

PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST JACKSON, TENNESSEE

Don't Let Doubt Sink Your Faith

G. Campbell Morgan was a British preacher, scholar and author of the latter 19th and early 20th century. He had already dedicated his life to ministry by age 19. However, he developed some doubts about the Bible. Morgan relates the writings of various scientists and agnostics disturbed him (e.g., Charles Darwin, John Tyndall, Thomas Huxley, and Herbert Spencer). As he read their books and listened to debates, Morgan became more and more perplexed.

What did he do? He cancelled all preaching engagements, put all the books in a cupboard and locked the door, and went to the bookstore and bought a new Bible. He said to himself, "I am no longer sure that this is what my father claims it to be-the Word of God. But of this I am sure. If it be the Word of God, and if I come to it with an unprejudiced and open mind, it will bring assurance to my soul of itself."

The result? That Bible found me!" said Morgan. The new assurance in 1883 gave him the motivation for his preaching and teaching ministry. He devoted himself to the study and preaching of God's Word.

Doubt has sunk the greatest of men. Literally! The Gospel writer records an occasion when the disciples were on a boat one night on the sea of Galilee. Suddenly Jesus appeared to them. Walking on the water! The ever impetuous Peter requested that he be allowed to walk on the water to meet Jesus. To which, Christ said, "Come!" Matthew then records what happened. "And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" (Matt 14:29-31)

Peter began well. He was excited. Focused. Faithful. And Peter did walk on the water. But doubt did him in! He took his eyes off Jesus. His focus was diverted to the obstacles and elements. The wind. The waves. His confidence gave way to doubt. And his faith turned into fear. Doubt can drown you. In life. In business. In relationships. And in your Christian walk. Since Faith is the road to big things, hence doubt will do everything possible to gain inroads.

Doubt questions, Why did God do this to me? Doubt wonders, What if it doesn't work? What if I fail? Doubt accusingly asks, "Why does God allow this terrible tragedy to occur? Doubt incriminates God by saying, "Where

was He when I needed him? Doubt skeptically impugns, "Who do you think you are? You can't do it? Doubt creeps in through the cracks and in sinister and snide ways, tells you that you are not good enough, not strong enough, not worthy enough.

When doubts arise hold tight to your faith. Indeed, "faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the Word of God" (Rom. 10:17). When doubts arise hang on to your hope. Your Hope is an anchor of the soul. When the winds of doubt blow, anchor deep in God's promised hope. When doubts arise cling to the love of God. He is a faithful, forgiving, loving Father. Don't drown in doubt. Let God find you through His Word.

-Ken Weliever, thepreachersword.com

We are so grateful that you have made the decision to join our family, today, as we worship our Almighty God! If you have any questions or inquiries, please feel free to ask any of our members and we would be more happy to answer as best we can! Please accept our invitation to join us, again, when you have the opportunity.

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<u>Times of Worship & Bible Study</u> Sunday:

9:30 AM Bible Study

10:30 AM Worship Service: You can expect heart felt singing, reverent prayer, preaching from the Word of God, a focused and reverent observance of the Lord's Supper, and an opportunity for the saints of Pleasant Plains to give back to the Lord. **5:00 PM Worship Service**

Wednesday:

7:00 PM Bible Study and Worship

Weekly Attendance

Last Sunday AM Worship......117 Last Sunday PM Worship......77 Last Wednesday Bible Study.....97

In Our Prayers

RECENT ADDITIONS/UPDATES:

-Casey McDaniel (friend of Shanda Lewis)...diagnosed with congestive heart failure. She just recently gave birth to a baby boy. Please pray for her and her family.

-Sammy Barker...recovering from pacemaker replacement surgery.

-Chad Edwards (friend of Anita Wagster)...diagnosed with cancer and the prognosis is not good. She would appreciate the prayers of the church.

-Mary Tole...recovering from a procedure to remove a mass from her pancreas.

CONTINUED PRAYERS: -Our expecting mother: Melody Brown.

-Our Shut-In Members...Marvin and Becky Berry, Norma Griggs, & Barbara Leonard.

-Christian Benson...battling leukemia.

-Louise Stitt (Amy Gailey's Mother)... continuing cancer treatments.

-Wayne Wilkinson (father of Jim Wilkinson)...undergoing cancer treatments.

-Keller Stephens (Kathy Raines' Uncle) ... still struggling with his health.

-Christy Bennett's Nephew Logan... young man struggling with his health.

-Robin Hill battling cancer.

-Jamie Neal and family (Nancy Phillips' friend)..Battling Melanoma.

-Ashley Pickens (Brent Holt's cousin)... Battling Cancer and has been readmitted to the hospital with complications.

-Pray for the work of this church. The fields are white & we need to be hard at work to spread the Gospel to as many lost souls as possible.

-Men & women making the sacrifice to protect the freedoms of this country.

If you have any updates or additions to the prayer list, please see Nick (in person, phone call, text, or email) so we can keep the bulletin up to date.

Pleasant Plains News

9-11-2016

Upcoming Pleasant Plains' Bible Studies & Events

✓Men's Bible Class - No regular September class. Max Dawson will lead the men in a day of study on September 17th as a part of our special study with him that will begin the following day.

✓Ladies Class - September 13th at 10:00am here at the church house. Lesson12 will be covered.

✓Young People's Gathering -September 25th following evening service at Austin Lewis's home, "The Big Picture" Lesson 13 will be reviewed.

Area Gospel Meetings

Please be making plans to be in attendance for our special study with Max Dawson that will be September 17-21.

Gospel Meeting at the Elliot
Street Church of Christ...

Bobby Graham will be leading the lessons September 18-23. Regular times on Sunday and 7pm throughout the week.

Daily Bible Reading For This Week: II Samuel 6-8 & I Chronicles 6-10 Please make an effort to be in daily reading and meditation of God's Word! This year we will be reading through the first 14 books of the Old Testament in an effort to learn along side our kids classes and to be instructed by those things written in earlier times. (Romans 15:4)