

From the Pastor:

As James begin leading toward the close of this letter to the scattered brethren (James 1:1), he touches on several different subjects and gives words of advice for each. James 5:13 gives two such bits of instruction. “Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.”

The first exhortation is for those who are suffering. The Greek word translated “suffering” is kakopatheo. Kakopatheo is a verb and is used only four times in the New Testament. In the KJV it is translated as 1) endure hardness [2 timothy 2:3] 2) suffer trouble [2 Timothy 2:9] 3) endure affliction [2 Timothy 4:5] 4) be afflicted [James 5:13]. (This material all comes from the Online Bible Greek Lexicon - OBGL) Danker’s Lexicon defines kakopatheo as to “suffer misfortune” or to “bear hardship.”

The noun form of kakopatheo is kakopatheia and means “the suffering of evil, i.e. trouble, distress, affliction.” (OBGL). Danker’s defines the noun as simply “suffering.” The noun is only used once in scripture in James 5:10 where James wrote, “My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering [kakopatheia] and patience.”

James is giving instructions on what to do in the face of some adversity or trial. He says that if we are facing adversity we should pray. Those are simple words, but far too many people do not grasp the vital truth in that statement. That simple instruction (pray) will only have real meaning for us if God and His promises are real. God has given a number of promises that we can claim in the face of adversity or trials. The following are just two of God’s promises.

Roman 8:28 records, “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.” This is a powerful promise. But, in order for us to claim that promise in faith, we must have a heart that is committed to loving God.

1 Corinthians 10:13, “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.” If we know God is with us, no trial will overwhelm us. And, we know that as long as we don’t forget to love God, all will turn out for good. These are powerful promises.

The second instruction is one that most people do anyway. “Is anyone cheerful? [Greek – euthumeo – OBGL – verb – “to put in good spirits] Let him sing psalms.” Many when they are happy can be found humming or singing softly to themselves. James obviously encouraged that conduct.

So at the end of his letter James gives instructions on how to face trials and what to do when cheerful. This reflects his words at the beginning of the letter. James 1:2-3, “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



June 15, 2019

Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: In Accord DVD
Sermon: DVD

Harlingen

Split Sermon: DVD
Split Sermon: Michael Watts

“A wise son heeds his father’s instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.”

Proverbs 13:1

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	8:27pm	8:26pm	8:24pm
Sunset Friday 6-21	8:29pm	8:28pm	8:26pm

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 6/15	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, Harlingen, and Victoria. San Antonio will be in its new location: The Autism Treatment Center, 15911 Nacogdoches, San Antonio, TX
Sabbath 6/22	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Gatley will be in Victoria. Mr. Clyde Kilough will be in San Antonio. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi.

Festival Assistance from Headquarters:

Each year many faithful brethren contribute extra funds from their Festival tithe so that other needy members can receive the financial assistance they need to attend the Feast of Tabernacles. Last year these generous contributions enabled nearly 200 people to attend the Feast who would have been unable to attend otherwise. The Church recognizes its responsibility to see that those contributions are distributed fairly and equitably.

If you have no tithable income or if you have faithfully saved your Festival tithe and will still not have sufficient funds to attend the Feast this year, we will be happy to help where we can. If you think you will need additional funds to be able to attend the Feast this fall, please contact our local Festival advisor, Mr. Tucker (Victoria), Mr. Mendez (Corpus Christi), or your pastor to get a Festival Assistance Member Information form. Complete the form and return it to your pastor or festival advisor as soon as possible. (All information on the form will be treated as confidential.)

Ministerial Services has asked us to have all assistance applications turned in by July 21, so please pick up the form and return it to your congregation's Festival advisor or your pastor as quickly as possible.

Again, Festival financial assistance is available for those who do not have a tithable income and for those who do not have adequate funds to attend the Feast even though they have faithfully saved their Festival tithe.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Pot Luck: There will be no monthly potluck in June. Potlucks will resume in July at our new hall.

Address of the new hall in San Antonio (June 1):

Autism Treatment Center
15911 Nacogdoches
San Antonio, TX

Bible Study in Victoria:

Since there will be a 5th Sabbath in June, there will be a Bible Study in Victoria. We will not have a potluck in conjunction with this Bible Study. After the sermon we will take a break and then hold the Bible Study 15 minutes later.

If you have Bible questions, please give them to Mr. Tucker so he can forward them to me. Or, you can email them directly to me (steve.moody@cogwa.org)