

TRUTH FOR TODAY

VOL. XXVII, NO. 8

JUNE, 2019

GOSPEL MEETING

The time for our summer gospel meeting at the **Verona church of Christ** is just a few days away - **June 28 - 30, 2019!** Our guest speaker will be brother **Mel Futrell** from Birmingham, Alabama. Brother Futrell is a native of Pocahontas, Arkansas and has been preaching the gospel for the past thirty-seven years. Mel is no stranger to us at Verona, as he was with us in a gospel meeting in January, 2008. Mel currently serves as the preacher for the Shades Mountain church of Christ in Birmingham, Alabama. A graduate of Harding University, Mel and his wife, Shayna, have three daughters, Halle, McKenna, and Conner. He has worked with congregations in Missouri, Arkansas, South Carolina, and Alabama. In addition to his local work, Mel conducts numerous gospel meetings each year, primarily in the southeast. We are understandably very proud to have brother Futrell with us again in this upcoming series of studies together.

Mel will preach at each service in addition to teaching the Sunday morning auditorium class. Our schedule of services is as follows:

FRIDAY, June 28. Service time is at 7:00, with a meal at the church building beforehand at 5:45.

SATURDAY, June 29. Service time is at 7:00, with a meal at the church building beforehand at 5:45.

SUNDAY, June 30. Our Bible classes will begin at **9:00 a.m.** with the combined youth and adult classes meeting in the auditorium. Our morning worship assembly will be at **9:50**, during which time brother Mel will deliver the morning sermon. Morning services will be followed by a fellowship meal here at the church building. Afternoon services will begin at

12:30. All are encouraged to participate with us in this time of worship, food, and fellowship.

There are several valid reasons for having a gospel meeting. One is to spread the gospel that souls might be saved from sin and condemnation: *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16)*. God’s grace has been revealed to all men in that Jesus died for all men (*Titus 2:11; Hebrews 2:9*). Rather than salvation by grace only, or anything only, God Himself says we must make an obedient response to His grace. If Jesus, Who knew no sin, had to *“learn obedience” (Hebrews 5:9)*, where does that leave us? The Hebrew writer goes on to add that Jesus is the source of eternal salvation to those who *“obey”* Him. If you have never responded to God’s grace and obeyed your Lord through faith in Him, repenting of your sins, confessing the Savior before men, and being baptized into Christ, what better opportunity than now to take care of this vital need in your life?

A second reason for this endeavor is to restore the erring back to Christ: *“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted” (Galatians 6:1)*. Giving our hearts and lives to Jesus doesn’t mean Satan will leave us alone; in fact, he may tempt us now more than ever since we have left his side and gone over to God’s! Thus, there is the very real possibility and probability of our being *“overtaken in a fault”* and *“falling from grace” (Galatians 5:4)*. In practically every community, there are those who have done just that - they were once faithful to the cause of Christ, but have drifted. They have left their first love, and are in a wayward condition. Does this describe you, dear friend? Why not repent of your sins, ask for the prayers of concerned Christians, and be restored back to the fellowship of God and His people? We will

be eager to assist you in these matters of eternal consequence.

A third reason to have a gospel meeting is to edify the saved: *“Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another” (Romans 14:19)*. None of us are so strong that we have reached a plateau of coasting; we all need more moral fiber and spiritual stamina. Every child of God needs a spiritual *“shot in the arm”* on occasion, as life isn’t always kind to us - we get knocked down, and need picking up. What better way to be encouraged than to be with people of like precious faith in singing God’s praise, praying to the Father, and studying His Word in worship and fellowship together?

And finally, a fourth reason to have such an effort as this is to glorify God through a combination of the above. Jehovah created us, sustains us in life, and has done everything in His power to save us in the end. His making the ultimate sacrifice of His only-begotten Son Jesus tells us He is deserving of our never-ending praise and adoration. Paul says that whatever we do, we are to do all *“to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31)*, and the hymn reminds us, *“To God be the glory, great things He hath done!”*

Hope to see you at one or more services at our upcoming gospel meeting!

VERONA CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Verona congregation was begun in 1959 in this community by a group of Christians concerned with establishing a church in this area. Through the years, as a result of hard work, persistence, and prayers, God has blessed this congregation immensely. Today, the church of Christ that meets at Verona is actively engaged in the Lord’s work in the following areas:

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday A.M. Bible Classes

9:00

Sunday A.M. Worship	9:50
Sunday P.M. Worship	6:00 - (12:30 - during Gospel Meetings)
Wednesday P.M. Bible Classes	7:00
Fifth Wednesday P.M. Singing	7:00

Magnolia Manor Bible Class - every other Tuesday afternoon at 1:00.

TRUTH FOR TODAY - PAPER

A monthly publication of the congregation mailed throughout the community, surrounding area, and to other parts of the country to teach the truth of God's Word with the hope of saving the lost and strengthening the saved.

SINGING/DEVOTION - NURSING HOME

Magnolia Manor Assisted Living Facility - Third Sunday afternoon of the month at 1:30.

VISITATION PROGRAM

An outreach program of the church consisting of a number of different teams each with a team captain. Groups meet once a month for the purpose of assigning visits, reporting on visits made and usually a period of fellowship. **David Elrod** is currently in charge of the visitation program; it is reorganized regularly.

EVANGELISTIC WORKS

Our elders regularly schedule one or more gospel meetings per year; these are normally preceded by a door-knocking in the area to invite others. In addition, we are desirous of converting as many as possible in our area to Christ, and we have DVDs, Bible Correspondence Courses, Open Bible Studies, and other means of trying to take the gospel to the lost. If you or someone you know of might be interested in a Bible study, please let us know.

YOUTH WORK

Our young people are actively involved in area-wide youth meetings, singings, and other activities designed to strengthen and encourage our young people.

BENEVOLENT AID

We stock a pantry to help those with legitimate needs, and other individuals from the benevolent fund as the need arises. Food items are taken to the Intensive Care Unit of the hospital each week. **Bobby Goff** oversees this aspect of our work.

PARCHMAN PRISON PROJECT

A benevolent/evangelistic mission trip taken each year to the state penitentiary in Parchman, Mississippi. Gifts are taken and delivered to approximately 130 inmates; we also have the opportunity of having singing and teaching while there. This trip is normally taken the first weekend in December.

BUS PROGRAM

Our van is driven each service for those who need transportation to and from worship. If you need a ride, please call in advance 566-7575 to be added to our route.

LADIES NIGHT OUT

One night per month for the opportunity of food, fun, and fellowship at various locations.

We invite **YOU** to be a part of God's active family at Verona!

Wayne Cox

GOSPEL MEETING

June 28 - 30, 2019

Speaker: Mel Futrell

Times:

Friday - Saturday - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday - 9:00 & 9:50 a.m. 12:30 p.m.

VERONA CHURCH OF CHRIST

WEBSITE

Be sure to check out our presence on the Internet at **www.veronacoc.com**. On our site you will find information about the Verona congregation, as well as past issues of Truth for Today available for viewing and/or download in PDF format.