

# Echo Hills

## Church of Christ

July 13, 2014

*A Place of New Beginnings*

### Faith, Works and Battery cables

Have you ever gone to start your car and you get nothing? We've all had that experience of a battery going dead on us. Most of the time a friend or somebody with experience comes along and hooks up those 2 cables from their battery to yours and like magic everything works. Of course they have to be hooked up to the correct posts or bad things happen. I had one occasion when I thought I would save some money and just replace the battery myself. Everything was going fine I just hooked it up like the old battery but it seems some battery manufacturers like to reverse the plus and minus poles to be different or just to have fun. When I put on the second cable I heard some unwanted crackling. I knew that wasn't good so I immediately unhooked the cables but some damage was done. After replacing a fuse in the electrical box the car started.

Many religious people get confused and they get their wires crossed when it come to faith and works. Some focus on faith only, others concentrate on works. I've always thought it was interesting that the only time the words "faith alone" are mentioned in scripture the Bible says "NOT faith alone" (James 2:24). It's kind of like having only one cable hooked up in your car and it means you're not going anywhere. The Bible writers took up the topic of faith and works and in Romans 4 Paul talked about faith, in James chapter 2 James wrote about works. When the inspired writers discussed a topic at length it's because their readers had serious questions or confusion about an issue. Paul wanted his readers to know how important faith was so he concentrated on that topic. Paul was talking about a saving faith which is different than the Devil's faith or dead faith. That's right the Devil has faith, the Bible says that the "even the demons believe that and shudder" (James 2:19). But the Devil and demons don't have saving faith they only have belief, simple mental ascent. They only have one cable hooked up in their system. They belief in God and fear his power but they refuse to bow their stubborn will and be in subjection to God's will. There were even accounts in the New Testament where the demons and those controlled by demons confessed that Jesus was the holy one of God (Acts 16:16-18, Matt 8:28-33). But again they lacked an active, living, obedient faith, the willingness to follow the Lord in all parts of your life.

James wrote to people who thought that becoming a Christian was all you needed to do. That you could go back to being a Jew and keeping the old Law or being a pagan and doing what unbelievers do once you heard and accepted the Gospel. Our lives after becoming a Christian are full of good works not because we need works to stay saved but because we want to thank and praise God for saving us from sin and death. Good works that please the Lord are not something we HAVE to do but what we GET to do to show God's glory and his grace in our lives. It's what a truly thankful heart naturally does.

The Bible says we are "saved by grace through faith" (Eph 2:8). We can never earn eternal salvation we are always just sinners saved by grace. It's not just faith or just works, it's a FAITH THAT WORKS. So don't get your wires crossed when it comes to faith and works or you'll never get started.

– *Andy Jones*

<p><b><u>Last Week's</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Attendance:</u></b></p> <p>Sunday Morning.....55</p> <p>Sunday Night.....58</p> <p>Wednesday Night.....92</p>	<p><b><u>Echo Hills Ministry:</u></b></p> <p><b>This Week's Sermon: Jared Dickens</b></p> <p><b>REACH Ministry Director: David Senn, Jr.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Recent Contributions:</u></b></p> <p>Contribution 7/6.....\$1,956</p> <p>Contribution 6/29.....\$1,667</p> <p>Contribution 6/8.....\$1,415</p> <p>Contribution 6/1.....\$2,415</p> <p>Contribution 5/25.....\$1,316</p> <p>Weekly Budget Needs.....\$1,681</p>
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- We have another exciting summer so please make sure to remember events and keep those involved in the REACH program in our prayers as they are traveling.
- The website has been updated! Please take a few minutes to take a look at 'www.echohillschurch.org' and let Judy Van Dyke know if there's any changes/additions that need to be made.

- Mark your calendars for next month's baby shower at Echo Hills celebrating the coming arrival of Kaleb with Blake and Sarah Southall. The shower will be Sunday morning, July 27th immediately following morning worship services with a potluck dinner planned that Sunday as well.
- Reminder! Girls Night Out for Bunko coming up on Monday night, July 28th from 7 to 9 pm at Echo Hills!
- In efforts to keep the bulletin up to date, please remember to email Melissa Montgomery at "mdholley@gmail.com" with any needed updates and/or removals to our list. Thank you!

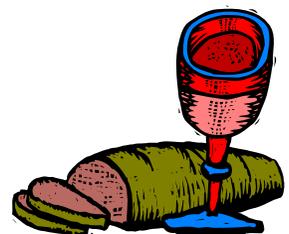
**Serving on the Lord's Table this month...**

July 6: Nick Veale

July 20 : Jared Dickens

July 13: Blake Southall

July 27: James Bickel



**Announcements...Jared Dickens**

\*If you are unable to serve, please contact Chris Hayes at 948-1071 or uthayes24@gmail.com\*

**Those to keep in your Prayers:**



- JEAN MCCASLAND DIAGNOSED WITH ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA
- LINDA ALLEN
- DAVID GURCHIEK
- LARRY FOSTER
- JERRIE JOHNSON (Mother of Matt Johnson)
- NADINE DANIEL
- EMILY KUYKENDALL
- ROWEENA GOOLSBY
- JEFF & KIM BRAKE
- VINAY & SUNEETHA KUMAR
- JOHNNIE ANDERSON FAMILY
- CHARLOTTE WARD (Mother of Emily Hayes) RECOVERING FROM FALL
- CAROL SOUTHALL (Mother of Blake Southall) DECLINING VISION
- CALEB WILSON
- ANITA SCHMITT (Friend of Ron & Jenny Lux)
- BLAKE & SARAH SOUTHALL
- MARGARET & ANDY JONES
- SANDY THOMAS (Barbara Brake's daughter)
- JUDITH LEDDING (friend of Emily Kuykendall)
- "BIG BOB" (friend of Emily Kuykendall) RECOVERING FROM BROKEN HIP
- MARGARET (MRS. T.G.) SMITH
- OTTIS PILKINTON (Grandfather of Jared Dickens) RECOVERING FROM BLADDER SURGERY
- COLETTE ANDRE
- EVELYN ARNOLD
- MARIE CARROLL

<p><b>Echo Hills church of Christ</b>                  1106 Campbell Road                  Goodlettsville, TN 37072                  Email: contact@echohillschurch.org</p>	<p><b>We're on the web!</b>  <a href="http://www.echohillschurch.org">www.echohillschurch.org</a></p>	<p><b>Sunday Worship</b>                  Classes: 9:15 am &amp; Worship: 10:15                  Sunday Night Classes: 6pm                  Wednesday Night Classes: 7pm</p>
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