



Welcome To The Killeen Church of Christ!

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." Ecclesiastes 12:13



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SHEPHERDS

*Lee Fisher
Zachary Petties*

DEACONS

*Roger Deem
Paul Portley
Gaylen Williams*

PREACHER

Phil McIntosh

TREASURER

Gaylen Williams

MONTHLY SUPPORT:

*Cherokee Home
For Children
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &
Family Services
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home
For Children
Stephenville, TX*

*Sunny Glen
Children's Home
San Benito, TX*

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY - 7:00 PM

Follow the Example of Mary

By Phil McIntosh



There is a multiplicity of famous Marys in the Bible. When you open your New Testament you will read of Mary, the mother of Jesus; Mary Magdalene; Mary, the mother of James and Joseph; Mary, the wife of Clopas (possibly the same as the mother of James and Joseph); Mary, the mother of Mark; Mary, the Christian laborer; and Mary the sister of Martha and Lazarus. It seems as if one could not throw a rock in the First Century without hitting a woman named Mary. But which Mary set an example for us to follow?

Surely Mary, the mother of Jesus is a wonderful model of faith and humility. A young Jewish virgin betrothed but not yet formally married received startling information from a heavenly messenger whose wonderful words were received with faith and a willingness to serve (*Lk. 1:38*). Mary then uttered words of praise to God as she acknowledged her low estate and her indescribable blessing to have been entrusted with such an honor to bear and raise the Son of God (*Lk. 1:46-55*)! One cannot possibly fathom the emotions and pressure which would have been experienced by this Mary. Any parent feels the weight of responsibility and guardianship as protector and guide over their child; but imagine her significant anxiety of knowing that the young child she was raising came from God and was God! This is the Mary who is being talked about and read about throughout our world this day, as people celebrate the birth of Jesus. The Bible does not tell us when Jesus was born and the only commemoration of the life of Jesus we are commanded to observe was when the Lord commanded us to keep the Lord's Supper and do so in remembrance of Him, commemorating His sacrifice for us (*1 Cor. 11:24-25*). While this Mary surely deserves attention for her life of service to God, she is not the targeted Mary for our reading today.

There was one Mary who Jesus said deserved to be recognized for what she did. This woman flustered and annoyed loyal disciples of Jesus when she took a very expensive container of oil and poured the contents over Jesus' head. Those who witnessed it immediately judged her and began explaining how she could have used the oil in a better way (*Matt. 26:6-9*). Notice that, in the text we're given, the woman does not argue. Perhaps it was because she was humble or perhaps, she was confident in what she had done. Culturally, and far too often, women are judged for their decisions and corrected by others who "know better." However, in this case, Jesus spoke up and defended her! Those who attempted to correct her were themselves corrected. Jesus said:

"Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a good work for Me. ¹¹For you have the poor with you always, but Me you do not have always. ¹²For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she did it for My burial. ¹³Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her." -Matthew 26:10b-13

There was also a Mary who angered, not the companions of Jesus, but her own family by something she did one day. This occasion was also connected to the Lord because He was the centerpiece of this day's activity. This Mary was present in a

household where Jesus had entered, invited in by this Mary's sister, named Martha (*Lk. 10:38*). Upon entering the house, Jesus was apparently teaching because the text tells us that Mary sat at the feet of Jesus and was listening to Him. Honorable as listening to the Lord was, Martha was agitated because her sister Mary was not helping her serve (set the table, cook the food, prepare the drinks, etc.). Again we could discuss social and cultural norms that the men would be speaking or gathered listening, while the women were in the kitchen serving. Martha, who was the one who had invited the Lord in, went over Mary's head and directly to the Lord. Look at the text here:

"Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. ³⁹And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." -**Luke 10:38-40**

It seems a reasonable request does it not? This was, after all, the Lord over all, the Creator, the Messiah, and the Savior, and Mary was not helping her sister prepare for or attend to His visit. Jesus' *response* is the target of our article this week. Instead of Jesus acquiescing to the request (demand?) of Martha, He, instead, teaches her (and us) a lesson. Jesus replied to the, likely, well-intentioned Martha, and says:

"Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. ⁴²But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." -**Luke 10:41-42**

You see, this was, after all, the Lord over all, the Creator, the Messiah, and the Savior, and Mary wasn't going to miss what He had to say. Martha's heart might have been in the right place, but her sister Mary's heart *and* body were in the right place.

