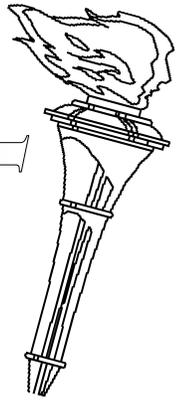


THE LIBERTY LIGHT



Volume 9, Issue 5

November/December 2006

Church Activities:

Church Phone: 376-0154

Sunday

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Morning Worship 10:45 AM

Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Awana 6:20 PM

Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM

Upcoming Events/ Opportunities

- **Special Thanksgiving Service November 21**
- **Basketball Begins December 4th**
- **Fall Senior Adult Retreat** (see details on back page)
- **Order your poinsettias for Christmas**

Anniversary Banquet

Sunday, November 19, 6:00 PM



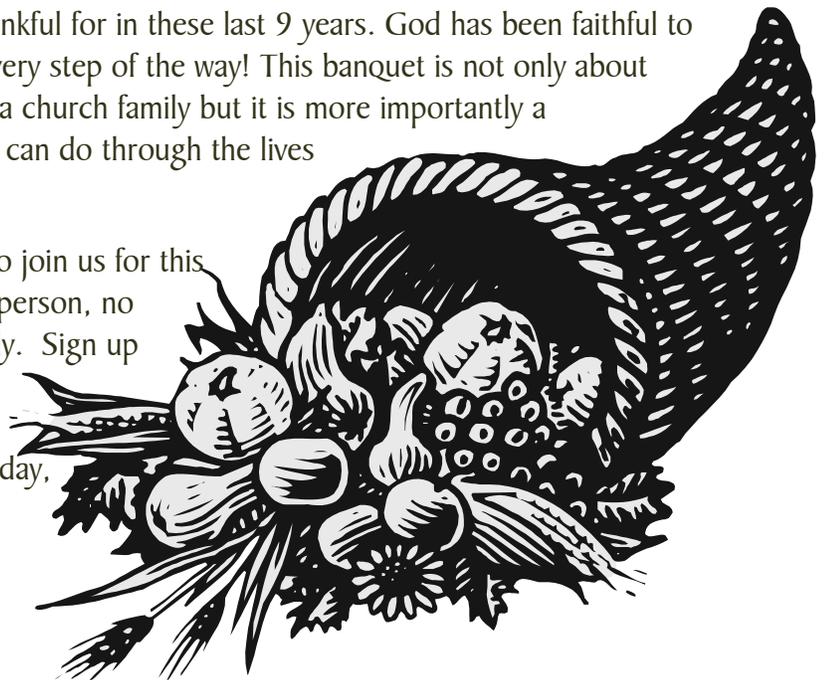
Dr. Jody Hice

Our guest speaker for the evening is Dr. Jody Hice. Bro. Jody is a native of Atlanta. He currently serves at Senior Pastor of Bethlehem First Baptist Church in Bethlehem, GA. He is an Adjunct Professor of Preaching at Luther Rice Seminary and a frequent teacher of various seminars and conferences. He hosts a radio program entitled "Let Freedom Ring", informing listeners of religious and moral issues facing the nation. He currently serves at President of Ten Commandments, GA, Inc. and is author of the book, *Deeper Than Water*.

High priority for Jody goes to his wife, Dee Dee and his two daughters, Anna Joy and Sara Marie.

We have much to be thankful for in these last 9 years. God has been faithful to provide for our needs every step of the way! This banquet is not only about celebrating our years as a church family but it is more importantly a celebration of what God can do through the lives of believers!

Make sure you sign up to join us for this evening! Cost is \$5 per person, no more than \$20 per family. Sign up at the Liberty table or by calling the church office no later than Tuesday, November 14.



"Piercing the
darkness
with the
truth of
God's
Word"



GEORGIA BAPTIST CONVENTION

The pastoral staff will be at the Georgia Baptist Convention in Duluth Georgia on Monday, November 13th and Tuesday, November 14th.



