

## Reminders...

**Ladies Bible Class:** Today at 4:00 p.m. at McKnight home.

**Barnabas Group Meeting:** September 27

**Business Meeting:** October 2 at 4:00 p.m.

### Read through the Bible in 2016!

(Submitted by Mike McKnight)

Suggested chapters to read so that we might read through the entire Bible during 2016! **This week's "schedule":**

- **Day 256** - Joel 1-3 Monday
- **Day 257** - Daniel 1-3 Tuesday
- **Day 258** - Daniel 4-6 Wednesday
- **Day 259** - Daniel 7-9 Thursday
- **Day 260** - Daniel 10-12 Friday
- **Day 261** - Ezra 1-3 Saturday
- **Day 262** - Ezra 4-6; Psalm 137 Sunday

### September Birthdays

3 Wendy Cortes      11 Marie Burruss      15 Marcos Perales  
16 Jim Burruss      24 Mason Perales  
30 Dortha Gentry      30 Kurt Hoffman

### September Anniversary

13 Wendy & Luis Cortes

#### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

#### Preacher:

Mike McKnight

#### Church of Christ

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# Indio Informer

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## "It is Well with My Soul"

The Song and the Story

(Internet source: sharefaith.com)

Horatio Spafford (1828-1888) was a wealthy Chicago lawyer with a thriving legal practice, a beautiful home, a wife, four daughters and a son. He was also a devout Christian and faithful student of the Scriptures. His circle of friends included Dwight L. Moody, Ira Sankey and various other well-known Christians of the day.

At the very height of his financial and professional success, Horatio and his wife Anna suffered the tragic loss of their young son. Shortly thereafter on October 8, 1871, the Great Chicago Fire destroyed almost every real estate investment that Spafford had.

In 1873, Spafford scheduled a boat trip to Europe in order to give his wife and daughters a much needed vacation and time to recover from the tragedy. He also went to join Moody and Sankey on an evangelistic campaign in England. Spafford sent his wife and daughters ahead of him while he remained in Chicago to take care of some unexpected last minute business. Several days later he received notice that his family's ship had encountered a collision. All four of his daughters drowned; only his wife had survived.

With a heavy heart, Spafford boarded a boat that would take him to his grieving Anna in England. It was on this trip that he penned those now famous words, *When sorrow like sea billows roll; it is well, it is well with my soul.*

Philip Bliss (1838-1876), composer of many songs including *Hold the Fort*, *Let the Lower Lights Be Burning*, and *Jesus Loves Even Me*, was so impressed with Spafford's life and the words of his hymn that he composed a beautiful piece of music to accompany the lyrics. The song was published by Bliss and Sankey, in 1876.

For more than a century, the tragic story of one man has given hope to countless thousands who have lifted their voices to sing, *It Is Well With My Soul.*

## The Song...*It Is Well With My Soul*

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

### Refrain

*It is well (it is well),  
with my soul (with my soul),  
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.*

### Refrain

*My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

### Refrain

*For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:  
If Jordan above me shall roll,  
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life  
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.*

### Refrain

*And Lord haste the day, when my faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,  
Even so, it is well with my soul.*

### Refrain

***“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.***

Philippians 4:6-7

## Comfort

By Gilbert Alexander

Comfort, or consolation, is a promise from God for certain distressed ones. Jesus said, "*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted*" (Matthew 5:4). Paul urged faithful obedience upon the condition, "*Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy...*" (Philippians 2:1). Speaking to the Thessalonian saints concerning physical death and the fate of those who "sleep in Jesus" Paul said, "*Therefore comfort one another with these words*" (I Thessalonians 4:13-18). When an erring brother repents, the saints are charged to forgive and comfort him (II Corinthians 2:7). God is called the "*God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God*" (II Corinthians 1:3,4).

Because of their life and state of disobedience, some people do not have the comfort of God. We cannot properly give them comfort, for to comfort one in his sins is to remove any incentive to repent and be saved. Lazarus was comforted, but the rich man who died in his selfish disobedient way of life was not comforted (Luke 16:25). It is difficult for gospel preachers to speak at funerals of those who have died in disobedience to God or those who have killed themselves through dissipation, because there are no words of comfort or reassurance concerning such individuals. There was not comfort for Isaiah when Israel was destroying itself, rebelling against the Will of God (Isaiah 22:1-5). False comfort promotes sin and its ruin (Zechariah. 10:2).

If we would have the comfort of God, we must be submissive to God. If we desire the comfort of the saints, we must sanctify ourselves through obedience to the truth so that we can have spiritual fellowship with the saints. If we do not have the comfort of God, it is because we have denied ourselves the privilege that is offered to all who will come in obedience to the Lord (Matthew 11:28-30). We exhort all who seek the comfort of God to obey the gospel of Christ in faith, repentance, confession of faith, and baptism; and then to live as obedient children of God, fully submissive to His instructions.