

Influencing Lives For Christ

By Mike Riley

We influence the lives of more people than we realize we do. Just stop and think for a moment all of the people we've known in our lifetime. Think of all of the clerks who've rung up and bagged our groceries at the supermarket; the mechanics who have serviced our automobiles; the strangers with whom we've struck up a casual conversation while watching a football game, or waiting for a flight at the airport, or standing in line at the bank. Could we even reasonably estimate how many people would be on that list of contacts?

As Christians, we make an indelible mark on the lives of numerous people every day, often without even realizing that we've done so. We may not even recall interacting with some of the folks we come in contact with, but they will well remember us — whether favorably or unfavorably — depending upon the nature of that interaction.

Most importantly, what do these interactions tell the world about Jesus Christ? What kind of portrait do we paint of our Lord and Savior with our words, our behavior, and our attitudes — even in those situations where we don't know the people around us and may not ever expect to see them again?

Jesus often used casual contacts as stepping stones to more meaningful conversations. For example, the woman at Jacob's well (John 4), the man born blind (John 9), and Zacchaeus (Luke 19). Then there is the apostle Paul and his interaction with the Philippian jailer in Acts 16.

How many seemingly insignificant connections do we make in the world around us that might turn into opportunities for the gospel — if we conduct ourselves in a Christ-like manner?

Brethren, let us indeed "Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time" (Colossians 4:5), for we never know who we are influencing for the cause of Christ. Wherever we go, whomever we meet, and in whatever circumstance we find ourselves, always remember that we are the "light of the world" — our lives giving glory to God (Matthew 5:14-16).



STERLINGTON Church of Christ



P.O. Box 82
1095 Highway 2
Sterlington, Louisiana 71280
www.sterlingtoncoc.com

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Those to Serve

Today

Announcements- Lyle Russell **Opening prayer-** Ronnie Hayes
Communion- Wayne Fowler **Closing Prayer-** David Repond
Sermon- Don DeLukie
December 10th

Announcements- Travis Rogers **Opening prayer-** Lyle Russell
Communion- Rick Cook **Closing Prayer-** Damien Miller
Sermon- Don DeLukie

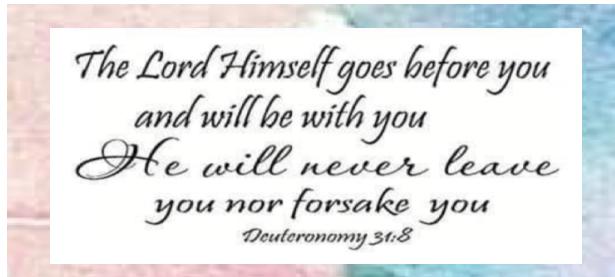
Announcements

—Children's Christmas Program: Next Saturday! December 9th at 2 PM will be our Children's Christmas Program. Reception to follow. Please see sign-up sheet in the kitchen. **Everyone is invited!**

—Potluck and Men's Meeting: December 17th after AM Services will be a potluck followed by a Mens Meeting. There will be no PM Services that evening.

—Question & Answer Series: Our next Question and Answer Series will be scheduled when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

—Children's Home Collection: Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer.



Please Pray For:

Tommy Franklin, Larry Randolph, Teddie Schmidt, Jr & Patsy Clark, Dan Ross Jr, Mike Jones, Gena Granger, Carolyn A. Wilson, Mike Williams, Mike Wiggins, Gary Parker, Sharon White-Ross, Sherry Miller, Ronnie Tatum, Cindy Smith.

Bereaved: Families of Betty Woodhead, Peter Branch, Dawn Moore, Elizabeth Hollis, Kathy Isle, Billy Thomas, Vera Henry, and John Jones.

Continue to Pray For:

Joanne Randolph, Dwain & Bettye Flowers, Susie McGough, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James & Lorene Johnson, Bobby Barker, Gail Sewell, Cindy Smith, Renee Gee, Malea Zuber, Bobby Simmons, Tricia Muse, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



Romans 5:3-5



December birthdays

- 5 - Joanie Franklin
- 14 - Wayne Fowler
- 15 - Jonah Scharf
- 20 - Vee Boren
- 22 - Brad Farrington
- 24 - Louvenia Dickson
- 26 - Matt Scharf
- 27 - Rick Cook
- 27 - Gary Guice
- 30 - Dwain Flowers

December anniversaries

- 5 - Dan and Ethel Ross
- 10 - Rick and Sandy Van Loon
- 18 - Gary and Sharon Harris
- 27 - Leo and Shirley Goodwin
- 28 - Tommy and Joanie Franklin

