

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 22, 2014



That's Just **Your** Interpretation

Imagine you and hundreds of citizens like you, pick up today's Hattiesburg American and find the following advertisement on page 3:

- **Free Kobalt Carpenter's hammer (valued at \$25) to the first 50 customers who come in the store on Saturday, April 26th.**
- **Customer must present this ad upon entering the store**
- **Limit one hammer per customer**
- **Store opens at 7 a.m.**

Question: Would it be possible for everyone within the local community, assuming they can read and understand English, to look over this very same grand opening promotion, and then come to the exact same interpretation? Could we expect unity of understanding pertaining to this ad? Consider:

* According to the ad, what is to be given away? When will these items be given away? How many will be given ...

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

**VISITORS,
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for all ages & Pew Packers each Sunday at 12:30

P.O. Box 321

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(1.2 miles east of I-55)

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... away? How many gifts can one customer expect to receive?

- * What if a customer forgets to bring the newspaper clipping/ad with him when he enters the store on Saturday? Will he receive a free hammer?
- * What if a customer brings the newspaper ad with him, but is the 51st customer through the door? Can he expect to receive a free hammer?
- * What if a customer brings the newspaper ad to Lowe's on Friday April 25th, rather than Saturday April 26th? Will he receive a free hammer?
- * What if a customer brings the newspaper ad to Home Depot on Saturday April 26th, instead of Lowes? Will he receive a free hammer?
- * What if a customer brings the newspaper ad to Lowe's on Saturday, April 26th, receives a free hammer, then immediately gets back in line again in order to try to get another one?
- * What if the customer is the 14th patron to enter Lowe's on Saturday, April 26th, holds the newspaper clipping in hand, at 7:01 a.m., and yet Lowe's insists that he PAY for the hammer instead of giving it to him for free? He might be inclined, and rightfully so, to go to the store manager and show him the newspaper ad. Now what if the manager glances over the ad and then simply replies, "Sir—that's just your interpretation. We're not giving any hammers away today. You've got to pay for everything in the store."?

Here's my point. Every thoughtful individual with the ability to read and reason logically can correctly interpret an advertisement. Assuming the customer goes to the right store, on the right day and time, armed with the right ad, and if you're one of the first fifty customers, he can expect to receive a free hammer valued at \$25.00.

Now if hundreds of local citizens can consume the same information about the gift of hammers, correctly interpret what has been put into print, and then rightfully expect the same outcome, why can't we also do the same thing with the gift of salvation (Romans 6:23; cf. 5:16)?

* Wouldn't you agree that God is powerful enough to communicate so that all can understand (cf. 1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Romans 1:16; Titus 1:3)? Hasn't God communicated clearly in his Word how individuals might receive the free gift (cf. 1 Corinthians 2:12,13; Matthew 10:19-20) he offers?

* Is it possible for us to read God's Word and correctly understand what he's said (cf. Ephesians 5:17; 2 Timothy 2:15; Mark 7:14; Luke 8:11; Matthew 13:19, 23)?

Brethren [and friends, CA], don't ever buy the false idea of "that's just your interpretation" (cf. Luke 10:26; 24:25-28, 32; Acts 17:2-3, 11; 1 Timothy 4:13).

–written by Mike Benson

Sermon Review

ABRAHAM: A GOOD FATHER

(Genesis 12 – 22)

- I. He Loved God More Than His Children
- II. He Loved His Wife More Than His Children
- III. He Loved His Children

ARE YOU FLYING THE FLAG OF CHRISTIANITY?

(1 Timothy 4:12)

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| I. In Word | IV. In Spirit |
| II. In Conduct | V. In Faith |
| III. In Love | VI. In Purity |

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

1. See last page for upcoming VBS's.
2. July 25 – 26: Southaven Youth Rally
See postcard on bulletin board for details.
3. August 1: Coldwater Lock-In
4. August 23: Memphis Redbirds Game
Not just for youth; for all ages!
5. September 27: Memphis Zoo Trip
Also for all ages!

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Seth Daniel, taking medication equivalent to chemo, which causes great fatigue; Several traveling; **Wiley & Betty Tuggle**; **Helen Bowman**.

NetCasters Fishers of Men Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Andy's grandmother, hospice; **Laura Swayne & family**, Patrick Swayne's mother, uterine cancer removed recently and her mother just passed; **Carla Carlson**, cancer has returned, continuously receiving chemo; **Blair Jefferies**; **Trent Childers**, has been very sick with major stomach issues, in hospital, and requiring surgery ; **Toranda's mother**, to have surgery June 3; **Janet Colvett**; **Trixie Savage**; **Joey Smith & family**, Jerry's cousin; **Janie Brister**; **Ava Roten**, **Brett Rutherford**, **Charles Savage**, prostate cancer; **Jason Spencer**; **Frankie Burfield**, hip replacement surgery and kidney cancer; **Jack Higginbotham**; **Tasha Higginbotham**, on donor list for kidney transplant; **Lauren Harrell**, breast cancer; **James Cooper**, Jan's brother, cancer; **Marie Sims**, Ashby Johnson's mother, cancer; **Renee Loya**, Ruth's niece, Parkinson's, MS, & dystonia; **Eli Williams**, cancer returned, receiving treatments; **Ray Maples**; **John & Anita Simpson**; **Martha Hatfield**, Lynn's grandmother, stage 4 cancer; **Virginia Johnson**, stage 4 lung cancer; **Joy Angel**, various health problems; **Linda Perkins**, leukemia; **Mac Owen**; **Bob Spurlin**; **Ally Jo Kelly**, toddler with leukemia; **Brad & Sheri Daniel**; **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, and their sons, Charles and Chris.

Birthdays

6/3	Amanda Ferrell	6/13	Melaney Ferrell
6/6	Betty Culbreath	6/18	Grace Williams

Anniversaries

6/3	Larry & Joyce Campbell
6/5	Andy & Molly Ratliff
6/8	Caleb & Elizabeth Baker
6/26	Jeffrey & Amanda Ferrell
6/28	Jim & Mischel Jackson

Get Involved!

Coldwater Singing Night -- June 25 -- 7 PM

Song leaders, get your songs to Clifton by TODAY, June 22, please

Thyatira VBS -- July 6 – 9, 7 – 8:30 each night

Theme: Dreams of the Bible

Nesbit VBS -- July 14 – 18, 7 PM nightly

Theme: Dreams & Visions of the Bible
See flyer on bulletin board

Independence VBS -- July 21 – 23

7 – 8:30 each night

Angel Wedding Reception -- July 26

Come celebrate with the newlyweds anytime between 2 & 4, more details to come.

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, June 22

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Andy Ratliff
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Joe Owen
	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Daniel Owen
	Dalton Owen
	Billy Bland
Opening Prayer	Clifton Angel
Sermon	Johnny Bayless
Closing Prayer	

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Jerry Davis
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Joe Owen
	Dalton Owen
	Jeremy Moore
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, June 25

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Prayer	Ron Johnson
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jim Jackson