

PULASKI STREET BULLETIN

PULASKI STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

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How to Plan Ahead

Part Three

For James, the key to planning ahead is trusting in God, not the future. Last week, we looked at two reasons that we should not trust the future. The future is neither as *certain* nor as *distant* as we might think. Let's look at two more reasons to trust in God and not the future as we plan ahead.

The future is not as controllable as you think. Reflecting back on the hypothetical statement in James 4:13, James says, "Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that'" (4:15). "If the Lord wills" is the key statement here. If the Lord wills, we will live. We might need to start there. If the Lord wills, we will be alive for another year. We shouldn't assume that we are going to be alive, and we shouldn't assume that our plans are God's plans. We don't have near the control over the duration of our lives as we think we do, and we don't have near the control over the comings and goings of our lives as we think we do. We are not the master of our plans. It is God who is in control, and we must not forget to trust Him (Prov. 3:5-6).

Now, it's not wrong to have plans. It's not wrong to have ambitions and goals. But it is wrong to presume that the future is ours and that we can control it and do with it what we want to without God's help. We must commit our ways or works to the Lord (Prov. 16:3). We must preface our plans either verbally or attitudinally with the thought: "If it is the Lord's will." A submissive spirit should accompany all the plans we make.

James then assesses the hypothetical statement in 4:13: "As it is [i.e., your original statement or attitude], you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil" (4:16, clarification mine). If we say what we say with an air of self-sufficiency, or if we plan what we plan with an air of self-sufficiency, it is arrogant, boastful, and evil. The Greek word behind "boasting" here occurs one other time in the New Testament. In 1 John 2:16, it is rendered the "pride of life." John is referring to boasting about what we have, while James is referring to boasting about what we are going to do. Such boasting is precarious because the future is not as controllable as we think.

The future is not as disconnected as you think. James closes this section of his letter with a statement that most of us are familiar with or have thought about on occasion: "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin" (4:17). We should tie this statement to the context in which it appears. In planning ahead, if we know that we should trust in God and not in the future, but we don't do that, we sin!

Nevertheless, this statement has broader applications. We often think that our future is going to be more honorable than it is at present. We reason that we have too much to do and too little time to do it, but we are looking forward to a day when we can be a blessing to others. The fact is there is always going to be something. Do you know what the biggest determining factor of what your future is going to look like or how honorable your future is going to be? The greatest determining factor is the present, i.e., what you are doing right now.

More than likely, if we are generous now, we will be generous then. If we are good to other people now, we will be good to other people then. If we are investing in the kingdom of God now, then we will be investing in the kingdom of God then. If we want our future to be more honorable than our present, what is needed is not a change in our circumstances, but a change of heart. We shouldn't excuse our lack of doing good now with the thought that we will do good later. We can't seize opportunities in the future; we can only seize opportunities in the present. James is essentially saying, "The future is not a disconnected as you think. You need to seize opportunities now. You need to do good now. If you don't, then you sin."

When planning ahead, we need to remember the following four things: (1) Our futures may not be certain, but God is certain and dependable. (2) Our lives may not last very long, but an eternity with God will last forever. (3) We can't control the future, but we can trust the Person who does control the future. (4) Along with trusting in God, a sense of urgency should manifest itself to do good for other people and to be about God's business and to seize the opportunities that we have today.

Jacob Evans

ELDERS: Tim Hammond, 931-852-4832 Biff Helton, 931-242-8785 Bob Markus, 931-242-3816 Eric Nutt, 931-242-3566

Please speak with the elder chairman regarding anything you'd like the elders to discuss or to arrange a time to meet with them.
The elder chairman for July, August, and September is **Biff Helton**.

DEACONS: Shayne Adams Joe Cook Jacob Cothren Jim Donnelly Mark Evans Scott Harris
Billy Helton III Reggie Holt Shane Hughes Andy Lee Mark Miller Brad Nielsen Caleb Shadrick

MINISTERS: Jacob Evans, 731-343-5325 Jeremy Gargis, 931-231-9557 **Hispanic Ministry:** Rodolfo Espinoza, 615-516-0650 **AGAPE COUNSELOR,** 931-762-8502

UPCOMING WORSHIP INFO

For the time being, "those to serve" assignments will not be listed in the bulletin.

We will be meeting in person for Sunday morning worship on Sunday, August 16, with guidelines and parameters in place in order to keep us all as safe and healthy as possible.