Holiday Office Closings

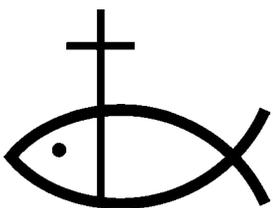
At Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 23
Friday, November 24

At Christmas
Monday, December 25th
Tuesday, December 26th



We're On The Web!

www.libertybc.ws



TAKE HOLD OF GODLINESS

(I Timothy 4:6-16)

BY: MIKE GRIFFIN

Introduction:

We have all heard it said that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!" Well, in today's lesson nothing could be closer to the truth. Last week we examined some of the problems associated with false doctrine in the local church.

This week we will look at some of those preventive measures that we as individual Christians can take that will keep us from being a false teacher and/or being tricked into believing false doctrine. It's all a matter of taking personal responsibility to lay hold of godliness.

When we get to chapter 4 in I Timothy we find that Paul has already called attention to the false teachers that are in the church at Ephesus. He has sought to counter their error by offering positive instruction in chapters 2 and 3. Now, in chapter 4, Paul tells Timothy what he must tell the individuals in the church to do to personally guard themselves from false teaching. Secondly, he tells Timothy what he must do to differentiate himself personally from false teachers to remain a positive influence for truth.

Here are three instructions that Timothy had to follow to keep the church and himself above reproach in this matter of false doctrine and godly living.

Receive nourishment (vv. 6-7a)

Many years ago I heard my pastor say that you will never grow spiritually as God intends by being "spoon fed from the pulpit". Now, this statement was not a putdown of biblical preaching but rather an admonition to learn how to study God's Word for yourself. That's exactly what Paul was saying, in essence, to Timothy. Timothy was to teach and model a person who "nourished" or fed upon the Word of God and sound doctrine on a regular basis.

Timothy, along with the church, is encouraged to avoid that which is "profane" and "mythological". Jesus, Himself, would remind us that man cannot live by bread alone, but by "every word that proceeds from the mouth of God".

A faithful servant of the Lord does not entangle himself in meaningless study and discussions that don't do anything to conform us to godliness and love for others.

Train yourself (vv. 7b-10)

According to Barna's research as many as 91% of adults say having good physical health is their top priority in life. If this is true, then most people see physical fitness as being more important than spiritual fitness. While no one can argue with the importance of physical health and fitness, spiritual health and fitness must be seen as being more important!

Being spiritually fit takes work just like being physically fit does. Having a daily routine of prayer and Bible study is important as is, making a commitment to meet regularly with the body of Christ. Identifying areas of moral weakness and guarding our hearts temptation is important. Vices related to the use of alcohol, pornography and gambling must be renounced and vanquished.

**"...we will never
grow spiritually as
God intends by being
'spoon fed from the
pulpit'."**

I have found (5) basic disciplines that are important to fulfill God's will for my life. These (5) areas represent areas that I must constantly devote myself to so that I will continue to grow spiritually. They are Bible study, prayer, church attendance, witnessing and giving.

These and other disciplines are important because, unlike bodily discipline which is limited in both extent and duration, spiritual disciplines have an effect both in time and eternity. Therefore, Paul's emphasis is that God's salvation, which He offers to all mankind, has implications both now and for eternity for all who will believe.

Demonstrate godliness (vv. 11-16)

My good friend, evangelist Bill Sturm, has said on many occasions that he believes that when a person gets saved he has "100% testimony". What he does with that testimony determines how much spiritual influence he is going to have. In other words, how he chooses to live after

TAKE HOLD OF THE TRUTH (CONT.)

professing salvation determines whether or not people are going to believe his witness. The more we sin, the more we diminish our influence!

Paul is telling Timothy in this passage that he not only has to identify false doctrine and teach sound doctrine, but he also has to demonstrate godliness! He has to show the fruit of his teaching and discipline. He must prove by his example that God's ways are not just the best way, but they are the only way!

Paul is reminding Timothy that the only way to prove to the people that he is to be respected as their spiritual leader is to demonstrate it in his character. Timothy could live in such a way that his youth and inexperience would be outweighed by his character in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.

Someone who has professed faith in Christ many years ago, does not necessarily possess a

corresponding spiritual maturity. As a matter of fact, in over 22 years of pastoring, I've seen people who have been saved just a few years live a much more exemplary life than some who have been going to church all their life!

