

# Don't Be A Dropout!

By Mike Riley

There are few things that contribute more to the growth and strength of the Lord's church than qualified and dedicated Bible class teachers. Parents want the very best Bible-based instruction available for their children, and they deserve it! Yet, at a time in which mature and competent teachers are so desperately needed, many of them are giving up their Bible classes in favor of "retiring" to a student's seat. Why is that?

**1) Teachers may need a rest** — Conscientious teachers do work hard in the preparation and presentation of their Bible lessons. They do need a well-deserved break once in a while — but not a permanent one! God has the very best "retirement" program for his people, but its benefits are in the next life — for those who "endure to the end" (Matthew 24:13). The business of teaching gospel truth should be attended by men and women who have a spirit of determination — the kind of people who act from principle — not from selfish motives.

**2) Teachers may become discouraged** — Discouragement is one of the worst enemies to the cause of God's truth. Disinterested and misbehaving students, unconcerned parents, or even uncooperative elders and brethren, are enough to discourage even the strongest Bible class teacher at times. However, we must remember that discouragement is temporary and can be overcome by active faith. (Hebrews 11:6; 1 John 5:4).

No temporary problem is greater than the Lord's work. Succumbing to a case of "Elijah blues" only compounds our problems, hurts others (1 Kings 18; 1 Kings 19), and leaves God's work undone. Nothing encourages discouragement more than remembering and mentally rehearsing our misfortunes. The remedy for this problem is in setting our minds on the things that are above (Colossians 3:2) and press on to the goal (Philippians 3:14).

**3) Teacher dropouts may result from not feeling needed** — Even when the church is fortunate enough to have too many qualified teachers to use in Bible classes (and that is very rare!), there is always teaching to be done at home and elsewhere. Paul says that older women are to teach the younger (Titus 2:4 ASV) — and it does not have to be done in a church building! Teachers could put their talents to work in neighborhood Bible classes with other women or children.

The bottom line is this: The world needs God's truth! (Matthew 28:18-19; Mark 16:15-16). There is absolutely no excuse for unemployed Bible teachers — don't be a dropout!



**STERLINGTON**  
Church of Christ



P.O. Box 82  
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Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

11/6/22

# Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshipping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

## Elders:

Todd Chapman  
Paul Simpson

## Deacons:

Wayne Fowler David Garris  
Billy Granger Buddy Hollis

## Preacher:

Don Delukie

## Those to Serve Today

**Announcements-** Paul Simpson **Lord's Table-** Don Delukie  
**Opening prayer-** Wayne Fowler **Closing Prayer-** David Reppond

### November 13th

**Announcements-** Wayne Fowler

Services will be conducted by Louisiana Tech Campus Ministry

## Announcements

—**Question & Answer Series: Tonight** will be our Question and Answer Series. Please submit your questions via the church email address SCOC2006@att.net or to Don.

—**Louisiana Tech Campus Ministry** : Students from the Ruston Church of Christ Campus Ministry Program will be conducting our morning services on November 13th.

—**Children's Home Collection:** Our kids classes are collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection baskets are by the nursery. The list of needed items is in the foyer.



## Please Pray For:

Deb McInturff, Woefud Conatser, James Johnson, Gracie Aaron, Larry Randolph, Willie White, Joe Phillips, Jasper Snell, Regina Culpepper, Arthur Binford, Linda Garris, Billy & Jeremy Granger, Nan Talley.

**Bereaved:** Families of GW Harris, Bennie Freeman, Katie McClinton, Billy T. Smith, Brenda Thomas.

## Continue to Pray For:

Shirley Goodwin, Bobby Barker, Bobby Simmons, Max Aubel. Roosevelt Rogers, Cindy Eaton, Tricia Muse, Donna Head, Debra Mike, Virginia Royal, Elizabeth Hollis, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross, Charlie McDaniel Jr.



### November birthdays

3 - Elaine Reppond  
5 - Glenda Wells  
6 - Sandra Nappier  
8 - Brad Smith  
10 - Bo Dalrymple  
11 - Tommy Wells  
13 - Susie McGough  
20 - Dana Fowler  
25 - Dan Ross Jr.  
26 - Brock Dalrymple  
28 - Dena White  
30 - Ayden Richardson

### November anniversaries

3 - Ronnie and Dena White  
17 - Buddy and Carlon Hollis  
18 - Randy and Kathy Manning  
21 - Travis and Rhonda Rogers  
26 - Dwain and Bettye Flowers