The elders, deacons, and their wives who are attending will be wearing masks. The elders encourage you to wear a mask when you attend the Sunday morning worship service in person.

If you are sick in any way or running a fever, we obviously expect you to continue to worship with us online or on the radio. If you are especially vulnerable to the more drastic effects of Covid-19 and/or these safety measures will be difficult or impossible for you to follow, then we understand if you choose to stay home and worship with us online or on the radio.

safety measures:

- Enter through the open doors in the foyer.
- Pick up PCK(s) and mask(s) (optional, but strongly encouraged) as you enter.
- Find a seat for your family (every other pew is taped off).
- Maintain social distancing (e.g., no handshaking or hugging; no sitting next to another family on the same pew).
- Minimize use of nursery and restrooms.
- Refrain from using the water fountains (bottled water available).
- Deposit your contribution in a basket, and throw away your PCK(s) as you leave through the foyer.

REMOTE ACCESS

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Via Internet: Go to (1) **Pulaski Street's Facebook Page** or (2) **Pulaski Street Church of Christ's YouTube Channel**.

Via Radio: The Sunday morning services will air at about 6 p.m. (6 p.m. is not an exact time; the broadcast should begin sometime between 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.) on Sunday evenings at 106.1 FM (Lawrenceburg), 93.1 FM (Loretto), or 590 AM (Lawrence County) and via X Radio App on both Apple and Android.

Sunday Evening Bible Class Livestream: Go to **Pulaski Street's Facebook page** or **Pulaski Street Church of Christ's YouTube Channel** at 6 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Devotional Livestream: Go to **Pulaski Street's Facebook page** or **Pulaski Street Church of Christ's YouTube Channel** at 5 p.m.

During church office hours (Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.), you may pick up personal communion kits and/or drop off your weekly contribution. You may also mail contributions/donations to 247 Pulaski Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.

August 5 and August 9, 2020

Mid-Week Bible Study.....	—
Sunday Morning Bible Study.....	—
Sunday Morning Worship.....	111
Sunday Evening Worship.....	—
Contribution (2020 Budget \$10,635.48).....	\$12,181.00
Average (last available).....	\$10,069.48

Pulaski Street Church of Christ
247 Pulaski Street
Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

NONPROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
LAWRENCEBURG, TN
PERMIT NO. 112

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SCHEDULE of SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.....	10:25 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship.....	6:00 p.m.*
Wednesday night.....	7:00 p.m.

(*Each 4th and 5th Sunday evening service is at 1 p.m.)

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

◆ On WDXE AM 1370/FM 102.5 ◆ 12:45 p.m. ◆ Monday – Friday ◆
The upcoming week of August 17 – August 21 will be hosted by the CREWSTOWN Church of Christ.

PANTRY LIST

instant potatoes/8 oz. pkg. rice/1 lb. bag
crackers/1 lb. box macaroni & cheese/7.25 oz. box
quick oats/18 or 42 oz. OR boxes of individual packets
dried beans/1 lb. bag ramen noodles/3 oz. pkg.
cans of: tuna/6 oz. Vienna sausage/5 oz. salmon/ 15 oz.
SpaghettiOs, ravioli, etc./15 oz. can
fruit or vegetable juice/46 oz. can or bottle
peanut butter/18 oz. jar soup/10.5 oz. can
canned vegetables/14.5 oz. can...
(corn, green beans, peas, baked beans, pork & beans, etc.)
canned fruit/15 ¼ oz. (peach, pear, etc.)
canned meat/12-24 oz. (Spam, Treet, Chicken, etc.)
jelly, jam, or preserves/18-32 oz. jar

Monetary contributions are always welcome!
Make check payable to Pulaski Street Church of Christ,
and please indicate "PANTRY" on the memo line.
Thank you!

Some services and events have been altered, postponed, or cancelled due to recommendations regarding the current coronavirus situation.

MEMORIALS

A donation from **Bill Grisham's estate** has been given to the Pulaski Street Youth Group in memory of **BILL GRISHAM**.

A donation from **Dr. B. I. Naddy** has been given to the Pulaski Street Church of Christ in memory of **J. FRED JOHNSTON**.

COMING SOON

This coming Sunday, August 16: SPECIAL EVENT. From 2 until 3:30 p.m. in the fellowship building. Please see your e-mail and the overhead announcements for detailed information.

Tuesday, August 25: Dorcas Sewing. 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the fellowship building.

Tuesday, September 8: Dorcas Sewing. 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the fellowship building.