Did you know that the last two Marys we talked about were one and the same? The Spirit, through the pen of John, revealed to us that the

Mary who anointed Jesus' head with oil just before His arrest and death was the same Mary who sat at His feet and soaked in His teachings (*Jn. 11:2*). While all of the women named Mary in the Bible set an example of discipleship, this Mary is the Mary whose example I want to suggest as this week's inspiration for future service. As we look forward to the year 2023 fast approaching, let us ensure that we are present when the Lord's words are spoken and the message from the Spirit of God is studied. There will be other things we could be doing on those days, even "good" things; but there is no better place to be than at the feet of the Lord (*Jn. 6:68*).

SCRIPTURE READING

"The Ark of the Old and the Ark of Today" Genesis 7:15-23

- ¹⁵ *And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life.*
- ¹⁶ *And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the Lord shut him in.*
- ¹⁷ *And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.*
- ¹⁸ *And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.*
- ¹⁹ *And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered.*
- ²⁰ *Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.*
- ²¹ *And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:*
- ²² *All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.*
- ²³ *And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark."*



January Nursery Schedule

<p>1-Brenda Sellers 8-Josephine Spear 15-Nichole Williams 22-Amanda Petties 29-Natalie Fisher Substitute or Assist: Victoria Polanco</p>	<p>*We are in need of more ladies to help in the nursery. If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office. Thank you!</p>
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January Cleaning Calendar

•May be done any time before the next Sunday.
 •Please consult with your team leader for further questions.

<p>Dec. 4-TEAM ROGER Patrick Brenda Linda</p>	<p>8-TEAM JAMES Kim-Marie Xavier Jaden Kingsford Barbara</p>	<p>22-TEAM LEE Natalie Derek Ken Tim</p>
<p>Jan. 1-TEAM ZACK Amanda Diedre Paul Ruby</p>	<p>15-TEAM PHIL Michelle Beverly Josephine Yvonne Lois Marcella</p>	<p>29-TEAM ROGER Patrick Brenda Linda</p>

ORDER OF SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022:

- ♦ANNOUNCEMENTS: REGGIE BASS
- ♦1ST PRAYER: PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦SONG: PHIL MCINTOSH
- ♦SCRIPTURE READING: TIM MATTER
- ♦SONG: PHIL MCINTOSH
- ♦SERMON: ANDRÉ PETTAWAY
- ♦INVITATION SONG: PHIL MCINTOSH
- ♦SONG BEFORE COMMUNION:
 PHIL MCINTOSH
- COMMUNION:
 GAYLEN WILLIAMS & ROGER DEEM
- ♦SONG: PHIL MCINTOSH
- ♦OFFERING:
 GAYLEN WILLIAMS & ROGER DEEM
- ♦CLOSING SONG: PHIL MCINTOSH
- ♦CLOSING PRAYER: ZACK PETTIES
- ♦AUDIO/VISUAL: PATRICK SELLERS
- ♦SECURITY: BRUCE BROWN & ROGER DEEM
- ♦NURSERY:
 NATALIE FISHER & AMANDA PETTIES

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 - LUKE MARTIN
3 - RUFUS BROWN
5 - JADEN SEAY
9 - AL WILSON
9 - RALPH HUGHART
18 - BRUCE BROWN
23 - JODI CULP
27 - TONI MENDEZ
30 - ALFREDA PETTAWAY

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR MILITARY & D.O.D. CIVILIANS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

-Tracy Wilson's son, Zane, is in the class portion of flight school.
-Sara Rummel's son, Bryan Johns, is in marine boot camp.

