

Privileged to Serve

PreacherBill Collins
 Announcements.....Randy Rives
 Song LeaderPaul Guy
 Attendance Terry Dyer/Jacob King

Morning

Scripture/Opening Prayer..... Gene Hurst
 Lord's Supper

Presiding

* Andy Duncan

Assisting

Lloyd Smith * * Charles Dooley
 Logan Miller * * Al St. Clair

Closing Prayer Rob Warren

Evening

Opening Prayer.....Randy Rives
 Lord's Supper

Lloyd Smith * * Charles Dooley

Closing PrayerJack Mears

Communion Preparation

Month of MarchKathy St. Clair
 Month of April..... Angela Duncan

Nursery Attendant; Backup

March 4..... Lara King; Katie Agan
 March 11 Katie Agan; Angela Duncan

Service Times

SUNDAY

Bible Study9:00 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) 227-1374
 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

Sunday Bible Class	24
Sunday Morning Worship	69
Sunday Evening Worship	*
Wednesday Bible Study	27

Contributions & Other Income

Contribution Last Week	\$ 2,591.25
Pine Vale Special 5 th Sunday	\$

Daily Bible Readers

February 25, 2018 20 = 28.99% of attending
 *Figures Unavailable



March 4, 2018 *Meridian Messenger* *Welcome Visitors!*

How Do We Forgive Others?

How are we, as Christians, to forgive others when they have sinned against us? Do we ask for their forgiveness differently if they are not a brother in Christ, someone who is not a member of the church? What does the Bible say on **how to forgive others**?

A: Thanks for your question. It is a very good one. The subject of forgiveness is a great and wonderful study in the Bible. All mankind stands in need of God's forgiveness and the only way through which mankind can have forgiveness is through the blood of Christ (Matthew 26:28). We come into contact with that blood when we are baptized into Christ (Acts 2:38; Romans 6:11-12) and we are continually cleansed by that blood as we walk in the light (1 John 1:7). The forgiveness that God extends to man is conditional upon being washed in the blood of the lamb. This means that we must come to God for forgiveness and we must after baptism when we sin confess our sin and ask God for forgiveness (1 John 1:9).

Confession of sin, repentance, and asking for forgiveness has always been God's condition for granting forgiveness (see Leviticus 16:21; 1 Kings 8:33; 2 Chronicles 7:14; Psalm 32:5). It should always be our aim to ensure that those who have sinned repent toward God (Acts 20:21) and seek the forgiveness that he provides. In turn, we then can forgive those sins as well because God has forgiven them. This is the **ONLY** way in which **TRUE** forgiveness can be obtained on the part of the sinner.

In addition when it comes to man's relationship with man, the only way that one can **TRULY** forgive another is based upon the repentance of the other. What right have we to forgive something which God has not forgiven? When Jesus spoke to Peter about forgiving he did not place a limit on the number of times we are to forgive our fellow man (Matthew 18:21-22). However Jesus also stipulated that this was based upon the repentance and confession of the one asking forgiveness (Luke 17:3-4). One cannot **TRULY** forgive another unless there is repentance involved. Once that has occurred, then we must forgive our fellow man (Matthew 6:15). This is one sense in which the Bible speaks concerning forgiveness of our fellow man.

There is another sense in which the Bible speaks concerning forgiveness and that is in the sense of not holding a grudge against another person. It is in the character of God to be ready and willing to forgive all who will repent, but they must repent (1 Peter 3:19). It should also be within *~continued inside~*

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