

hope **one** God
 Lord Spirit body
 faith **family**
 baptism hope

August 9, 2015

12932 S Elwood Ave • Glenpool OK, 74033

O My Son Absalom

ELDERS

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 Bill Path
 Keith Riggs

PULPIT MINISTER

Benjamin Williams

PRISON MINISTER

Bill Hamrick

DEACONS

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 ASSOCIATE MINISTER,
 YOUTH & EDUCATION
 James Hamilton,
 WORSHIP
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 Bruce Rothell,
 MISSIONS

SECRETARY

Karen Brown

When David faced with the guilt of his sin with Bathsheba, the prophet Nathan said, "The Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die" (2 Samuel 12:13). David sighed with a bit of relief that day, but he vastly underestimated the consuming fire that sin had begun in his own home. As a consequence of his great evil, "Thus says the Lord, 'Behold I will raise up evil against you out of your own house'" (12:11).

The years that would follow would be hard for David. His child by Bathsheba would die shortly after the scene mentioned above (12:15-18). David's son Amnon would rape his own sister Tamar (13:1-14). David's son Absalom would murder Amnon for his crime (13:23-33). Absalom would later conspire to rebel against his father, King David (15:1-12). David fled from Jerusalem and conceded the capitol to Absalom's rebellion for a time. During the civil war that followed, Absalom himself would be killed (18:9-15).

When David finally hears of Absalom's death, the text reads as follows. "And the king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'" (2 Samuel 18:33) I do not believe David was wishing he had died on the battlefield that day. I believe he was wishing he could had died all those years ago when he had sinned, rather than live to see the consequence of sin being lived out by his son.

We believe the lie that we are in control when we take our lives back from God and choose to live as we wish. However, we are never more out of control than when we sin. Sin will take you farther than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay, and cost you more than you want to pay. It has neither boundaries nor restraints. Our attempts to hide it only fan the flame. Our efforts to direct it consume us. We try to control it, only to become its slave.

If we want to see the consequence of sin, we need only look at the twisted wreck of David's life. We need only look at our own life and its failures. We need only look at this once good world gone so horribly wrong. We need only look at the Cross where our sins make their final play for power, only to be crushed by the Resurrected Savior.

Thanks be to God for his mercy. He sees in humanity something worth saving from the wreck of sin's consequences, and only He has the love and power to do it.

SUNDAY

Bible Classes	9:30 am
Worship	10:30 am
Devotional	5:00 pm
Bible Classes	9:30 am

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes	7:00 pm
Devotional	7:45 pm

by Benjamin Williams

Prodigal Son or Love of the Father?

Should the parable of the Prodigal Son be called the “Loving Father” instead? In his book *“The Power of the Story,”* Leighton Ford asks this question and then explains why the Parable should be called “The Loving Father.” As Christians, we tend to see the parable of how a person can sin badly, wander completely off course, and still come back to God. We see it as a story about a person having a change of heart, realizing his guilt, and then seeking the Lord’s forgiveness. And granted this is a good application.

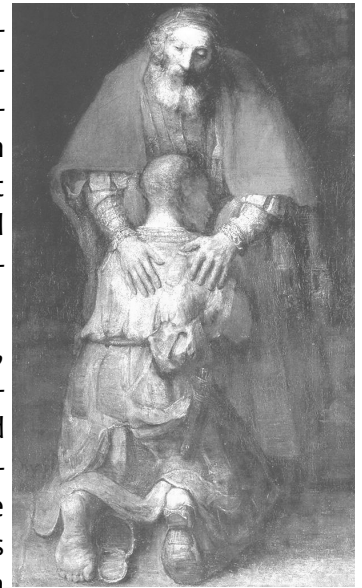
But if we step back a minute and look at it from a different perspective, we can see it from Leighton Ford’s point. Jesus gave this parable immediately after telling two other parables: “the Parable of the Lost Coin” and “the Parable of the Lost Sheep.” In both of these parables and the Prodigal Son parable, the appreciation for that which was lost is easily seen. The woman searches diligently for the lost coin as does the shepherd for his lost sheep. And the father of the prodigal son is so happy to see his son that he forgets all about what his son did to him. He immediately runs to his son, gives him a big hug and has a feast for him. The father forgets his dignity, forgets the insult and the lack of respect that his son showed to him. He doesn’t care about any of that. He is overwhelmed with relief and happiness that his son has returned.

Furthermore when Jesus spoke this parable, he might very well have been directing it to the Pharisees as well as to the sinners in his audience. The Pharisees, the so called religious people of the time, did not understand Jesus being among sinners and talking to them. They condemned Jesus for his association with sinners. They did not see the love that God has for all people and that it is His greatest desire that all people repent and come back to Him.

