

## *Reviving a Declining Church*

### Revelation 2:1-7

#### I. The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ the Church (Vs. 1-3)

- A. “I know your works”
- B. Jesus began His praising the church for positive points.
- C. Our Lord commended the church for their labor, patience, and faithfulness. (1 Thess. 1:3)
- D. Praise is positive & up-lifting; complaining is negative & depressing.
- E. Look for good things about our church, your marriage and your family.

#### II. The Lord Pointed out a \_\_\_\_\_ in the Church (V.4)

- A. The church looked good on the outside, but had a serious problem.
- B. When our love declines for the Lord, we stray from Him.
- C. When love declines in a marriage, it becomes drudgery.
- D. When love declines in a church, everything becomes mechanical, lifeless and just a form.

#### III. The Lord Revealed a \_\_\_\_\_ for Revival in the church.

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ : When you first began your walk with the Lord? Was that a better time than now with God?
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ : means to turn around make an about-face.
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ : Come back to where you once were as a Child of God, as a husband or wife, as a church member.

- 1 John 1:8-9, *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*



**CEDAR GROVE**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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*Pastor Darrell Taylor*

*“Preaching the Word... in season and out.”*

**2 Timothy 4:2**

## December 27, 2015 Schedule

Sunday School.....	9:45 am
Sunday Worship.....	11:00 am
Sunday Evening .....	6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Adult & Children Classes ...	6:30-7:30 pm

### Upcoming Events

## DECEMBER

NEW YEAR

TODAY - Regular Service  
- No PM Service, good time for class parties  
Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> - No Wednesday Night Service

MAY HE GIVE YOU THE DESIRE OF YOUR HEART  
AND MAKE ALL YOUR PLANS SUCCEED.  
PSALM 20:4

### This Week's Nursery Schedule (12/27)

Sunday School Nursery.....	Regina Riley & Henrietta Parker
AM Service Nursery.....	Brenda Ray & Jessie Grant
2&3 Year Old Little Church.....	Robbie & Crystal Rogers
4&5 Year Old Little Church.....	No Nursery
Junior Church.....	No Nursery
PM Nursery.....	Teresa McFarland
Security Monitor.....	Dane Farrar

### Next Week's Nursery Schedule (01/03)

Sunday School Nursery.....	Regina Riley & Sarah Brooks
AM Service Nursery.....	Shari Barber & Teresa McFarland
2&3 Year Old Little Church.....	Dane, Crystal Farrar & Macailla Cannon-Price
4&5 Year Old Little Church.....	Blaine, Amy Adamson & Ethan Adamson
Junior Church.....	Angie Slone
PM Nursery.....	Rachel Ray
Security Monitor.....	John Ward

### Sunday School Attendance 12/20/2015... 172

#### Finance

General Income.....	\$10,311.55
Building .....	\$100.00.....\$12,217.15
Mission.....	\$0.00.....\$2,675.61
Designated.....	\$177.99
Total.....	\$10,589.54
YTD +/-.....	-\$15,835.91



Lynn Brooks 29<sup>th</sup>.  
Olyvia Cool 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Joshua Riley 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Steve & Henrietta Parker 28<sup>th</sup>.  
Allan & Regina Riley 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Special Prayer Needs

Pastor and Judy  
Youth Ministry  
Church & families  
Hennie Venter

Edger Sathuluri  
Bryan & Stephanie Proctor  
Ella True  
Bobbye Ann Hudson

Virgie Spigle  
Robert Comley  
Mary Hawkins

### YESTERDAY

**Security from Yesterday.** “. . . God requires an account of what is past” (Ecclesiastes 3:15). At the end of the year we turn with eagerness to all that God has for the future, and yet anxiety is apt to arise when we remember our yesterdays. Our present enjoyment of God's grace tends to be lessened by the memory of yesterday's sins and blunders. But God is the God of our yesterdays, and He allows the memory of them to turn the past into a ministry of spiritual growth for our future. God reminds us of the past to protect us from a very shallow security in the present.

**Security for Tomorrow.** “. . . the Lord will go before you. . .” This is a Gracious revelation - that God will send His forces out where we have filed to do so. He will keep watch so that we will not be tripped up again by the same failures, as would happen if He were not our “rear guard.” And God's hand reaches back to the past, settling all the claims against our conscience.

**Security for Today.** “You shall not go out with haste. . .” As we go forth into the coming year, let it not be in the haste of impetuous, forgetful delight, nor with the quickness of impulsive thoughtfulness. But let us go out with the patient power of knowing that the God of Israel will go before us. Our yesterday's hold broken and irreversible things for us. It is true that we have lost opportunities that will never return, but God can transform this destructive anxiety into a constructive thoughtfulness for the future. Let the past rest, but let it rest in the sweet embrace of Christ.

Leave the broken, irreversible past in His hands, and step out into the invincible future with Him.

~ Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for his Highest