch a break? There's an old saying, "different strokes for different folks," and in some sense that's true. Not everyone has the same set of circumstances. Our experiences in life are often unique, individually and as a family. However, appearances can be deceiving—especially when we think other people don't have struggles. Everyone struggles. But when you're at the bottom of the barrel it's easy to think no one has it as bad as you. We've all been there. Maybe some of us are there right now. It seems

The Past Week	
Bible Class: 118	10:30 Worship: 194
PM Worship: 127	Wednesday: 92
Contribution: \$6248	
Sunday's Sermons	
AM: Would You Know My Name?	
PM: Questions and Answers	
Men to Serve	
AM: Opening Prayer – Ken Wilson	Announcements – Joel Laney
PM: Opening Prayer – Bobby Haynes	Closing Prayer – Justin Tripp
Wednesday: Opening – Art Greer	Closing – Joe Anderson
All Week: Lock Building – Ben Battles	Hall Monitor – Keith Herron
<i>(Men, check duty roster on bulletin board and let George Farmer or Curt Stewart know if unable to serve)</i>	

<u>Prayer List</u>		
James Anderson	Danny Curvin	Judy Lusk
Patricia Anthony	Tommie Grandfield	Tony Miller
Jim Bethune	Sarah Grasham	Lexi Owens
Nancy Birch	Bill Greer	Carlos Shannon
Mike Bouldin	Fred Hafley	Janice Smith
Jennifer Bradford	Kathy Hamilton	Bessie Smithson
Marjorie Cagle	Susie Hargis	Diane Stacy
Jeff Cobb	Grayson Ledbetter	John Webster
Isaac Cooper	Loretta Leffew	

Our Sick and Recovering

- **Jo Hargis** was admitted to Erlanger after a fall Tuesday afternoon. She is slowly recovering, and plans call for rehab at a skilled care facility when she is ready to be released from Erlanger. Keep Jo in your prayers that she may recover quickly.
- **James Actkinson** has a couple of medical issues pending. A growth on his nose is malignant and requires either surgery or radiation correct. After a visit with a neurologist, he is scheduled for spinal surgery on March 5.
- **Jeff Cobb**, Doris Perry's son-in-law, continues to improve; however, he needs a liver transplant. Doctors feel that his condition can be controlled with medication until a suitable transplant becomes available.

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 9 – Sue Grindstaff
- 11 – Ashley Smith, Tommy Qualls
- 12 – Vickie Rector
- 13 – Edna Scarbrough
- 17 – Amy Qualls
- 18 – Glen Jones
- 19 – Ken Wilson
- 23 – Curt Horn
- 24 – Doris Perry, Phil Phillips
- 28 – Sissy Jones

Anniversaries

- 24 – Glen & Marcia Jones

Announcements

- **Tennessee Children's Home:** The truck for the Tennessee Children's Home Spring Food Drive will be here on Wednesday, May 13. There is a list of needed items on the bulletin board, and copies will be made should you wish to have one as you shop. Again, Rick Essex will accept cash donations, allowing him to purchase items for you.
- **Two additions to North Hamilton Family:**
 - **Stephanie Rogers** met with the elders and asks to be identified as a member of the North Hamilton congregation. We welcome her to North Hamilton and will have additional information in next week's bulletin.
 - We were happy to see **Aiden Pell** baptized following our Wednesday evening service. We know that on Wednesday evening the Lord added Aiden to his church.
- **Another Calendar Change:** Our Friends and Family Day which normally occurs the first Sunday in October is now scheduled for the last weekend in September. Kyle Butt will be here and will present a series of lessons on creation, evolution, and the like. There will be a Saturday afternoon session followed by presentations at our Sunday services. These subjects are needed by all as the world tries to discredit our God and his ability to create the earth we inhabit.