

Privileged to Serve

PreacherBill Collins
 Announcements.....Al St. Clair
 Song LeaderAndy Duncan
 Attendance Terry Dyer/Jacob King

Morning

Scripture/Opening Prayer..... Terry Dyer
 Lord’s Supper

Presiding

* Dwight Callens

Assisting

Charles Dooley * * Randy Rives
 Jared Agan * * Ralph Hubbard

Closing PrayerJack Mears

Evening

Opening Prayer.....Dwight Callens
 Lord’s Supper

Charles Dooley * * Randy Rives
 Closing Prayer Byron Madison

Communion Preparation

Month of MayKathy St. Clair
 Month of June..... Linda Collie

Nursery Attendants

May 7..... Sabrina Collins; Lara King
 May 14.....Angela Duncan; Lara King

Service Times

SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Evening Worship5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study6:00 p.m.

Elders

ANDY DUNCAN..... (662) 416-2222
TOM FAIR..... (601) 681-8293

Deacons

LAMAR KING..... (601) 604-2656
 BUILDING/GROUNDS
BYRON MADISON (601) 934-1213
 YOUTH
RANDY RIVES..... (601) 513-4785
 EDUCATION & WORSHIP
ALBERT ST. CLAIR..... (601) 626-7815

Preacher

BILL COLLINS..... (337) 515-2385

Works Supported

Robert Martin
Stacey Ferguson
 South Pacific Missions

Pine Vale Children’s Home
 Corinth, Mississippi

Attendance Last Week

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|------------------------|----|
| Sunday Bible Class | 24 |
| Sunday Morning Worship | 52 |
| Sunday Evening Worship | 21 |
| Wednesday Bible Study | 24 |

Contributions & Other Income

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| Contribution Last Week | \$ 2,230.00 |
| Pine Vale Special 5 th Sunday | \$ 1,465.00 |

Daily Bible Readers

April 30, 2017 * = *% of attending
 * Figures Unavailable



May 7, 2017 Meridian Messenger Welcome Visitors!

BY NATURE CHILDREN OF WRATH

A few days ago some of us were discussing Paul’s statement in Ephesians 3:3 where he says “among whom also we all once conducted ourselves, in the lust of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind and were by nature the children of wrath, just as the others.” What does “by nature children of wrath” mean? Look at the verse again and notice that Paul is talking about our “conduct” and “fulfilling the desires of the flesh and the mind.” What we do will make us children of wrath; that is children deserving the wrath of God. “By nature” does not mean that we were born that way; it means that we do those things as a matter of habit. Once people begin to fulfill the lust of the flesh it becomes a habit or “second nature” to act that way. The “pleasures of sin” capture our thoughts and sinful actions are the result. Remember Jesus said, “*Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts...These are the things which defile a man...*” (Matthew 15:19, 20). Notice carefully Jesus’ use of the plural form of these defiling sins. They are habitually committed and they become our “natural” conduct.



Being a Christian is hard because it requires a change of habit. And it is hard to change a habit, even a bad one. Our old friends will “think it strange that we no longer run with them” to practice the sins of our past (1 Peter 4:4). But our goal as Christians is to develop the mind of Christ so that “by nature” we do the will of God (Romans 12:1-2; Philippians 2:1-5). Christians develop the habit of doing good.