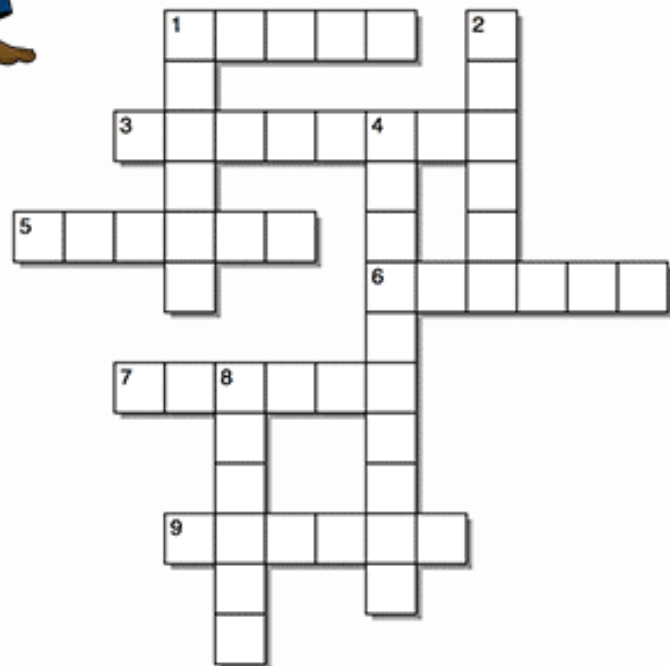




Bible Pathway Adventures

CROSSWORD

JACOB



ACROSS

- 1) Name of Jacob's father. (Genesis 27:21 ESV)
- 3) "Jacob was left alone, and a man came and _____ with him." (Genesis 32:24 ESV)
- 5) Israel loved _____ more than any other of his sons. (Genesis 37:3 ESV)
- 6) Jacob had twelve sons who became the _____ tribes of Israel. (Genesis 49:28 ESV)
- 7) Jacob married Leah and _____. (Genesis 29:28 ESV)
- 9) Jacob dreamed he saw angels going up and down to Heaven on a _____ . (Genesis 28:12 ESV)

DOWN

- 1) The new name God (Yah) gave Jacob. (Genesis 32:28 ESV)
- 2) Rachel hid her father's idols in her camel's _____. (Genesis 31:34 ESV)
- 4) Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of _____. (Genesis 25:34 ESV)
- 8) Jacob and his family lived in the land of _____. (Genesis 37:1 ESV)



January 19, 2025
Vol. 9 # 2

Schedule of Services:

Sundays:
Morning Worship 9:30 AM
Bible Class 10:45 AM
Evening Worship 5 PM

Monday Night Study:
Monday Nights 6:30 - 8 PM

Tuesday Ladies Bible Class:
Tuesday Mornings 9:45 AM

Wednesday Night Devo / Bible Class:
5:15-6:15 PM Meal
6:30 PM Service

Beaumont Nursing Homes Service Times

Harmony @ Beaumont
(2660 Brickyard Rd., Bmt)
Sunday @ 2 pm

Birchwood of Beaumont
(4195 Milam St., Beaumont)
Sunday @ 3:30 pm

Brookdale Dowlen Oaks
(2250 Dowlen Rd., Bmt)
Sunday @ 2 pm

Meadows Church of Christ
P.O. Box 5126
Beaumont, Texas 77726

409-892-7063 Office
409-892-6420 Office

On the web:

Meadowschurchofchrist.com

Meadows Messenger



As We Enter a New Year...

Joshua was given the responsibility to lead God's people out of their 40-years of wilderness wanderings and into the Promised Land. Yet the success or failure of this new venture was not on his shoulders alone. God was going to give him the guidance he needed in order to successfully *take the land*. I believe if we follow this same guidance, we too shall be successful as we enter this New Year.



Rule #1 – ***“Be strong and courageous, for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them,”*** Joshua 1:6. The greatest obstacle to faith is fear! When we are ruled by our fears and not our faith – we will fail! Yes, there will be obstacles, problems, and unforeseen trials that we will face this year. But in this verse God reminds Joshua of His promises. Therefore, let us face those obstacles and problems with a faith that trusts in the promises which the Lord has sworn to us.