Saturday, September 12: 7th Annual Lawrence County Walk4Water. Rotary Park Walking Track. Registration is at 8:00 a.m. Walk starts at 9 a.m. Register online for a free t-shirt.

The goal is to raise money for drilled wells in Haiti, to repair previously drilled wells, and to support Haitians with various programs such as sustainable agriculture and disaster relief, while teaching them about Jesus, His love for them, and the everlasting, living water He provides. Please support this very worthy and fun event.

Go to <https://www.hhi.org/walk4water/lawrenceburg-tn-2020> to register or donate.

Tuesday, September 22: Dorcas Sewing. 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the fellowship building.

Saturday, September 26: SPECIAL EVENT. Please watch for more information in your e-mail and the overhead announcements.

Your "SENT" theme T-shirt is Waiting!

Please go to the **church office between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays with your money**, and pick up your T-shirt order.

T-shirt prices are as follows:

Youth Short Sleeve Soft Tee, \$7

Adult Short Sleeve Soft Tee, \$8

Adult Long Sleeve Comfort Colors, \$13

Jacob Evans will be available on **Sunday mornings** as soon as he can get to the office **following the worship service** to fulfill shirt orders.

If you need your shirt(s) delivered to you, you can call **Jeremy Gargis** (931-231-9557) or the office (931-762-5161). Jeremy will be happy to deliver your shirt(s) to you and collect your money.

HELP NEEDED

Our ongoing need for projector operators existed prior to the Covid-19 situation, and the need is even greater now. Some of those who were operating the projector prior to Covid-19 are now unable to do so. In addition, now that we are streaming our Sunday morning service, we have two stations to fill: the projector and the camera console.

If you are willing to be trained to operate the projector and camera console, please contact **Mark Miller** at **931-242-0692**. Your help is truly needed. Thank you.

THOSE WHO LIVE IN FACILITIES

(This information was checked on Tuesday, August 11, 2020.)

Since facilities cannot allow visitors due to Covid-19, this is a great time to mail cards and/or make phone calls.

BRIGHTON GARDENS, 103 Arcaro Place, Brentwood, TN 37027

Susie Davis, Suite 262 (Pulaski Street member)

KEESTONE, 322 Kennedy St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
931-766-4097

Bettye Holt, 306 (Pulaski Street member) *Now on hospice.*
Mary Wilson, 106 (Pulaski Street member)

KEESTONE (cottage), 318 Kennedy St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

Dorothy Underwood, cottage (mother of Pam Snider)

NHC LAWRENCEBURG, 374 Brink St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
931-762-6548

Jewell Henson, 319A (Pulaski Street member)

Cleo Keaton, 220B (Pulaski Street member)

Willadean King, 304A (mother of Diane Springer)

THE SUMMIT, 186 Prosser Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
931-762-3524

Louise Bates, C-11 (Pulaski Street member)

Mike and Macie Eckhart, C-13 (Former members here)

Leonard Kirk, C-5 (Pulaski Street member)

Jesse Springer, A-7 (Pulaski Street member)

IN OWN HOMES

Gennie Adams, 931-852-4400, 153 Rabbit Trail Rd., Leoma, TN 38468.

Kym Bilbrey Brown, 105 Graves Drive, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.

Virginia Cole, 931-565-3331, 1557 Shores Rd., Goodspring, TN 38460.

Robbie Guthrie, 931-201-8058, 1804 Jean Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.

Kathleen Tice, 931-762-5435, 708 4th St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.

YOUTH NEWS

How often do we take for granted the smaller things in life? For so many of the things in which we are involved, we will find ourselves struggling to succeed if we do not pay attention to detail. Now, those details may not be exciting to talk about, but they sure are important!

Interestingly, the Bible talks about many "little things" that we shouldn't underestimate. Consider some of the following:

The Mustard Seed

In Matthew 13, Jesus shares several parables. In verses 31-32, He discusses the mustard seed, a very tiny seed that grows into a large tree. Yes, it has small beginnings, but as long as it gets the nutrition it needs, it grows substantially! Like this mustard seed, an individual's faith can grow from insignificant to undeniable. A local church can experience something similar. Even though it may start small, with the right kind of "fertilization," it will grow immensely!

A Sparrow

In Matthew 10:29-31, Jesus talks about the small stature of sparrows. He points out that they are seemingly insignificant, being sold for a penny for two of them. However, not a single one of them dies without the Lord's knowledge of it. Jesus brought more meaning to this statement by following it with "you are of more value than many sparrows." Yes, sparrows are small, but they are important to God. If sparrows are important to God, it should give us much confidence knowing how much more He cares about us!

