

**GOING FORWARD WITH GOD**

*Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward* (Jeremiah 7:24).

The story of the Israelites going toward Canaan is one of the grandest of all accounts of our forefathers in the faith. It is so us at times! Yes, us. From day one this story was given to us to teach that we must always go forward with God-NOT BACKWARD. Obedience (moral development, spiritual growth, multiplying ministries, defeating enemies) is always forward looking (Remember Lot's salty spouse). In their rebellious nature, the Israelites were trying to "back into the promised land." It just didn't work. We can't back into heaven any more that we can push a rope.

Remember after Moses led the people to the edge of the Red Sea and, with the sound of the Egyptian military in the distant background, God placed them in a position that required them to die or go forward? (I wouldn't have wanted to be the first nor the last to cross that gap of grace God laid out before them) This is a "mental model" for us. Every time you may want to slip, slide, sidestep, the straight and narrow in front of you, remember this model. To go backward was to willfully return to slavery in a place God never intended to leave His people. Every path of disobedience is backward—remember that!

Here is the amazing thing about the alluring nature of sin. It is easy. Is this why New Orleans is called the "Big Easy?" (If anyone knows why, let me know) When the Israelites reached the "other side" (salvation's type or shadow), Listen to "what" they did. They SANG. Why do we place such an emphasis on praise and worship in song? Because God is great and we just want to sing to Him! Here is the song.

***I WILL SING TO THE LORD,  
FOR HE HAS TRIUMPHED GLORIOUSLY!  
THE HORSE AND ITS RIDER  
HE HAS THROWN INTO THE SEA!  
THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND SONG,  
AND HE HAS BECOME MY SALVATION;  
HE IS MY GOD, AND I WILL PRAISE HIM;***

There is a time when, faced with dryness and a stagnant fellowship, the leadership must go out and stand before the church and strike the rock that the people might remember that we must go forward and stop complaining, murmuring, and being negative. Listen to what God told Moses. ***Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go*** (Ex. 17:5). Challenges work. Leadership is vital. In Chapter 19 of Exodus God said, ***Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I BORE YOU ON EAGLES' WINGS AND BROUGHT YOU TO MYSELF. NOW THEREFORE, IF YOU WILL INDEED OBEY MY VOICE AND KEEP MY COVENANT, THEN YOU SHALL BE A SPECIAL TREASURE TO ME ABOVE ALL PEOPLE; FOR ALL THE EARTH IS MINE AND YOU SHALL BE TO ME A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS AND A HOLY NATION"*** (19:4-6).

If we are not going forward, we are going backward. Let's keep the arrow pointing forward in your life and in the church. Don't give up, in, or out! yc

**PRAYER LIST**

- ♥ Beverly Huffstetler, Jennie Miller's mother, had surgery on shoulder May 23.
- ♥ Karen Adams, Ryan Hamrick's neighbor, has breast cancer.
- ♥ Kaitlyn White, Lonnie and Sue Livingston's granddaughter, is doing well after surgery.
- ♥ Olivia DeWolfe, Helen Blevins' mother, will have one more surgery due to lung cancer.
- ♥ Geraldine Blevins, David Blevins' mother, needs surgery to rebuild stomach wall to support the bladder.
- ♥ Jill Sessums, David Blevins' friend, is having cancer removed from her neck.
- ♥ Rudy Staggs, Ashley Nowlen's father, lung cancer.

**CONTINUE TO REMEMBER**

Betsy Canfield, Howard Farrar, Mary Louise Gipson, Beverly Graham, Charlotte Hunter, Larry Mittlestat, Joe Saia, Mart Salley and Joey Sanderford

**WEDDING**

An invitation goes out to each of you to attend the wedding of Carla Clemons to George Taylor on May 26. The ceremony will be held in the auditorium at 11:00.

**WEDDING SHOWER**

Chauncey McDaniel and Kassia Eastman were married Sunday, May 17 in Hawaii. We will celebrate their marriage with a wedding shower on Sunday, June 3 during our Life Group Gathering.

**VBS**

VBS will be June 18-22 from 6:00-8:30. The theme is SonForce Kids Special Agents. Help is needed with set-up, decorating, advertising, etc. See Genie to help.

