

Her words hit me hard, because I know all of the kids are missing something right now that they need. Obviously, the burden of teaching and training children rests primarily on parents. We are supposed to “bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:1). As parents, my wife and I reflect often on the words of Moses to the next generation. “You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up” (Deut. 6:7). He wasn’t just talking about a formal teaching session but of the practical and daily ways in which parents direct the spiritual growth of their children. We do the best we can. Sometimes we struggle with it. But we are very aware that the burden is primarily ours to carry.

Despite all we are trying to do for our girls, there is something they are missing. They are missing a room full of other kids learning the Bible too. They are missing Bible class teachers with special lessons and projects that reinforce the teaching at home. There’s an essential atmosphere that has been stolen from them, at least for now. Personally, I can tell you that I am not just concerned for adults that are slipping away from our Lord at this time. I am deeply concerned about the impact of separation and lack of Bible classes on our own next generation. Moses knew without regular instruction the future generation would be doomed to failure. Sadly that came to pass, as the word of God had been abandoned by the time of the judges (Judg. 2:10). I wonder how long it will take in our day before a generation of kids forgets the importance of Christian friends and Bible classes? Maybe I’m overthinking it and I sincerely hope I’m wrong. But I cannot imagine that sustained absence from your peer group—the one that grows spiritually with you—has too many positive benefits. Just like we are working hard to maintain our relationships as adults, our kids are being kept back from the people we’ve been telling them they need to stick with for life.

I know I am rambling and I am sorry for that. I want all of our children at North Hamilton to go to heaven. I mean that. While I am grateful for our Zoom meetings with the kids for Kidstime on Sunday evenings, we all know in our hearts they need so much more. So much has been said lately about schools opening back up and how important it is to a child’s development. I believe that also holds true for the opportunities provided by the church. Let us spend some serious time on our knees in prayer about this. Please, dear God, deliver us from our present distress and let us return to some much needed time together—and that includes our children too.

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“When Can We Go Back to Class?”

David B. Smith

Last week, one of our girls asked me this very question. She followed by saying, “I really miss my class.” She was talking about her Bible class, by the way. We were all reminiscing about the uncomplicated life (seemingly) before coronavirus. She was missing class and her classmates. She was missing her associations that perhaps we all took for granted prior to our shutdown. She was expressing a void in her life that needed filling. We had a long talk afterward about the responsibilities of our eldership. I explained to her the need to consider both the physical and the spiritual and how our elders are doing their best to balance both. We even prayed for our elders to have wisdom and grace and courage. Still, she is missing class.

Our Sick and Recovering

- **Johnnie Perry** is recovering at home following shoulder replacement surgery on Tuesday. She reports that the surgery went well as so goes recovery. Hopefully, this will restore full range of motion as well as reducing pain from a fall at work.
- **Doug Rector** had cataract surgery on Wednesday and is now in the recovery process. A recent surgery also corrected a vision problem Doug has experienced since childhood.
- **Tom Greer** is scheduled surgery on a malignant facial skin growth. This was previously scheduled but had to be postponed until now. Pray for a successful procedure and a rapid recovery.
- **Tina Brown's** recovery is now going somewhat slow. The incision from the surgery is now infected and is being treated. She also has been diagnosed with colon cancer and will soon begin chemotherapy. The family requests no phone calls at this time; however, cards will be appreciated and encouraging. Send cards to Tina Brown, 196 Cherry Street, Pikeville, TN 37367

Prayer List

James Anderson	Judy Lusk	Tim Randolph
Patricia Anthony	Tommie Grandfield	Tony Miller
Jim Bethune	Bill Greer	Lexi Owens
Nancy Birch	Fred Hafley	Tina Brown
Mike Bouldin	Kathy Hamilton	Janice Smith
Susie Hargis	Bessie Smithson	Steve Gaines
Grayson Ledbetter	Diane Stacy	Loretta Leffew
John Webster	Juanita Johnson	

(See additional information on each of these on the bulletin board at either hallway)

Sympathy

Geraldine Yates, Naron Yates' grandmother and a resident of Carrollton, Mississippi, passed away on Wednesday with graveside services conducted on Friday. We certainly extend our sympathy to Naron and his entire family on his grandmother's death.

Allen Lewis: We also lost a neighbor to brain cancer this week. Allen Lewis, while not a member of the church, was an excellent neighbor. As one of the owners of Lewis Tree Service, he provided services for North Hamilton on several occasion and would accept no pay or only a very minimum amount. The Lewis family live just across from the building on Holland-Johnson Road.

Sunday's Sermon: David continues the series "War of the Worlds." If you have not been able to meet at the building for our morning service, we hope you have the time and ability to view these lessons on both YouTube and Facebook. Although our service is available to view at 12:15, it remains available to view anytime you have the opportunity. This week's lesson is taken from 2Timothy 3:16-17 while next week's will be based on Acts 9:1-22.

- **Update on Live Streaming:** Brad Jones has spent many hours this past week, along with Terry Williamson, installing camera and stringing wire for the new system. It will probably be tested at this morning's service but will still air at 12:15 today. We should be able to broadcast the service as it occurs next Sunday.
- **Ladies Bible Class:** Some are asking about when the Ladies Bible Class will resume. After some discussion it was decided that it is possible to resume soon if there is enough interest. The class would meet in the auditorium where there is plenty of room to maintain social distancing and wearing face mask would be encouraged. If you are interested in restarting the Ladies Class at this time, let Gloria Greer know by Sunday, August 23.
- **Letters in the Mail:** These letters will be posted on the bulletin boards should you wish to read them:
 - Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies thanking the congregation for the financial support North Hamilton provides.
 - Lads to Leaders sent a brief letter again thanking North Hamilton for supporting their program.
 - International Gospel Hour (IGH) – We support Jeff Archey in his work there. Interesting information on his travels as well as where we can hear the broadcast.
 - Green's Lake Road sent a flyer with the schedule for the fall term on Chattanooga School of Preaching and Biblical Studies. You do not have to be a preacher to attend.

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

16 – Chris Bell, Marcia Jones

17 – Josh Elsea

18 – Colleen Dennis, Ella Pell, Jessica Stewart

19 – Adalee Ellison

Anniversaries

18 – James & Becky Actkinson