Today, we must see the lost from God’s perspective. Leighton Ford says it this way: *“Our vision for evangelism emerges as we identify with the father in the story, as we look out across our neighborhoods and our world and see the shame and misery of the prodigal people. We receive our vision as we look at the world through the loving eyes of the Father. That is the vision that must grip our imagination as we look into the eyes of the people around the office, on the campus and over the back fence. That is the vision that should transform our character, that changes us so that we become natural storytellers, living and telling the story of God’s love.”*

The vision that Leighton Ford is talking about is to realize the amazing love that the Father has for all people and do what we can to share that truth with our friends. And this ‘Love of the Father’ should inspire us to the utmost of our ability.

by Bruce Rothell





Every Monday Night
Come When You Can
6:30-ish to 8:00-ish

Info: David Tenison or Ben Williams

IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

- Jerry Buller is having one parathyroid removed on Monday at Hillcrest.
- Shirley Hood's great nephew, Jesse Hulett, will be undergoing several procedures at the Stephenson Cancer Center at OU Medical Center.
- The youth minister at the Henryetta Church of Christ, Matt Eastridge, is in St. John's Hospital recovering from a disease known as Gullaine Bere Syndrome. There will be a long period of recovery ahead for him.
- Rex Walcher, the pulpit minister at Henryetta was accidentally run over by a bus at his business and suffered a broken back. He is in St. Francis Hospital.
- Jack Madding has a torn bicep near the attachment to his shoulder.
- Henry Lack is having some health problems.
- Kevin Marquette, a former member, has been diagnosed with stage four colon cancer.
- Those on vacation and on the road traveling.

Service men and women: Jenna Sullivan; Jacob Littlebear

Our friends and family: Suzanne Stamps; Jeanene Thomas; Barbara Vaughan; Eric Vaughan (heart); Bryant Calip (chemo); Bill Taylor (cancer); Stephanie White; Betty Jo Heltzel; Henry Lack; Robert Vaughan; Eric Vaughan and others

EVENTS TODAY

Today there will be a Leadership Workshop from 2-3. An Elders and Deacons meeting from 3-4. And A/V training from 4-5 for all volunteers interested.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY

Mark your calendars for Friends & Family Day on Sunday September 27th.

HOPE HARBOR

Hope Harbor change cans are here! Please take one with you and fill it up with change for the kids. They will need to be back around the 1st of Sept. Thank you for helping the kids.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

It is time to start thinking about collecting school supplies again. If you know of a child that needs supplies please give the name and a list of items needed to Keith Riggs. Supplies need to be brought to the church building by August 9th. Any supplies not used here will be given to one of the local schools. A list has been posted on the bulletin board—you are welcome to take one.

SENIOR SAINTS PROGRAM

If you are interested in participating or have ideas see James Hamilton.

SUMMER SERIES

Our Wednesday night speaker will be Mike Schroeder from Blue Starr. Mike will be speaking on "Three Miracles to Marvel."

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Marc Pulliam, August 9	Jerry Buller, August 17	Mary Reeve, August 24
Jesse & Becky Byers, August 10	Jonathan Hamilton, August 20	Wes & Marisa Wadkins, August 25
Randy Crawford, August 11	Paul & Dorothy Ennis, August 20	Tom & Tammy Carr, August 25
Bobby & Shirley Hill, August 16	Bob & Mickey Hecht, August 21	Andrea Hallstead, August 30
Chris Patterson, August 16	Stephanie Yeager, August 23	Ralph Causby, August 30

GLENPOOL church of Christ

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Attendance: Last Week

Sunday Bible Classes	137
Sunday AM Worship	175
Sunday PM Worship	76
Wednesday Bible Classes	102

Contribution

Sunday Contribution	\$4,625.36
Budget	\$4,371.00
Over Budget	\$9,401.03
Building Fund	\$4,488.25

Men To Serve

Sunday Morning

Song Leader	Robert Hallstead
Opening Prayer	Jeff Bullinger
Scripture Reading	Bob Hecht
Closing Prayer	Bruce Rothell
Lord's Table	Wes Wadkins
	Carl Burrus
	Jerry Morgan
	James Hamilton
	Zac Tenison
	Steve Rucquoy

Greeter

Jack & Earline Lierly
David & Sandra Tenison

Ushers

Richard Senn
Ryan McCafferty

Lock Building

Bruce Rothell and Bobby Hill

Announcements

Bill Path with Bobby Hill as backup

Sunday Evening

Song Leader	Robert Hallstead
Opening Prayer	Topper Causby
Closing Prayer	Steve Wetzel
Lord's Table	Carl Burrus
	Jerry Morgan

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader	Jerry Buller
Opening Prayer	Johnny Riggs
Closing Prayer	Jesse Byers

Shut-in Communion

Team Path

Communion Preparation

8/9	Autumn Caldwell
8/16	Tonya Davidson
8/23	Causby Ladies
8/30	Shawna Caddell
9/7	Marcia Riggs
9/14	Shirley Hood
9/21	Earline Lierly
9/28	Cathy Burcham
10/4	Nola Buller



"These were more noble... they searched the scriptures daily..." (Acts 17:11)

Sundays at 7:30 am
Channel 47
In Truth in Love 8:00 am
Channel 47

Search Programs:

August 9— God the Father
August 16—Jesus the Son
August 23—The Holy Spirit
August 30—One God, Three Persons

Sunday Morning Sermon

"Drawn to Bread"
John 6:41-44
Benjamin Williams

Sunday Evening

A Study of the Church of Christ (Continued)
Benjamin Williams