

Beech Grove News

Remember all those who are dealing with health problems. Wayne Gannon is suffering with a pinched nerve. The Conners have been back in services since their recent sicknesses. Remember others who are still in the recovery mode - sister Rose, sister Singleton, sister Crowell, brother Mason

Thanks to brother Gilmore for coming our way to preach last week. He reported an enjoyable experience.

Record of our attendance:

Date	Classes AM	PM	Cont.	Wed.
11/13	21	29	22	\$460 25
11/20	22	29	25	\$600+ 19
11/27	17	25	12	\$748 14
12/04	15	24	22	\$631 24
12/11	13	31	18	\$604 14
12/18	NC	NC	NC	\$450 25
Goals	25	40	30	35

Workers list for December 25

Song Leader Wayne Gannon
 Scripture Reader Daniel Green
 Announce: Joe Green / Andy Miller
 Lord's Table
 Center: Ken Thomas and James Mason
 Sides: Junior Conner and Andy Miller
 Sunday A.M. Prayers

Opening	Closing
Junior Conner	T. J. Waldron

Sunday January 1

Song leader (SS)	
Announcements	Daniel Green
Song leader (Wor)	Wayne Gannon
Scripture reading	Andy Miller
Opening prayer	James Mason
Table service (center)	Joe Green
(center)	Nick Graham
(outside)	Daniel Green
(outside)	Brian Dennis
Closing Prayer	T. J Waldron

Important Notice

Services will be held as scheduled today. Invite your friends and relatives to be with us tonight, especially if they attend churches that will be canceling services.

"Older . . .(Continued from front page) the basic principles (milk) of Christianity. "For everyone that partaketh of milk is without experience of the word of righteousness, for he is a babe." (Hebrews 5:13). We become mature Christians by exercising our spiritual awareness of good and evil.

Those Hebrew Christians had not prepared themselves to transmit the message of God. They were inexperienced and ignorant, not because there were no opportunities to grow spiritually, but because of neglect. Today, talented Christian people use their abilities to make things happen at work, in the community, at school, but often fail to prepare for service in the Lord's work. Let's grow spiritually in 2006.

Beech Grove Church of Christ

meeting at Beech Grove, TN since 1875

Highway 41 near I-24 exit 97

Phone 931-394-2305

<http://www.homestead.com/KenThomasHomepage/BeechGroveChurch.html>

Kenneth L. Thomas, minister - 615-890-6959



Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Classes 10 AM

Worship 11 AM
6 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 7 PM

Mission Works

Restoration Radio
 Jim Waldron
 Manuelito Children's
 Home

Mail: P.O. Box 85
 Beech Grove, TN 37018

Visitors

**Always
 Welcome**

December 25, 2005

Older, but Wiser?

by Ken Thomas

As we pass from one year to another, the suggestion is made that we are "older, but wiser." Hopefully that is true. In the Christian life we are expected to grow and improve. However sometimes we are like the man who applied for a job, and claimed to have twenty years of experience. One who knew him well denied it. "He doesn't have twenty years experience--he has one year's experience repeated twenty times." As Christians, are we passing time, or are we gaining experience?

Hebrews 6:1 teaches Christians to go beyond first principles as they "press on on to perfection or "full growth." Hebrews 5 reveals that the original readers could hardly understand many important things since they were "dull of hearing." They had had enough time to develop as teachers but were still in need of learning

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Questions for week of December

25

- 1. Who was like a stranger in his own house and was despised by children?**
- 2. What woman was taken from a man?**
- 3. The expression “by the skin of my teeth” has a biblical origin. From where?**
- 4. Words often cut, but where is the tongue compared to a shaving instrument?**
- 5. If a man’s nose was flat, what work was he disqualified for in Old Testament law?**
- 6. If an Israelite killed an edible animal, what two things were done with the blood?**
- 7. Where in the New Testament is spiritual numbness connected with immorality?**

Answers for week of December 18??

Apologies are in order, since I failed to put new questions in the bulletin last week. Did you notice ?? Ken

Separating Fact From Fiction

Steve Higginbotham,

Personally, I relish Christmas as one of my favorite holidays. The children, presents, decorations, excitement...they all combine to make Christmas a special time for my family and me. However, in the midst of all the fun, I can't help but be a bit disturbed by all the biblical ignorance or inaccuracies associated with Christmas. Many cannot separate fact from fiction when it comes to the biblical account of the birth of Jesus. For example, the following statements are thought to be fact by many people, but are in reality, fiction. (Check your own Bible and see for yourself!)

FICTION: The angel Gabriel appeared to Joseph to inform him concerning Jesus.

FACT: While the angel Gabriel did appear to Mary, and an angel did appear to Joseph, the Bible does not say it was the angel, Gabriel.

FICTION: There were three wise men who came to see Jesus.

FACT: The Bible doesn't tell us how many wise men came to see Jesus. It tells us that three gifts were presented, but it doesn't necessarily follow

that there must have also been three wise men.

FICTION: The three wise men were three kings from the orient.

FACT: The Bible doesn't say the wise men were kings.

FICTION: A bright star appeared in the sky and led the wise men to the manger.

FACT: The Bible says the star appeared above the house where Jesus was, not the manger Matthew 2:9-11.

FICTION: The wise men visited Jesus at the manger.

FACT: The Bible says that the wise men visited Jesus when he was in a house

Matthew 2:11. At the time of their visit, Jesus is called a "child" rather than a "baby" Matthew 2:11. In fact, he may have been as old as two Matthew 2:7,16.

FICTION: A bright star appeared to the shepherds in the field and led them to the manger.

FACT: The Bible does not say anything about a star leading the shepherds to the manger.

FICTION: Mary rode a donkey from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

FACT: The Bible makes no mention of a donkey and doesn't say how Mary made her way to Bethlehem.

It's surprisingly easy for us to believe as fact, what is in reality fiction. Furthermore, this "fiction" is sometimes propagated by religion. How many church lawns and "Christmas re-enactments" will portray a nativity scene which inaccurately portrays the biblical account?

Now here's my point: If we can be misinformed by religious leaders, concerning the events surrounding something as fundamental as the birth of Jesus, what's to make us think we can't be misled regarding other religious matters?

Friends, make sure your faith is not based on what others have told you is true, but rather make sure your faith is based on what you know to be true from your own personal study. Let the fiction you see perpetuated on church lawn's and in church "pageants" this holiday season be a reminder and a warning to you to do your own Bible study and not be content with what others say.

"Prove all things; Hold fast what is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21).