PLEASE KEEP THESE MEMBERS & LOVED ONES IN YOUR PRAYERS: PRAYER LIST: Cheryl Flores' aunt, Joy, is in the hospital addressing lung issues that began last October.

-We received a prayer request from Sheila Silvers, who will have reconstructive surgery on her right foot soon.

-Brenda Sellers' mother may need a liver transplant and heart valve replacement. Her daughter-in-law, Amanda, is in Scott & White ICU with hypertension of the lungs and congestive heart failure.

-Josephine Spear's great niece, Chelsea, has RSV, an ear infection, and bronchitis.

-Amanda Petties' 10 year old niece, Carrington, is recovering from Hodgkin's lymphoma-stage 3 and recently received a cancer-free test result.

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK & HOME

BOUND: Brenda Sellers, Lesa Crockett, Judy & James Wall, Creta Bales cousin (Terry Jackson), David Hamrick, a preacher in Florida (Tim Stokes), Shirley Wooten, Martha Bell's sister, Rodney Carter's aunt (Mary Segler), James Garner & wife (Tammy), Donna Hines' stepmother, sister (Rhonda Miller) & niece (April Miller), Bill Rawlings' & his mother, Beverly Williams' sister-in-law (Cindy Fisher), Jim Dukes & his family, former members (David Chapman) (Connie Cruz) and (Bobbie Knight), Michelle McIntosh's cousin (Nikki), Gary & Shiril Foster, Joyce Brown's nephew (Jon-Jon Simmons), Willard Jack Dunn, Tracy Wilson's mother (Ruth Hyde), Martha Chafin, Tim Matter's wife (Elda) & brother (Michael), Josephine Spear and her sisters (Rose & Patricia), brother-in-law (Kent) & friend (Iris), Linda Deem's nephew, Tanja, Natasha, & Tiffany Arch & Tanja's aunt, Amanda Petties' sister (Jewel) & niece (Moneisha Williams) & sister-in-law, Rufus Brown, Marcella Williams & brother-in-law (Johnnie Milford), Julie Odum's mother (Sharon Schmidt), Nada Miller, Billye Hughes, Mary McAnally's sister (Ann Ahrens), Gladys Driver, Jessie Turner, and Linda Walts.

CONGRATULATIONS! We wish to congratulate Carolyn Young on the birth of her new great grandson, Luke Porter Nelson. His parents are Chelsea & Porter Nelson, and grandparents are Susan & Robert Jones.

NEW YEAR'S FELLOWSHIP

Join us for a New Year's fellowship, Friday, December 30th, from 7-9:30, Please bring food/snacks and games. From 7-9 pm, we will be playing games and then singing from 9-9:30.

Our Speaker Today Is André Pettaway

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We want to especially welcome our visitors!

If you are visiting, please fill out an attendance card from the back of the pew directly in front of you, and drop it in offering box as you leave. Thank you for your visit and please join us again!

BIBLE STUDIES AND COUNSELING OFFERED

- ⇒ Bible Studies With Our Preacher Or Elders
- ⇒ Free Bible Correspondence
- ⇒ Free Marriage And Family Counseling

To our visitors—Thank you for being with us today, and please come again!

CONTACT INFORMATION

ZACK PETTIES (elder): zpetties@yahoo.com

LEE FISHER (elder): fisherfam79@gmail.com

PHIL McINTOSH (pulpit minister):

kcofcpreacher@gmail.com

Office: 254-634-7373 or email us at: kcofc@hotmail.com

DECEMBER CALENDAR

26-Office will be closed.

28-Singing Night

30-New Year's fellowship, 7-9:30 pm, in the fellowship hall.

Jan.2-Office will be closed.

***LADIES BIBLE CLASS BREAK:** The ladies' Bible class will not meet again until January 4th.

***NURSERY HELP:** We are in need of more ladies to help in the nursery. If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office.