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Pleasant View church of Christ  
2500 Highway 49 East  
P.O. Box 189  
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30  
A.M. Worship: 10:30  
P.M. Worship: 6:00  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm  
Phone: 924-9714

I John 5:13  
“These things I have written  
to you who believe in the  
name of the Son of God, so  
that you may know that you  
have eternal life.”

*“Conversion is a complete surrender to Jesus.  
It’s a willingness to do what He wants you to  
do.”*

*Billy Sunday*

*“After I set out to refute Christianity intellectu-  
ally and couldn’t, I came to the conclusion the  
Bible was true and Jesus Christ was God’s Son.”*

*Josh McDowell*

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## Bible Study

Bill Watkins, who preaches for the Crieve Hall church of Christ, recently commented on the study habits of his preaching father, James Watkins. Brother Watkins is known for his nearly encyclopedic knowledge of God’s word. Bill said that every morning—*every* morning—his father spends four hours in Bible study before he does anything else. Before he prepares sermons. Before he does household chores. Before he does anything. Bill emphasized that his father does not spend time trying to memorize the Bible; he just studies it. Over time, the recitation of holy Scripture has become second nature to James Watkins.

Bible students often see the Bible as

something that only smart people can understand. Others feel like they cannot memorize Scripture because they did not excel in school. Both assumptions are false. Think of how easy it is to remember the words of your favorite songs. Did you try to memorize the lyrics? Of course not. You didn’t write them down and repeat them over and over in your mind so that you could sing along with the radio. You memorized them because you spent a lot of time with them. You learned those lyrics accidentally, without any purpose whatsoever.

If you spend time with God’s word, it will soon penetrate your heart. You will soon be able to recite pas-

sages quickly. You will know which books contain certain stories.

“How blessed are those who observe His testimonies, who seek Him with all their heart. They also do no unrighteousness; they walk in His ways. You have ordained Your precepts, that we should keep them diligently. Oh that my ways may be established to keep Your statutes! Then I shall not be ashamed when I look on all your commandments. I shall give thanks to you with uprightness of heart, when I learn Your righteous judgments. I shall keep Your statutes; do not forsake me utterly” (Psalm 119:2-8).

James Hayes

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# Pleasant View Proclaimer

**Pleasant View church of Christ**

## Who Sets The Standard?

**August 12, 2012**

**Issue 73**

When Dick Fosbury was a 16-year-old high school student in Medford, Oregon, he wanted to be good at the high jump, a popular track and field event, but Fosbury couldn't jump over the 5-foot bar, the qualifying height for most high school jumpers in his day. Fosbury was too tall to execute the "straddle method," a technique that required the jumper to go over the bar face first while bringing each leg over the bar individually. There was no rule regarding how a jumper could clear the bar; he only had to jump off of one foot. Fosbury began experimenting with all sorts of techniques, finally perfecting a method that sent him

over the bar backwards, bending his torso over the bar and then arching his legs in the shape of a rainbow so that his body would curl over the bar. The success of that technique was dramatic. He was the NCAA national champion in the high jump in 1968, and then he went on to win the Olympic gold medal in Mexico City that same year, clearing a height of seven feet, four inches. His technique, popularly known as the "Fosbury Flop," is the only method used by high jumpers today.

Dick Fosbury found a way to meet the standard. At first, the standard seemed impossible. But he didn't give up. He didn't try to

lower the standard so that he could achieve it. He simply used his talents to reach his goal.

God sets the standard for our lives. Before we were born, he knew us (Jer. 1:5). It is our duty to fear God and keep His commandments (Eccl. 12:13). His commandments are not burdensome (I John 5:3). We should not try to lower God to our level. We should not try to manipulate God's word to meet our selfish needs. We should use the talents He gave us to fulfill His will for our lives.

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Several of our members have been sick lately. Aaron Pirtle still recovers from complications of knee surgery.
- Faye Waller has been sick on and off for a couple of weeks.
- Mildred Walker also hasn't been 100% lately.
- Eddie Walker is still battling shingles on his head and above his eye.
- Wanda Billingsley is still doing rehab from her stroke.

**Mens' Meeting Tonight at 5:00**

**Singing Tonight at 6:00**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: E. Walker

Pray: L. Newell

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Rose

Serve: T. Walker, Demonbreum, M. Newell

Pray: Donkin