

The Blessing of the Extra Mile

If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Matthew 5:41

Thanks Jesus. That's all I need is one more burden put on my life. As if I didn't have enough things to do today. Just put this extra mile on my to-do list and I will trudge my way through it.

I imagine when Jesus said these words in His sermon on the mount that is the way a lot of people heard them. Jesus is just another Rabi putting more burdens on people who are trying to do good. But that was not Jesus' intentions at all. To understand what Jesus meant we first need to understand what Jesus was referring to. By law, a Roman citizen or soldier could compel a subject from one of the conquered lands to carry his backpack, or load, for him for one mile, but one mile only. Let me give you two different scenarios of this law being put into effect.

First scenario - A Jewish farmer is plowing his field near the road where a Roman soldier comes walking by and demands that his pack gets carried for the next mile. The farmer is irritated, "I'll never get this field plowed. Now I have to stop what I'm doing to carry this man's pack who is obviously bigger and stronger than me. I'll do it but I'm not speaking to him the whole way." At the end of the mile the farmer drops the pack, spits on the ground and heads back to finish working in his field.

Second scenario – Same farmer, same soldier, same demand. The farmer says, "Good! I needed a break from plowing this field." He runs over to the soldier picks up his pack and they start walking, "Sir, where are you coming from? Where are you headed? Have you ever been to Rome? What's it like?" After about 20 questions the Roman soldier says, "Hey, you only had to walk one mile but you have walked two." The farmer hands the pack to the soldier and says, "I didn't even notice because you have such interesting stories. Have a great trip!"

What is the difference between the two scenarios? ATTITUDE! In the first scenario the mile seemed like a burden. In the second scenario the mile was seen as a blessing. The farmer became a better person and had a better day because he went the extra mile. Jesus was not giving the people another burden, He was giving them an opportunity. Change your attitude and receive your blessing.

Phillip

Eastern Hills Church of Christ

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Elders: Lafe Caton ♥ Carrell Dennis ♥ Chase Palmer ♥ Brandon Smith

Pulpit Minister: Phillip Treat ♥ **Childrens' Director:** Marla Caton

Deacons: Terry Cloud ♥ John Grubbs ♥ David Little

Dakota Nowell ♥ Brandon Pyle ♥ Richard Yarberry

August 30, 2026

*You are Welcomed
Here*

Eastern Hills Church of Christ

2705 E Travis St

Marshall, TX

903-938-4422

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Class 9:30,

Worship 10:30,

6PM - Sunday Evenings

Wednesday

Devo & Bible Classes at 6:30

GIVING

We appreciate your giving. Did you know that you can also give online? Go to our website and click on the giving tab on our homepage. You can also use the app on your phone or tablet.

DOWNLOAD THE APP

Scan the QR code to go to your

app store, download the app, then

click in the top corner of the app to

create your account



WE WELCOME YOU

Sermon Notes

Order of Worship

Sweet, Sweet Spirit 882
Call to Worship
Prayer
Seek Ye First 883
Welcome
Wonderful Story of Love 781
Lord’s Supper
Offering
Children's Lesson
He Took My Burdens All Away 213
Scripture Reading
James 4:7-10
Sound Bites
“ Understanding Authority”
Almost Persuaded 31
Family News
Onward Christian Soldiers 522
Prayer

For the Record

August 23

Worship	151
Offering	\$ 4,399
Budget	\$ 6,250

Celebrating This Week

Aug 31	Amanda Wynn
Sept 03	Michael Davison
Sept 04	Brenda Shoults
Sept 05	Amie Grubbs

Serving in Worship

Aug 30
Song Leader: David Little
Call to Worship: Brandon Smith
Welcome: Phillip Treat
Communion: David Little
Scripture Reading : LC Turner
Closing Prayer: Terry Cloud
A/V: Greg Browning & Terry Cloud
Nursery: Renee Cloud & Whitney Pyle
Bible Hour: NO BIBLE HOUR
Sept 06
Song Leader: Chase Palmer
Call to Worship: John Grubbs
Welcome: Phillip Treat
Communion: Carrell Dennis
Scripture Reading: Ray Dennis
Closing Prayer: Wayne Woodruff
A/V: Terry Cloud & Greg Browning
Nursery: Donna Lovelace & Damaris Nowell
Bible Hour– Sarah Palmer & Rebecca Smith
Aug Greeters: Phyllis & Phillip Smith
Aug Communion: Paul & Carol Browne

EAST: Lafe Caton, Paul Browne, Greg Browning, Brad Epperson
WEST: Ben Mauldin, Jonathon Ponder, Aiden Ponder, Brandon Pyle



Praise

Phillips test came back with great results

In Our Prayers

Ronnie Elliott, friend of Woodruffs and new convert, battling cancer
Dottie’s upcoming shoulder surgery on Sept 01
Melva Toy recovering from hip surgery
Richard Yarberry
Elice McNeely’s mom
Pinkie Palmer
Tanya Davidson– recovering from surgery at home
Renee Cloud’s Brother, Benny Evans
Emily, Brandyn and baby Noah Treat
Jody George
Scotty Ford
Sympathy:
Home Bound: Glena Lowe, Sandy Jones, Becky McLendon, Janie Powers, Dixianna Upton, Lynda Waits
Marshall Manor: Lynda McConnell

Happenings

- ◆ Sept 1– Ladies Tues Morning Bible Class @9.30
- ◆ Sept 7– Marshall Manor Devo @ 10
- ◆ Sept 12– EHCOC Kids Cooking with Mrs. Radi @ 9
- ◆ Sept 13– Life Groups Begin
- ◆ Sept 17– JOY Luncheon @ 11:30
- ◆ Sept 19– Men’s Breakfast @ 9
- ◆ Sept 21– Marshall Manor Devo @ 10
- ◆ Sept 30– Songfest @ Reunion Inn w/ simple Supper @ 5