**PEARL DAY**

We will be selling water at Pearl Day on June 30. Watch for more information and contact people as the event nears.

**FREE INDEED**

FreeIndeed will be with us the weekend of August 12. We will need to raise \$1500 for this event. If you would like to give please see Tim Nelson

**LEADERSHIP MEETING**

There will be a Leadership Meeting on June 3 at 7:30

**LIFE GROUP GATHERING**

All life Groups will meet at the building on June 3 at 6:00 for a time of fellowship. Bring finger foods.

**CAMP BROCHURES**

If you did not receive a camp brochure in the mail, you can take on from the Teen Bulletin Board.

**WEB SITE**

Our web site has been updated. Check it out. The address has changed. It is now [www.skywayhills.org](http://www.skywayhills.org).

**PANTRY**

All pantry items, except oatmeal, are needed at this time.

**PROMOTION SUNDAY**

June 3 will be promotion Sunday. Certificates will be awarded on this day. Please plan to be here and have your child here.

*Mr. and Mrs. Terry Rast  
Request the honour of you presence  
At the marriage of their daughter  
Tiffany Marie  
To  
Jeremy Thomas Beardain  
On Saturday, the second of June  
Two thousand and seven  
At four o'clock in the afternoon  
Skyway Hills Church of Christ  
3800 Highway 80 East  
Pearl, Mississippi*

**SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS**

Contact Tim Nelson if unable to serve at 601-853-3704.

**5/27/07**

- Greeters ..... Canfield Life Group
- Song Leader .....
- Call to Worship ..... Ken Salley
- Prayer ..... Dan Ellis
- Presiding ..... David Blevins
- Closing Prayer ..... Allen McDaniel

*Serving*

Paul McManaway Wayne Bridges  
Lamar Kilpatrick Alvin McMillen  
Scottie Stanford Justin McCov

- Evening Worship ..... Life Groups
- Nursery ..... Linda Salley
- Children's Worship..... Justin McCoy  
Bryan Farrar

**6/3/07**

- Greeters ..... Blevins Life Group
- Song Leader ..... Tim Farrar
- Call to Worship ..... Al Garner
- Prayer ..... Bobby Stewart
- Presiding ..... Glynn McMillen
- Closing Prayer ..... Dusty Reynolds

*Serving*

Terry Claunch Rocky Barnette  
Allen Rogers George Miller  
Danny Dendy Jeremy Blevins

- Evening Worship ..... Life Groups
- Nursery ..... Belinda Kilpatrick
- Children's Worship ..... Jennie Miller

**THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR**

- May 27-1 Chron. 20-22; John 10:22-42
- May 28-1 Chron. 23-25; John 11:1-17
- May 29-1 Chron. 26-27; Jn. 11:18-46
- May 30-1 Chron. 28-29; Jn. 11:47-57
- May 31-2 Chron. 1-3; John 12:1-19
- June 1-2 Chron. 4-6; John 12:20-50
- June 2-2 Chron. 7-9; John 13:1-17

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- May 26 – Clemons/Taylor Wedding
- June 2 – Rast/Beardain Wedding
- June 3 – Leadership Meeting
- June 3 – Promotion Sunday
- June 3 – Life Group Gathering
- June 3 – McDaniel Wedding Shower
- June 18-22 – VBS
- June 30 – Pearl Day
- August 11-12 – Free Indeed

| LIFE GROUPS   |              |                   |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Area          | Location     | Leaders           |
| South Brandon | Rotated      | Paul McManaway    |
|               |              | Glynn McMillen    |
| Pearl         | Building     | David Blevins     |
|               |              | Lonnie Livingston |
| Florence/Star | Rotated      | Yale Canfield     |
|               |              | Allen McDaniel    |
| Brandon       | Sweeney Home | Jeff Sweeney      |
|               |              | Tim Farrar        |
| Reservoir     | Rogers Home  | Jim Head          |
|               |              | Allen Rogers      |
| Teens         | Varies       | Ken Salley        |
|               |              |                   |

**Mission Statement for Heart Matters**  
 To enhance the mission of the Skyway Hills church of Christ and to build a sense of community among the members of the body of Christ through an accurate and quality communication of 1) ministries and activities of the church 2) the opportunities for each member to find fulfillment as disciples of Jesus and 3) the scriptural application of God's Word to life relevant issues today.

