



PREACHER-SHEPHERD
JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS, JR.

COMMENTARY CORNER: STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE (9) **“Jesus, A Man The People Sought”** “And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place: and the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them. And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent” (Luke 4:42–43).

Jesus enjoyed great popularity in the early days of his ministry. There were crowds and multitudes of people who sought to be where he was. These did not seek only to be in his presence, they asked him to stay with them. A man has reached extreme popularity level when people ask that he make his home in their village, town, or city.

We know of times in recent history when persons with a message became extremely popular. Their names still draw attention after their deaths. Who does not have some reflection when hearing the names John F. Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or even Robert Kennedy? These are names and persons who lived short lives but whose lives impacted the masses when they lived.

Jesus also lived a short life, but in the few years he lived, he made an impact still felt today. When he lived, wherever he went, people were forever changed. How could someone remain the same after meeting the actual Son of God?

Luke recorded an interesting episode in the life of Jesus. It was when Jesus left the people and departed into a desert place, a place that would evidently allow him to be to himself. But the people recognized no such necessary personal time. They followed him. They sought him. Great things occur when people seek Jesus.

What a world we would have today if people sought Jesus. What a world it would be if schedules were arranged to seek Jesus. How different lives would be if those lives took enough time from their routines, normal schedules and “to do” lists to seek Jesus. What people seek does make a difference.

Jesus will teach that people should take no thought for their lives, what they should eat, drink, or wear. He taught them

to seek the kingdom of God first and other necessities would be given to them (Matt 6:33). What and whom people seek make a difference in their lives.

It is a different kind of life to seek money, popularity, standing, importance, drunkenness, women, possessions, notoriety, and men. We seek vanity if the most significant persons we seek to know are those with wealth, athletic popularity, entertainment success, and political power. But we manifest great wisdom when we seek Jesus.

We learn not only when we recognize that people sought Jesus, but also when we understand his response. The people thought that Jesus should stay with them. Jesus, however, was commissioned by God to complete the will of God. It was certainly a nice gesture, and with many of us it would probably be flattering to hear people encourage, “don’t go,” “live here,” “stay longer”; to hear them ask, “why leave?” “why not make your home here?” or “would you not want to stay where you know you are popular?

God’s children must understand that one of the surest ways not to accomplish what God has gifted us to do is to begin listening to the crowds, ignoring what God wants us to do. How many people in life have had their courses altered, their plans changed, their ways forgotten, their goals abandoned, their gifts neglected, because they turned to hear the flattery of the people?

Humans experience this tendency to be deterred from a young age. Is it not frustrating to witness an excellent student abandon his studies because friends will tell him he can make it another way? Have we not seen people with great ability end up with minimal success because they sought the road less traveled, the short cut,

the path to the quickest praise, easy street, and no resistance road? And are there not countless numbers of us who even today are victims of hearing people say that as long as we have them for friends that everything will work out?

The people who sought Jesus encouraged that he should not depart from them (Luke 4:42). But Jesus was focused on his mission from God. He responded, “I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent” (Luke 4: 43). What was most important for Jesus was his purpose for coming: “for therefore am I sent.” I did not come to garner favor, to be popular, to settle down where others suggested, to go when others said, to be where others determined, to seek above everything else my standing as one whom people seek. I am sent to preach the gospel.

The child of God is blessed to witness this heavenly focus in Jesus. This focus assured that whatever the circumstance, whomever the critic, whenever the persecution, however heavy the cross, the purpose and the will would not be abandoned. The salvation of men and women would be accomplished. Satan would be defeated. Death would be conquered. Life would be restored. Salvation would become a reality. We praise God for a Savior who came to be more than popular, accepted, and wanted.

The lesson is missed, however, if we do not consider how this informs our lives. It is not just about how Jesus fulfilled the will of the Father, it is also about how we must learn to please the Father. We need to learn very soon in life to accept ourselves as persons important enough to be commissioned by God.

(Continued)



2015 THEME: "IN ALL THINGS, EXAMPLES OF GOOD DEEDS" (TITUS 2:7)

CHURCH LEADERS

PREACHER-SHEPHERD
JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS, JR.

MINISTER EMERITUS
CLOYD R. CECIL, SR.

SHEPHERDS
JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS, JR.
JOHN FOXWORTH
LEROY NELSON
WALTER WEATHERS, JR.