Conclusion:

Paul closes out this section reminding Timothy to remain faithful to his calling as a believer, his commission as a servant and his giftedness as a pastor. Timothy must continue to be convinced that no other influence will be greater in the church at Ephesus than his being truthful and real. The false teachers that Paul had already identified in chapter 1 were "wannabe teachers". Paul was assured that Timothy was the "real thing". Timothy needed to be convinced that God would continue to be the real thing in Timothy that would make a supernatural and eternal difference in the church at Ephesus! (v. 16)

LIBERTY LIGHT BROADCAST

7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
Sunday Mornings
WKLY AM 980

Continue to pray for and support Liberty's radio program. If you are interested in sponsoring one week or several weeks let Bro. Mike know. The cost for each program is \$29.00. The program may be sponsored by a business or in memory of a loved one.

NEW RADIO PROGRAM

Bro. Mike has begun a new radio program during the week. It's a morning devotion that starts at 6:59 AM, Monday - Friday on WKLY. So remember to tune in!

OUTREACH VISITATION

Watch the bulletin for the dates of visitation during the month of December.

You will have scheduled opportunities to go visiting, but you may choose to go at another time more convenient to your schedule. Get a partner, pray together, and go out and share the gospel with someone.



SPECIAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE



Tuesday,
November 21
7:00 p.m.

We invite everyone to Join us on this evening for a special service of thanks. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m. There will be no Awana Clubs meeting on this night. Awana will resume their club meeting on Wednesday, November 29th.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Boxes to be collected on
Sunday, November 12th!



Don't forget to pray for this ministry that many might come to know Christ. We have prayer guides available. If you don't have one, stop by the office.

BASKETBALL NEWS



Sign-Ups end on Sunday
November 12th!

Season begins on
Monday, Dec. 4th!

There are a couple of changes this year. First of all, there will be no games scheduled on school holidays. Secondly, they are promising to limit the number of games per team per week.

**AWANA
NEWS!!**

**Thanksgiving Break
No Awana
Wed., Nov. 22nd**

**Christmas Break
No Awana
Wed., Dec. 20th
Wed., Dec. 27th**



Pastoral Staff

**Senior Pastor
Mike Griffin
376-8118**

**Assistant Pastors
Andy Buchanan
376-0124**

**Forrest Ferguson
245-9553**

**Church Office
376-0154**

FALL SENIOR ADULT RETREAT

**Epworth By the Sea
St. Simon's Island, Georgia
November 28-30, 2006
Balance Needed: \$160 per person**

We are making the arrangements for the senior adult retreat in November. If you are planning on attending we need a \$20 non-refundable deposit by September 6.

Epworth By the Sea is located on the Frederica River. It is a very quiet, peaceful 83 acres of land surrounded by live oaks, beautiful gardens, and the Marshes of Glynn. We will be staying in Turner Lodge which is located on the river. All the motel rooms have either a patio or balcony overlooking the river.

Bro. Mike and Bro. Andy will be leading this retreat.

The tentative schedule will be as follows:

<u>Tuesday, November 28</u>	
9:30 a.m.	Leave for St. Simon's
Noon	Lunch on the road
3:00 p.m.	Arrive at retreat
5:30 p.m.	Supper
7:00 p.m.	Worship & 1st Session
<u>Wednesday, November 29</u>	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	2nd Session
Noon	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Shopping & Touring
5:30 p.m.	Supper
7:00 p.m.	3rd Session
<u>Thursday, November 30</u>	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Final Session
Noon	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Leave for home

DECEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS



Poinsettias

Remember to make your order if you would be interested in placing a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of someone during the month of December. Order by Nov. 26th.



Liberty Christmas Fellowship

Sunday, December 17th - 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited and asked to bring finger foods and a drink.

Christmas Play

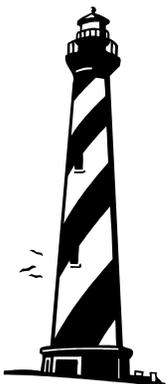
Sunday, December 10th - 6:00 p.m.

Our Truth & Training Club will be presenting a Christmas play during the evening service.



Christmas Eve Service

On December 24th we will have our regular morning services, Sunday School at 9:30 and worship at 10:45, but no evening service.



Liberty Baptist Church
PO Box 811
Hartwell, GA 30643

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