

# NEWSLINE

## Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ

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### Questioning God

*"Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him?" (Job 40:2)*

Questioning God? Can you imagine it? After suffering extensive losses Job began to question the Almighty! Oh, he wasn't seeking information. He was questioning God's handling of his needs. Maybe God had forgotten him. Maybe his friends were right about Him...maybe God had turned on him.

Man has a hard time listening...especially when God seems to be silent. Does God really have any authority over us? Can He tell us what we should do, or what He will accept? Does He have a right to tell us how to live our lives? Is His plan of salvation really valid? After all, isn't His Word kind of out-dated and irrelevant for a technologically sophisticated world?

Can man contend with God and win? Just because we decide to reject His teaching doesn't alter His divine will. Whether man accepts God's arrangement for a man-woman marital relationship, or His teachings regarding human sexuality, or anything else God has said, doesn't change His law. Does He have a right to command obedience? Does He change what He expects because we refuse to accept what He has said?

Obviously not! God is unchangeable and His Word will stand unchanged forever. Public opinion or legislative actions don't modify or redefine God's eternal will. Contending with God is like arguing with truth...it doesn't change because we refuse to see it and acknowledge it.

God turned the table on Job. He said, *"Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you and you will answer me..."* (Job 40:7). We have no right to contend with God or argue with His teachings because we don't like them or think they are relevant. He does have a right to expect obedience to His divine will. His Word is mandate. His Word is final. It is immutable.

When I am tempted to question Him, I need only ask, *"Who is the Creator, and who is the created?"*

\_\_\_ Al Behel

### Other News & Sick:

-**Bill Valentine** has been diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus. He has begun radiation and chemotherapy. Please keep Bill and Gail in prayer.

-**Bill England** was diagnosed with lung cancer in addition to his bone cancer. He had a PET scan on Tuesday. His doctors are evaluating him for a surgical option. Please keep him in prayer.

-**John Devore**, Linda Goodnight's husband, was in UT Medical Center with some TIAs. Tests showed that he had a blockage in an artery feeding the cerebellum. Keep John in prayer as doctors try to determine the root cause of his issues.

-**Megan White**, Joyce Keyser's 24 year old cousin from Huntsville, is in a hospital in NYC awaiting an extremely delicate surgery at base of her brain to alleviate severe/unbearable pain when she eats. Surgery has been delayed twice due to doctor being ill and Megan running a fever—now scheduled for Aug. 4.

-Prayers requested for Beverly Finnell's daughter-in-law's grandmother, **Hazel Haulcroft** (in Arkansas)-diagnosed with endometrial cancer. Surgery July 9.

-**Patty Adair needs for VBS** - EMPTY Kleenex boxes - rectangular and square-please bring to building and place on labeled table in the fellowship room. VBS is scheduled for August 7-8. Theme: *"Go Tell It On the Mountain."*

**Food Contact For Month:** Joyce Keyser. Call her to assist.

**Elder Contact for Month:** Rick Cliett. Phone: 865-789-9619

*Sermon Topics: A.M. - "Set Your House In Order"*

*P.M.—Extended Song Service and A Few Encouraging Words*

**Interpreter for deaf and hearing impaired available for AM and PM worship**

### Our Known Sick

-**Dez Anderson**— still confined to home with multiple health issues. Keep praying. God is listening and answering.

-**Jim Anderson**—recovering from broken wrist. Healing is slow but progressing. Multiple challenges with himself and Dez.

-**Sheryle Elkins**— is continuing to receive chemotherapy for lung cancer. Please pray fervently for her. Her address is: 1383 Lake Front Drive, Dandridge, TN 37725.

-**Al Finnell**—triple bypass surgery on May 6. He is now at home and his recovery is progressing. Keep him and Beverly in your prayers.

-**Ron Sommerville**— nerve stimulator seems to be helping.

-**Jimmy Vance**—recovering from surgery to remove tumor from jaw.

-**Bill Green**—still struggling with health issues.

-**Jean Compton**— surgery delayed because of a growth in her mouth.

-**Francis Laney** — Her address is on the bulletin board in foyer.

-**Pauline Swallow**-has colon cancer. Please pray.

-**Kathy May** battling ongoing health issues. She is still in Baxter.

### Friends and Family News

-**Howard Yates' mother**— a little better. She lives in Chattanooga.

-Coleen Thomason's sister, **Sharon**, suffered a stroke and is slowly improving. She lives in Virginia.

-**Keely Chambers**, granddaughter of Shirley Harmon, last months of pregnancy and confined to bed with a blood clot.

-**Judy Watkins**, Rick's sister in Texas, still struggling.

-**Richard Nichols**, Nick Nichol's brother—cancer surgery in Illinois.

-**Mrs. Florence Tolliver** is in Ft. Sanders Nursing Home, Rm 172. Her daughter, Rita Taylor from Kodak, has been visiting with us.

-**Christopher Howell**-grandson of the Littletons-spinal cord injuries.

-**Tom Behel**, Al's brother - slowly improving.

-**Morris Fields** -Leah Turner's uncle, very ill with lung disease.

-**Barbara Copley**, friend of Bill England and Sheryle Elkins—cancer.

-**Brenda Moore**, Leah's friend—difficult time with thyroid cancer.

-**Cecil Flowers**, friend of Dwight's, congestive heart failure and diabetes. He was a long-time member of the church in Sanford, FL, before moving to Kodak where currently worships. In Ft. Sander's Knoxville.

### VBS—AUGUST 7-8

**THEME: "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN"**

#### Special Events

Men's Prayer Session  
Monday mornings at 8:30

**Wednesday Night**  
Rick Cliett is leading a study  
on the Book of Hebrews

#### Sunday Adult Class

*I Thessalonians* —Al Behel

#### Times of Services

Sunday A.M.

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Sunday P.M. 6:00 PM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

#### Building Fund

Loan balance as of 07/01/15 is **\$1,072,765.95**. Extra contributions to reduce the loan debt are needed and appreciated. Envelopes are available in the pews.

#### Nursery

Located across main foyer. Closed circuit TV allows viewing and participation in worship.

CDs and DVDs of Sermons are available free at sound booth. Also available on the website at: [www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com](http://www.greatsmokymountainschurchofchrist.com)