**Heart Matters**

**Skyway Hills Church of Christ**  
 Highway 80 East  
 P.O. Box 5600  
 Pearl, MS 39288

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 JACKSON, MS  
 PERMIT NO. 301

**Schedule of Service**  
 Sunday Bible Class.....9:00 am  
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 am  
 Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 pm  
 Wednesday..... 7:00 pm

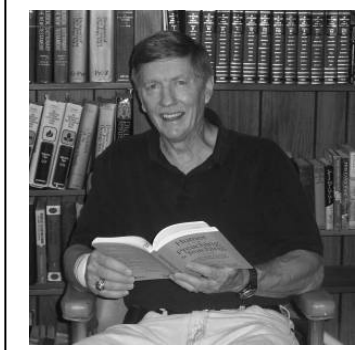
*“Since then,  
 you have  
 been raised  
 with  
 Christ,  
 set your  
 hearts  
 on things  
 above.”*  
 Colossians 3:1

**Skyway Hills Church of Christ**  
 Phone: 601-939-5473 • Fax: 601-939-5447  
 Web: [www.skywayhills.org](http://www.skywayhills.org) • E-mail: [skywayhillchurch@bellsouth.org](mailto:skywayhillchurch@bellsouth.org)  
 Elders - Lonnie Livingston • Al Garner  
 Minister – Yale Canfield  
 Email: [yalec@bellsouth.net](mailto:yalec@bellsouth.net)  
 Youth Minister – Ken Salley

May 27, 2007

**YOUTH  
 CAMP**  
 Camp brochures are  
 on the Teen Bulletin Board.  
 See Linda if you  
 can help with  
 VBS.

**YAKS  
 VBS  
 June 18-22  
 6:00-8:30**  
**SonForce Kids  
 Special Agents**  
 Plan now  
 to  
 attend.



# Heartbeat

With your prayers and faith in our hearts Betsy and I headed south to the “Big Easy” and the University of Tulane Hospital Monday morning about 5 a.m. For my bride of 40 years come June 3<sup>rd</sup>, it was a misnomer—ANY THING BUT EASY. About 9 hours of jabbing, x-rays, CT scans, and finally a stick in an artery. She left more blood in NO than I gave on Saturday.

I need to tell you how God answers your prayers. He has a lot of choices. We ask, believe, and watch. We have prayed for years for the Lord of our lives to just make Heppy C go away and heal a liver. Not for a moment have we doubted God's hearing ability, nor His compassion, or His grace. Betsy's MELD # is 16. That's how the team of specialists decide who gets the next available liver. Betsy has the worst kind of Hep-C. It's a # 1. We all like to be # 1 but not in this case--# 1 is the bad boy. (Betsy has never done anything just half way!)

She is a candidate for a cadavered liver—one from someone who has died. Usually you must be at a Meld of 18-23 to have hopes of receiving a liver. That means that she must get sicker. Here is where God's grace has given us new hope. God, we believe has answered your and our prayers.

She can be put on the immediate list to receive a liver from someone young who HAS Hep-C when they die—when their liver is still very healthy. If she opts for one of those livers (since she already has Hep-C) she can be put on the list RIGHT NOW and the chance of her getting one soon goes up exponentially!

This means so much to us in so many ways. The recovery will be about three months. Since our health insurance is tied to Betsy's job—that is an answer to prayer. She doesn't have to get nearly as sick—that's an answer to prayer. There are other answers too numerous to write about here. Please keep praying to our Great God!

Thank you for your help in making our Health Fair a success. I think we made some great contacts both from the professionals and the visitors that came.

Sunday was another great day for the Skyway Hills church. We can see growth every Lord's Day. Please help us make every Sunday a Friend's Day. If you bring a guest to our assemblies, that means you are really plugged into the body of Christ here. If we never bring or invite people—it may be as sign we aren't really involved. Let's let people know how Great our God is and how wonderful it is to be this fellowship! See you there.

**Deacons**  
  
 David Blevins,  
 Education

Tim Nelson,  
 Calls/Visitor/  
 Greeters

Jim Head,  
 Life Groups

Allen Rogers,  
 YAKS