Rule #2 – ***“Be strong and courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which My servant Moses commanded you,”*** Joshua 1:7. God knows His people are often tempted to *“turn to the right or to the left”* instead of remaining in the middle of the narrow road of His word. It takes strength and courage to refuse to get distracted by the new and latest fads which appear amongst religious people. Or by the worldly influences of living in this secular society. Yet we know we will *“have success wherever we go”* when we go as God's word has directed us.

Rule #3 – ***“Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go,”*** Joshua 1:9. Again the Lord warns us about the deadly nature of fear. But in this verse God gives the greatest reason why we need not fear, ***“...the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”*** Paul asks the question, ***“If God is for us – who can be against us,”*** Romans 8:31. Of course, the answer is, *“Most of the world and all of the demons of hell!”* But where would you rather be standing, with them or with Jesus?! Therefore, it truly doesn't matter who is against us since God is *“for us,”* and He is *“with us”!*

2025 will be over in only 347 days.

But the difference we can make this year in the lives of others will be eternal.
(Let us just ***“be strong and courageous”*** and ***“take the land”*** for Jesus!!!)

Rick Walker

EVENTS

Current Events & Activities:

Our congratulations to David & Connie Owens in the birth of a granddaughter, Rowan Leigh Hall. She was born on Friday, January 10th, weighing 8 lbs, 10 oz, and 19" long. The proud first time parents are Randi (Owens) & Alex Hall. Please keep the Hall, and Owens' families



Our congratulations to Skyler Russell in her decision to be baptized last Sunday, January 12th. Please keep her in your prayers as she begins her walk with God.



The Men's Monthly Leadership Meeting will take place this afternoon @ 3 PM in the conference room.

The Monthly Singing Night will take place this afternoon @ 4:30 PM.

Our sympathy to Derrell & Anne Hart in the loss of Derrell's brother Marvin Hart. Please keep the Hart family in your prayers.

Our sympathy to Caralee Thompson & family in the loss of her sister, Jan Scoggins. Please keep the Thompson family in your prayers.

Our sympathy to Elmer & Rose Sabrsula in the loss of his sister, Frankie Sebesta. Please keep them in your prayers.

Attendance & Contribution

2025 Weekly Budget:

\$13,000.00

Collection 1/12/25:

\$9,310.20

Sunday AM (1/12) ... 165

Sunday BC (1/12) ... 126

Sunday PM (1/12) ... 55

Wednes PM (1/15) ...

Weekly Averaged

Collection for December:

\$10,419.35

Building Fund / Parking

Lot:

\$63,263.42

This Week's Birthdays:

1/19 Ben Terry

1/26 Scott Hood

1/27 Medley Coatney

1/28 Adriene Reliford

1/30 Karen Barry



Anniversaries:

1/17 Kent & Wanda Fowler

2/2 Bertin & Frances Howard



There will be a baby girl shower for Chloe Pearman this Saturday, January 25th @ 10:30 AM. She is registered online at Amazon.com. In lieu of a card, please bring a signed children's book.

The YOUTH Fellowship "Uplift" and their families will meet at the Henley's home (511 East Walton, Lumberton) @ 5 pm for food and fellowship next Sunday (26th).



How Eagles Pick Mates

A female eagle has an interesting way of picking a mate. She will pick up a twig and fly high into the air and drop it. Male eagles will fly beneath her and try to catch the twig. She will do this until a male has caught the twig three times. The female is testing the male for his ability to catch young eagles as they are directed out of the nest for flight. When it's time for the young eagle to fly on its own, the mother eagle pushes her young out of the nest. She carries the young eaglets on her back up high into the air and shakes them off. It is the responsibility of the father to swoop down and catch the young eaglets until they learn to fly on their own. Just as the female eagle is testing the male for his reliability, God will test a believer in his or her faithfulness and dependability. Similarly, in our walk with God, we often run into difficult situations that require us to make decisions. These decisions are clear indications to the Father whether or not we can be trusted to move ahead to the next level of responsibility. As the female eagle tests the male with twigs to determine which one would be her choice for a mate. God is testing us through daily decisions to determine which ones He can rely on to be used to build His kingdom. *"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much" ~ Luke 16:10*

Ladies Bible class has been canceled this Tuesday, January 21st due to weather conditions. It should resume next Tuesday (28th). Stay dry, safe, and warm.

