



June 21, 2009

Church of Christ at Beech Grove

meeting at Beechgrove, TN since 1875

❖ Visitors Always Welcome ❖

Highway 41 near I-24 exit 97



P.O. Box 85 -- Beechgrove, TN 37018

Phone 931-394-2305

<http://kennethlorin.com/BeechGroveChurch.html>

<http://kennethlorin.com/WeeklyBulletin.html>

Kenneth L. Thomas, minister - 615-890-6959

In Search of a Father

Fred Craddock and his wife were in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, on a short vacation. One night they found a quiet little restaurant where they looked forward to a private meal – just the two of them. While they were waiting for their meal they noticed a distinguished, white-haired man moving from table to table, visiting guests. Craddock secretly hoped that the man wouldn't make it around to their table, but he did.

After a short introduction, the white-haired man sat down at the Craddock's table and said, "I've got a story I want to tell you... I'm Ben Hooper. I was born not far from here across the mountains. My mother wasn't married when I was born so I had a hard time. When I started to school my classmates had a name for me, and it wasn't a very nice name. I used to go off by myself at recess and during lunch-time because the taunts of my playmates cut so deeply. What was worse was going downtown on Saturday afternoon and feeling every eye burning a hole through you. They were all wondering just who my real father was.

"When I was about 12 years old a new preacher came to our church. I would always go in late and slip out early. But one day the preacher said the benediction so fast I got caught and had to walk out with the crowd. I could feel every eye in church on me. Just about the time I got to the door I felt a big hand on my shoulder. I looked up and the preacher was looking right at me. "Who are you, son? Whose boy are you?" the preacher asked. "I felt the old weight come on me. It was like a big black cloud. Even the preacher was putting me down. But as he looked down at me, studying my face, he began to smile a big smile of recognition. 'Wait a minute,' he said, 'I know who you are. I see the family resemblance. You are... a son of God!'"

Ben Hooper, former Governor of Tennessee, looked across the table at Fred Craddock and said, "That was the most important single sentence ever said to me." With that he smiled, shook the hands of Craddock and his wife, and moved on to another table to greet old friends.

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Sunday Schedule

Bible Classes	10 AM
Worship	11 AM
Worship	6 PM
Wednesday: Bible Classes	7 PM

Mission Works and Evangelism:

House to House/ Heart to Heart
 Restoration Radio
 Jim Waldron
 Manuelito Children's Home



Bible Search

by Kenneth L. Thomas

Questions for week of June 21

Can you "bear any more?"

1. Who stated that he was born to "bear witness" unto the truth?
2. Who settled an argument about a woman who found a child she did not bear?
3. Who has the power to bear someone up to prevent a foot injury?
4. What rebel was warned that his father (and supporters) were "chapped" (chafed) and compared them to a bear bereft of her cubs?
5. In a vision, a bear appears, with one side raised. What does it have in its teeth?
6. Flowing water was stopped by feet of men who had a load to bear. What were they carrying?
7. What circumstances would cause a woman to devour the offspring which "she shall bear"?

Answers for week of June 14

1. Where is a wicked ruler compared to a bear?
Proverbs 28:15 As a roaring lion, and **a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people**
Daniel 7:5,7 also has a less obvious answer.

2. What four things can the earth not bear?
Answer: A servant who rules, a well-fed fool; an odious (unpleasant) married woman, and a handmaid who will inherit what her mistress has.

Prov. 30: 21 For three things the earth is disquieted, and for **four which it cannot bear:**

22 For a **servant when he reigneth**; and a **fool when he is filled with meat**; 23 For an **odious woman when she is married**; and an **handmaid that is heir to her mistress.**

3. What man said that a proposed punishment was more than he could bear?

Answer: Cain

Genesis 4:10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground. 11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth. 13 And **Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment is greater than I can bear.**

4. Name TWO PAIRS of men who were so wealthy that their home area could not "bear" them.

1. **Abraham and Lot**

Genesis 13:2 And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. . .

Gen 13:5 And **Lot also, which went with Abram**, had flocks, and herds, and tents. 6 And **the land was not able to bear them**, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

2. **Jacob and Esau**

Genesis 36:6 And Esau took his wives, and his sons, and his daughters, and all the persons of his house, and his cattle, and all his beasts, and all his substance, which he had got in the land of Canaan; and went into the country from the face of his brother Jacob. 7 For their riches were more than that they might dwell together; and **the land wherein they were strangers could not bear them** because of their cattle.

5. What women heard that they were both going to bear a son.? (Those sons were begotten by the same father.)

Answer: Hagar and Sarah, a son by Abraham.

Genesis 16:8 And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai. 9 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands. 10 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. 11 And the **angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou art with child and shalt bear a son**, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction.

Genesis 18: 9 And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent. 10 And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, **Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it** in the tent door, which was behind him.

Gen 17:19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

Many other women bore sons by the same man, (but I do not know that they "heard" about it in the same way Sarah and Hagar are said to have heard.)

