

Privileged to Serve

PreacherBill Collins
 Announcements..... Bruce Clopton
 Song Leader Tom Fair
 Attendance Terry Dyer/Jacob King

Morning

Scripture/Opening Prayer.....Andy Duncan
 Lord’s Supper

Presiding

* Randy Rives

Assisting

Dwight Callens * * Dick Vinson
 Tim Beech * * Jacob King

Closing PrayerStan Raley

Evening

Opening Prayer.....Jared Agan
 Lord’s Supper

Dwight Callens * * Dick Vinson

Closing PrayerRob Warren

Communion Preparation

Month of November..... Glenda Rives
 Month of December.....Beth Dyer

Nursery Attendant; Backup

November 19Angela Duncan; Lara King
 November 26 ..Glenda Rives; Sabrina Collins

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
Stacy Ferguson
 South Pacific Missions

Pine Vale Children’s Home
 Corinth, Mississippi

Attendance Last Week

Sunday Bible Class	26
Sunday Morning Worship	55
Sunday Evening Worship	*
Wednesday Bible Study	30

Contributions & Other Income

Contribution Last Week	\$ 1,710.00
Pine Vale Special 5 th Sunday	\$

Daily Bible Readers

November 12, 2017 21 = 38.18% of attending
 *Figures Unavailable



November 19, 2017 ~ *Meridian Messenger* ~ *Welcome Visitors!*
Thankful?

When we usually think of being thankful, we think of the Thanksgiving holiday during the month of November. Nevertheless, Paul says of Christians, “*In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you*” (1 Thess. 5:18). Therefore, while our minds (as well as the minds of many) are on this subject this month, let us examine the subject of “Thanksgiving.” In this article, we wish to turn our attention to Luke 17:11-19 and provide some positive points to ponder.

First, note the diseased men (Luke 17:11-12). It was due to their leprosy that they “*stood afar off*.” Why was that? Leprosy was a disease that eats the flesh, as well as the skeletal system underneath, with people losing their extremities, including their ears, noses, hands and/or feet. It is caused by insufficient diet and poor sanitary conditions; hence, note the irony in the term “*unclean*.” There are a few leper colonies today, in India, Crete, Japan, the Philippines, and even one in Louisiana and one in Hawaii. Today, the disease is controllable by medicine, which leads me to believe that there is a slight difference in leprosy today from the leprosy about which we read in the Bible. One may see what the Bible says about leprosy in Leviticus 11-15 (specifically Leviticus 13- 14), which deals with impurities. The term “*leprosy*” is a general term that refers to a rotting disease, which may apply even to clothes or a house. The first reference to it is in Exodus 4:6 with Moses’ confirmation. Another famous example is in Second Kings 5 with Naaman and later with Gehazi. In fact, from the statement that King Jehoram made, it seemed as if only God could cure some forms of leprosy. Miriam became temporarily leprous in Numbers 12. There were four lepers of Samaria in Second Kings 7 who saw the effect of the destruction of the Syrian army. Not only that, King Uzziah became leprous because of his disobedience in Second Kings 15. In the New Testament, Jesus touched a leper in Matthew 8, who may later be Simon (Matthew 26:6). The Law of Moses dictated that a priest needed to check anything that even remotely looked as leprosy. One could not determine himself if he had leprosy, but he needed a priest to determine such. One who was leprous had to be shut out of the camp and did not have fellowship within. The many regulations to determine it leads one to confuse it with such modern things as psoriasis or eczema.

Moreover, the washings needed to verify cleansing reminds us of what David said in Psalm 51:7: “*Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow*.” Therefore, we see the connection between leprosy and sin.
 ~continued inside~