Meadows Prayer List:

Members:

Wayne Bibb / health

Sally Bourg / health issues

Weldon Dunlap / lung issues

Erskine Reliford / heart, lung issues

Reba Riggs / 2 stents were put in and doctors wants to wait 3 mos to sch colon surgery

Louise Runnels / fell, recovering

Elmer Sabrsula / health

Members Unable to

Worship With Us:

Charles Baird

John Beard

Mildred Campbell

Majorie Crabtree

Floyd & Georgia Guillory

Marsha Hoskins

Mary Kattawar (severe eye issues)

Annie Pearl Leigh

Betty Jo Sorrell

Shirley Sturm (chronic pain)

Our Friends & Family:

Sadie Barina / Reatha's newborn granddaughter / surgery soon to repair hole in heart
Josefa Ibarra / daughter of Cindy Rodriguez, breast cancer

Larry Parker / former member,

4 stents were installed, recovering

Aubrey Rodriguez / Cindy Rodriguez'

5 yr old granddaughter, has Hpoylori

Don Roerick / rec from stroke

Eiza Smith / Carol Smith's infant gr-daughter,

open heart surgery when she gets stronger

Mason Street / leukemia, fr of J. Smith

Members taking Treatments/

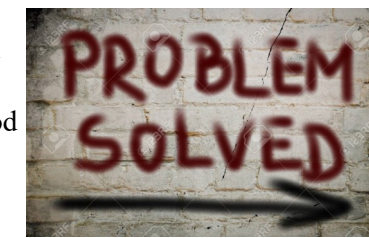
Chemo:

Rhonda Crabtree * Sharon Hood

Terry McNeel * Keri Robin * Mark Thompson

Old Solutions to New Problems

Some things have changed over the years, but not everything. The world appears to have transformed a lot during the last few years. We see movies that promote aberrant lifestyles and false ideas about God to television shows pushing the boundaries of what is considered fit for public consumption. Saints are having to make difficult choices for themselves and their children. While Satan's grip on music, television, and cinema is not new, he has certainly made broader inroads even since some of us were rebellious teenagers seeking out some sinful activity to indulge in. How are those who are called children of God and followers of Jesus Christ to respond to the current vile (and worsening) state of popular media and discourse? I would propose, the answer is to do the same thing we've always done.



Embrace being different: *"Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul"* (1 Peter 2:11). Saints were never supposed to "fit in" with the world and be like them in what they find pleasurable. We were called to live as visibly different, and present a ready contrast. *"And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret"* (Ephesians 5:11-12). When we live this way, it will not be easy, but it will be what pleases Christ. Those who slander and malign us for being different will have to answer for themselves (1 Peter 4:1-6).

Value holiness and purity: There was a time when Daniel was praised when he *"made up his mind that he would not defile himself"* with the pleasures of Babylon (Daniel 1:8). The young evangelist Timothy was even told, *"Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity"* (1 Timothy 4:12). We cannot say that we are following Jesus, and then also allow our lives to slowly drift away from His values by filling our heads with vile words and pictures.

Delight in God's word: The longest chapter in the Bible is completely dedicated to how much we should appreciate God's word. *"From your precepts I get understanding, therefore I hate every false way"* (Psalm 119:104). Parents were instructed to discuss God's law with their children constantly. They weren't to reserve studies of God's word to two days a week, but were to be *"talking of them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road and when you lie down and when you rise up"* (Deuteronomy 6:7; 11-19).

The problems with evil influences in the world are not new, but neither are the solution. God's word has not changed. *"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God"* (Romans 12:2). *Jerald Bass*

People grow and mature at different rates. Thomas Edison's teacher said he could never amount to anything and advised his mother to take him out of school. Winston Churchill was admitted to school in the lowest level classes, and never moved out of the lowest group in all the years he attended Harrow. Albert Einstein seemed so slow and dull that his parents feared that he was mentally deficient. One observer has said, "Great minds and high talent, in most cases, cannot be hurried and, like healthy plants, grow slowly." It is so with God's kingdom. We scatter the seed, but we are not ultimately responsible for its growth. We cannot make things happen. The process by which those in this world becomes the kingdom of God proceeds very slowly, and it exasperates us. But, at the same time, if we have faithfully scattered the seed, we are not to blame for its failure to appear in its fullness. We are being cautioned in the words of Jesus to be patient. *"Bring forth fruit with patience" Luke 8:15* H to H