Zacchaeus

If you grew up going to VBS or Bible classes, you probably know the song about Zacchaeus. How do we describe Zacchaeus? He was a "wee little man." While his height may be the thing for which we remember him, we should remember Zacchaeus for the dramatic repentance and change that we see take place in his life! Despite Zacchaeus's small stature and questionable background, Jesus gave him attention and brought salvation to his house. That is no small thing!

The Widow's Two Coins

In Mark 12:41-44, we read of the miniscule, yet massive, contribution of a widow. While many rich people were putting in large sums of money, this poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which made a penny. Jesus then taught His disciples that she had put in more than any of the rich people had. Obviously, the monetary value of her giving was considerably less than what others gave. But she had given everything that she had, proving her complete and total reliance on God. The money might have been less, but the sacrifice was significantly more!

There are so many other "little things" that I could point out here from Scripture, but I believe these get at the point that I want to make. Whatever difference you can make in the lives of those around you, no matter how big or small, make it! Grow your faith and the church! Realize how important you are to God! Don't let something that you think makes you inferior keep you from seeking the Lord! Be sacrificial in your giving! Here are four great lessons based on small things that if followed will cause the kingdom to increase!

Until next time...

Jeremy Gargis

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

As of Tuesday, August 11:

TONY ALLEN's doctors have decided to go ahead and admit him to St. Thomas Hospital next week on Tuesday, August 18. This decision is based on Tony's most recent test results. He has been told that he will remain hospitalized until he receives a heart transplant. *77 Crawfish Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

SHIRLEY EVANS had cataract surgery on Tuesday, August 11, in Columbia. The surgery went well, and Shirley is recovering at home. *1265 East Gaines St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

ROBBIE GUTHRIE, who is battling lymphoma, saw her doctor last week while in Columbia for a radiation treatment. The doctor told her that the radiation treatments have been doing their job; the tumors are shrinking. Robbie was to have her last scheduled radiation treatment on Wednesday, August 12. *1804 Jean Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

RACHEL SNIDER HUGHES was scheduled for surgery on Tuesday, August 11, at STRHS Lawrenceburg to repair the fractured bones (tibia and fibula) in her right leg. We had no report by print time. *295 Cotton Lane, Leoma, TN 38468.*

TOMMY and PATSY LEE were both recently diagnosed with Covid-19. Tommy is doing okay. Patsy is feeling very weak. *3040 Hwy. 43 S., Loretto, TN 38469.*

MICHAEL MASHBURN recently had biopsies taken from inside his mouth and has been diagnosed with a recurrence of cancer. He will be having additional tests and scans, and a treatment plan will be decided after the results are known. *250 Wesley Chapel Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

VICKIE NEAL has been coping with a foot injury, and she will be wearing a cast for the next few weeks. *P.O. Box 363, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

BRENDA OWENS is battling respiratory problems. *433 First Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

GARY HAMPTON, former member here, has been battling pneumonia and Covid-19. His condition has recently worsened, and as of Tuesday, August 11, he was not doing well. *1400 Vernon Street, LaGrange, GA 30240.*

DR. GARI LYNN, former principal at Lawrenceburg Public School, has been battling cancer. He has now been placed on hospice care at his home. *240 Haywood Creek Rd., Pulaski, TN 38478.*

Please continue to pray for these:

Mary Louisa Belew, Kym Bilbrey Brown, Willodean Campbell, Lorene Chandler, Nell Dixon, Carolyn Frazier, Ruth Goff, Robbie Guthrie, Jeffrey Hughes, James and Thelma McCloud, Darrin McKamey, Donna and Pistol Marston, Sandra Reed, R.C. Trammell, Susan Hughes Carvell, Ray Baker, Greg Donnelly, Phillip Gattis, Isla Gentry and family, Terry Hickman, Scot Hughes, Linda Kelley, Ryan and Anna Kennedy, Dr. Gari Lynn, Emma Moore, Mason Risner, Tru Sanders, Jay Thomas, Holly Winkler, and all those recently mentioned.

SYMPATHY

We extend Christian love and sympathy to the family of **KATHLEEN WARREN**. Mrs. Warren was the grandmother of **Jeffrey Hughes** and **Patrick Hughes**. She passed on Monday, August 10. Her home was in Moulton, AL. Arrangements were incomplete at print time.