ELDER EMERITUS
FRANK W. DULIN

DEACONS
ROSCOE BURGESS
MICHEAL CURRY
JAMES E. GADSON
GEORGE MCNAIR
ROY OLIPHANT
BERNARD TERRY
JOE WILSON

SECRETARY
ALICIA LATTEN

Welcome

**ALL VISITORS!
YOU ARE OUR
HONORED
GUESTS!**

CORNELIUS CORNER:

Special Adaptive Housing (SAH) grants help Veterans with certain service-connected disabilities live independently in a barrier-free environment. SAH grants can be used to adapt a home to the special needs of a disabled veteran, build a home on land already owned or apply the grant against the unpaid principle mortgage. Check it out at www.benefits.va.gov.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st, Justun Green; 5th Eric I. Nelson;
7th Cleveland Reed; 8th Joshua Caruthers, A.J. Crim; 10th Chelsea Cook, 14th George McNair; 16th Courtney Thomas; 17th Adolphus Coplin; 18th Tevin Loyd; 19th Kolbe Adkins; 20th Cynthia Judge; 23rd D.J. Crim; 25th Howard A. Brown, Tomisha Gaither; 28th Kim McNair, Elizabeth Oliver



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DRIVE DAY



Help us reach our goal of **275** or more during our Sunday School Attendance Drive on November 15th at 9:00 a.m. We look forward to seeing you!

6th Annual Southeastern Regional Teachers' Workshop

November 6-7, 2015



If you have not already registered you still have the opportunity to do so. Registration will be conducted in the foyer after morning services. See Sis. Felecia Caruthers or Sis. Kim McNair. Cost is \$25 per person. We are encouraging all members to join us for this wonderful educational and learning experience!



STATE EVENT

North Carolina State Lectureship
(November 12th-14th) Charlotte, NC

Theme:

"Fortifying the Functionality of the Family"

Classes and events for all ages! Please join us!

Visit ncstatelectureship.org to register.



LOCAL GOSPEL MEETING/EVENTS

27th Church Anniversary (Nov. 1st -4th)
Sugar Creek Church of Christ
3932 Sofley Road
Charlotte, NC 28206

21st Annual Homecoming (Nov. 4th-8th)
South Central Church of Christ
2010 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Raleigh, NC 27610

VETERANS RECOGNITION PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 8, 2015

1:00-3:00

Frank W. Dulin Fellowship Hall
Lunch Will Be Served

"The Spirit of The Korean War Veteran"



Southwestern Christian College Lectureship

November 22nd— 26th, 2015

NATIONAL EVENT



National Lectureship

(March 27-31, 2016), Memphis, TN
Visit www.nlcoc2016.com for more information.



38 years— Roy & Edelina Oliphant— 5th
3 years- Arnold & Wendy Thomas— 8th
36 years- Marion & Hazel Gordon— 17th
55 years-- Johnny & Shirley Correll— 24th
29 years- James & Angela Miller— 29th

PRAY THAT GOD LEADS US TO SOULS TO SAVE TODAY & THROUGH THIS WEEK

OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN

Bro. Dwight Correll
 Sis. Immogene Bray
 Bro. Leroy Nelson
 Bro. Barry Harper
 Sis. Georgia Glenn
 Sis. Dorothy Livingston

SHEPHERD ON CALL FOR NOVEMBER

John Foxworth
 (336) 918-6359

RESPONSIVE READING

Gal. 6:4-9

READER: But let every man prove his own work and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

CHURCH: For every man shall bear his own burden.

READER: Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.

CHURCH: Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

READER: For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting.

UNISON: And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

PRAYER

Father in heaven, provide us the strength to sow to the Spirit. Keep us until the day we reap life eternal. In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

PRAYER REQUEST

Sis. Hazel Gordon, Sis. Shawn Moncrief,
 Sis. Annette Nichols, Bro. Kevin McLaurin,
 Sis. Barbie Jones, Sis. Carol McDowell, Sis. Latasha Gandy,
 Sis. Emma Westbrook, Sis. Marleisha Young, Bro. Arnold Thomas, Sisi. Wendy Thomas, Sis. Syietta Baldwin,
 Sis. Latesha Page, Bro. Walter Weathers, Bro. Anthony Clinton, Sis. Alicia White, Bro. John Foxworth, Bro. Michael Terry, Bro. George Eichelberger



ORDER OF WORSHIP

8:00 A.M.

SONG LEADER Roy Izzard
 SERMON *Jefferson R. Caruthers, Jr.*

10:00 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Joe Wilson
 INVOCATION George McNair
 SONG DIRECTOR Adolphus Coplin
 SCRIPTURE Juan Williams
 RESPONSIVE HOWARD BROWN
 PRAYER John Foxworth
SERMON Jefferson R. Caruthers, Jr.
 OFFERING T. J. Loyd
 LORD'S SUPPER Joel Caruthers
 READER Isaiah Black
 CLOSING PRAYER Richard Jones
 VISITATION PRESENTATION

6:30 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Joe Wilson
 INVOCATION Cecil Oliver
 SONG DIRECTOR James Gadson
 SCRIPTURE Thomas Loyd, Sr.
 RESPONSIVE READING Timothy Pilson
 PRAYER Artis Rucker
SERMON Jefferson R. Caruthers, Jr.
 OFFERING Rodney Evans
 LORD'S SUPPER Novell Hall
 CLOSING PRAYER D. J. Crim
 VISITATION PRESENTATION

COMMUNION REFLECTION

(JOHN 5:33)

Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth.