6. What priest warned that the land of Israel could not bear the words of Amos?

Answer: Amaziah

Amos 7:10 Then **Amaziah the priest of Bethel** sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, **Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.**

7. Under what condition did a woman bear iniquity but her husband did not?

Answer: When she has been unfaithful

Numbers 5:29 This is the law of jealousies, **when a wife goeth aside to another instead of her husband, and is defiled**; 30 Or when the spirit of jealousy cometh upon him, and he be jealous over his wife, and shall set the woman before the LORD, and the priest shall execute upon her all this law. 31 **Then shall the man be guiltless from iniquity, and this woman shall bear her iniquity.**

("In Search of a Father" Continued)

The wonderful news of the Gospel is that God wants YOU and ME to be His children. He has gone to great lengths to make it possible: even though we are separated from Him due to our sin (Isaiah 59:1-2), God loved us so much that He gave His Only Begotten Son to die on the cross for our sins (John 3:16; 1 John 4:9-10) so that we might have forgiveness and become a part of His eternal family (Eph 1:7).

God will forgive and add to His family (the church) those who: believe and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized (immersed) – born again – into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38).

Some are searching for their father, but THE Father is searching for US! He wants us to become His children and live with Him forever. He has extended His invitation to us; the choice is ours to make.

Won't YOU accept the Father's invitation to become His child?

David A. Sargent, Minister
Church of Christ at Creekwood
Mobile, AL

Attendance and Contribution

Mo	Wk	BS	MW	EW	Wed	Cont
June	14	18	29	22	24	\$709
June	7	16	20	22	18	\$596
May	31	25	37	15	18	\$623
May	24	17	28	24	15	\$694

ADVICE FOR FATHERS

A mother was out walking with her 4 year old daughter. The child picked up something off the ground and started to put it into her mouth. The mother took it away and said "Don't do that!"

"Why not?" asked the child.

"Because it's on the ground," said her mother. "You don't know where it's been. It's dirty, and it's probably loaded with germs that could make you sick."

The child looked at her mother with total admiration and said, "Mommy, how do you know all this stuff? You're so smart."

The mother said, "All Moms know this stuff. It's on the Mom's Test. You have to know it or they don't let you be a Mom."

There was silence for a minute or so as the child thought this through. "Oh, I get it," she said at last. "And if you don't pass the test you have to be the Daddy?"

Fathers don't always get the respect that mothers do. That will become evident on Sunday. The truth is, Father's Day is just not as big as Mother's Day. On Mother's Day, there's a higher attendance at church, mothers have corsages on, emotions run high, restaurants do a booming business. On Father's day, well, there are more collect phone calls than any other day of the year (yes, that's a true fact).

Despite the fact that fathers are sometimes overlooked, the Bible is clear about the great responsibility given to those of us who are fathers. God challenges husbands to be the leaders in their homes. He challenges fathers to be someone their kids can look up to. Allow me to share a few biblical pieces of advice with those of you who are fathers.

* Love your wife! Paul said in Ephesians 5:28, "So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself." That's one of the most important things you can do as a father. Trust me -- your children do watch how you treat their mother. They watch ... and they are learning and forming their concept of marriage from you.

* Spend time with your children. The Psalmist wrote in Psalm 127:3, "Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward." In other words, our children are a great blessing. Children are given to us to enjoy -- not to be a burden ... not to avoid ... not to ignore ... But to enjoy! And in order to enjoy them, you've got to be with them ... have fun with them ... share your life with them.

* Listen to your children. Give them your undivided attention ... not with one eye on the TV and the other eye on them. When they have a problem, they don't need cartoons, they don't need a video game, they don't even need their best friends. Dad ... they need

you! We need to be approachable. Be the kind of father that they can come to and say anything that's on their mind.

* Train your children. Paul wrote in Ephesians 6:4, "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord." Notice what Paul said. He didn't say "parents". And he didn't say "Sunday School teachers". He said, "fathers." As we train our children, our goal is not merely to get our kids to outwardly conform to a list of rules. Our goal is to train and develop children who seek to glorify God with their lives.

* Be a positive role model. Much of what our kids learn is caught rather than taught—they learn from what they observe. This means we can't afford to cheat on our taxes, lie to our boss, or be rude to a salesperson. You are a role model for your children and, like it or not ... good or bad ... they will, to one degree or another, model their lives after you. You have inherited some of your father's characteristics and your children are inheriting some of yours.

May God bless those of you who are fathers, and may we always look to our Heavenly Father as a perfect example of what a father should be!

Have a great day!

Alan Smith, Helen Street Church of Christ, Fayetteville, NC

Beech Grove News, Prayer Requests

Remember Laura Singleton Nita Summers, Stephen Fisher, Joe Nichols and Anna Curl in prayer.

Military: Andy Miller family in Japan; Drew and Adam Thomas in the US.

Anna Curl is still having tests and treatment for her breathing problems. Send cards of encouragement to her home at 112 Main Street, Wartrace.

Gospel Meeting-July 26-29-Leroy Dedmon

Assignments	June 21	June 28
Song leader (SS)	Tim Waldron	Wayne Gannon
Announcements	Joe Green	Junior Conner
Songleader-Worship	Wayne Gannon	Tim Waldron
Scripture reading	Daniel Green	T J Waldron
Opening prayer	Lee Rose	Wayne Gannon
Table service (center)	Tim Waldron	Joe Green
(center)	Ken Thomas	Daniel Green
(outside)	Steve Miller	Junior Conner
(outside)	Joe Green	T J Waldron
Closing Prayer	Daniel Green	James Mason
<i>If you cannot serve, please contact Junior Conner</i>		