

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Every Rememberance

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Charles Kelly's family at the loss of his sister Avis Barker., Darlene Smith, Robert and Aubrey Perea, Wayne Ezell, Herb and Jean, Danesa, and Peggy Beebe

New Arrival: Josie Helen Murdock. Arrived at 4:02 PM March 17, 2019. 20 inches tall, 7 pounds 5 ounces. Baby, mother and father are all fine.

Family Gatherings: Men's Coffee and Bible Study at Ed's home on Friday April 5, 2019 at 8:00 AM. Breakfast at the Mat-Su Family Restaurant at 8:00 AM on Saturday April 6, 2019 followed immediately by a Young Men's training at the building.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers. Hans and Danesa are traveling.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.

Today's Scripture: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you," **Philippians 1:3 (NKJV)**

Today's Wisdom: "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God" **Psalms 20:7 (NKJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday: 77/66 Record: 107

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EVANGELIST

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God's Plan of Salvation

Hear	Romans 10:17
Believe	Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent	Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess	Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized	Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise & Walk in Newness of Life	Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

—Romans 1:16 KJV

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes:	10AM
AM Worship:	11AM
PM Worship:	5PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study:	7PM
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OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Every Remembrance

Paul, writing to the Christians in Philippi made this statement: *"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace."* **Philippians 1:3-7 (NKJV)** Paul was thankful to God every time he remembered the Christians in Philippi. His first visit to Philippi is recorded in Acts 16 where he met with several women who were meeting for prayer at the riverside. This is where Paul met Lydia, she and her household were the first recorded converts in that area.

It was also at Philippi where Paul cast a spirit out of a slave girl who was following them around town shouting "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." The owners of this slave girl brought Paul and Silas before the magistrates where they were beaten and put in prison. While there, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God when an earthquake released them from their bonds and opened all the gates. The jailer was in the process of committing suicide when Paul stopped him by telling him that all the prisoners were still in the jail. Paul and Silas then converted the jailer. Later that day the magistrates tried to release them by sending word to the officers, but Paul refused to be released that way. He took advantage of his Roman citizenship and told the officers: *"But Paul said to them, 'They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, and have thrown us into prison. And now do they put us out secretly? No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out.'"* **Acts 16:37 (NKJV)** When the officers told the magistrates this, they were afraid and went to the prison in person and asked them to come out of the prison. Paul and Silas left the prison, visited Lydia and then left Philippi.

Paul's first time in Philippi was not so good from a physical standpoint. He and Silas were beaten and thrown in prison without a trial, even though they were Roman citizens. But spiritually it was a very successful visit. He converted Lydia and her household and the jailer and his household. And this was the start of the church in Philippi. So when he thought back to Philippi, he thought about the precious souls that had been saved and not the beating and prison.

This is the attitude we need to take today. There are a lot of things that each one of us can remember. Most of us who are old enough can remember exactly what we were doing when John Kennedy was assassinated, we can remember what we were doing when the shuttle Challenger exploded, and we can remember what we were doing when the twin towers fell in New York City.

By: Bill Beebe

We can also remember our wedding day and many of us can remember when we were born again and became Christians.

But many of us can also remember when there were problems in the congregation we were attending. Either a person began to preach and teach error, or there were no elders and the men began to squabble over finances, or there was an issue with church discipline that was being conducted by the elders, or elders were being installed that were unqualified scripturally. Maybe a brother or sister said something that was not accurate and that bit of gossip spread through the congregation making it difficult for you to continue worshiping there. Or perhaps you did something that, looking back, was wrong or inappropriate, which caused dissension in the church. While these memories may be difficult or even painful, they do serve a purpose. And that purpose is that they help you to avoid situations like that in the present or future.

When Paul looked back on his time in Philippi, I am certain that he would have remembered the bad things that happened to him there as well as those great things like the start of the Philippian church. In fact he alludes to this in 2 Corinthians 11:22-29, but doesn't say anything about those things when he writes to the Christians in Philippi. He only refers to the good memories, those of the beginning of the church there. This is the lesson that we all should learn. Yes there were things in the past that were not good that we all have gone through. But instead of dwelling on those, let's remember the great times that we have had throughout our lives. The brothers and sisters who were truly our Christian family. The times that we rejoiced together at the birth of a brand new Christian, the times we laughed together as we enjoyed each other's company. And the times we cried together when a beloved Christian went to heaven before us. The times that we studied together to come to a better understanding of God's word. The times when our studies became a little heated as we held opposing views only to finally come to agreement and recognize that each one was a little wrong and a little right. Those times when we joined together to help a brother or sister or to work on the church's buildings. And the conversations we have had with each other throughout the years, talking about hunting, fishing, camping or about knocking on doors or bible studies with non-Christians.

And at each memory, let us give thanks to God for them and for the experiences we went through that built those memories. When we think on those good times, the bad memories will fade into the past where they belong letting us go into the future with only good thoughts and memories that we can truly thank God for each and every day.