USHERS

Kolbe Adkins	Tevin Loyd	George Eichelberger
D.J. Crim	Garrin McNair	Todd Woods
Novell Hall	Michael Terry	Harold Brown
Joseph Ford	Jared Monroe	Bernard Wallace

EVENING USHERS

COMMENTARY CORNER

The reality is that you were created for a good purpose, even a great purpose. No person should accept the assessment that says you are inconsequential or unimportant. A child of God must know that she is somebody. He is somebody. The child of God must understand that she is not trivial. He is not insignificant. All must accept and appreciate that all are born with a purpose. Thank God for your purpose and live within your purpose.

The message is not about a purpose driven life imagined by the individual to accomplish what will result in admiration from the masses. The purpose we must focus on is that which is evidently given by

God, that which leads people to God, that which brings glory to God.

There is no more focused, satisfying, and successful life than one that is led by God's intent, the Holy Spirit's leading, and the Son's example. And for this lesson we learn that as strong as the pull may be from the crowd to do what it says, the child of God is determined to do what God expects.

We come to God by recognizing that the most important decision we make in life cannot be dependent on what the people want. Often people neglect their need to obey God because somebody in the crowd is pleading, "stay with us." Some do not obey because their inner mind is whispering, "see how popular you are?" And

the need to be accepted will lure us to the easy chair where we assume the mission can be completed in ways other than God directs.

Jesus was not a cold, heartless, nor insensitive Savior when he turned down an invitation to stay with the people. The people were right to seek Jesus. But they had to learn, as we must, that they could not have Jesus on their terms. They could only have him on God's terms.

Jesus was a man that the people sought. He is the man all should seek today. We learn the importance of his mission by observing his determination to do what God sent him to do, that is to preach the gospel of salvation. We better ourselves when we stay focused on God's intent for our lives.

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Early Morning Worship.....	8 A.M.
Bible School.....	9 A.M.
Morning Worship.....	10 A.M.
Evening Worship.....	6:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY-MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

11 A.M. & 7 P.M.

MENS' & LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

5 P.M. (2nd & 4th Sunday)
(September-May)

MEETINGS & MINISTRIES

Teachers' Meeting.....	9 A.M.
(1st Saturday)	
Clothing Bank.....	10 A.M.-12 P.M.
(1st Saturday)	
Youth Fellowship Meeting.....	10 A.M.
(2nd Saturday)	
Husbands & Fathers' Support Group...	10 A.M.
(3rd Saturday)	
Young Adult Ministry.....	6:30 P.M.
(4th Friday)	

**WORSHIP TO THE
SICK & SHUT-IN
FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER**
Walter Weathers

BAPTISMAL TEAM



Bro. Anthony Clinton
Bro. Thomas Loyd, Sr.
Bro. George McNair
Bro. Walter Weathers, Jr.

Radio Broadcast Stations

Sundays @ 7:30 A.M.

Thursdays @ 2 P.M.

1340 AM

1400 AM

103.5 FM



YOU CAN BE SAVED TODAY!

To be saved today, you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17; Acts 15:7). You must believe the gospel that assures us salvation through Jesus who is the risen Lord (Romans 10:9, 10). You must be willing to turn your life over to God through repentance (Acts 17:30; Romans 2:4). Those willing to live for God through repentance are ready for confession (Romans 10:9,10).

The person who confesses is baptized into Christ (Romans 6:3, 4; Galatians 3:27). In baptism, the believer is washed, sanctified, and justified (1 Corinthians 6:11). Christ saves the baptized person in baptism (1 Peter 3:21).

If you believe that Jesus died for you and was resurrected, if you will repent and confess, then you can be baptized into Christ and be saved. Come to Jesus today!

CHILDRENS' WORSHIP

1st	Howard & Saroya Brown
8th	Howard & Saroya Brown
15th	Diane Foxworth & Veronica Sides
22nd	Tamah & D' Asia Williams
29th	Leah Adkins & Sherri Pilson

NURSERY DUTY

1st	TBA
8th	TBA
15th	TBA
22nd	TBA
29th	TBA

NOVEMBER GREETERS

1st	Kim McNair Shundra Mc Laurin
8th	Lillie Holmes Devonda Holmes
15th	Linda Burgess Frances Mason
22nd	Meredith Boyd Willie Mae Cherry
29th	Raymona Brown Theresa Rucker

COMMUNION PREPARERS

Edelina Oliphant



BAPTISMAL COMMITTEE

Lillie Holmes
Wanda Jones
Shanita Green

ZONES

ZONE #1	Capt. Bro. J. Wilson (661-1312)
ZONE #4	Co-Capt. Bro. B. Terry (720-9694)
ZONE #5	Capt. Bro. J. Gadson (650-9693) Co-Capt. Bro. A. Rucker (924-5696)
ZONE #7	Capt. Bro. J. Foxworth (924-5029) Co-Capt. Bro R. Oliphant (765-3105)
ZONE #8	Capt. Bro. R. March (727-0052) Co-Capt. Bro. R. Burgess (748-0282)