

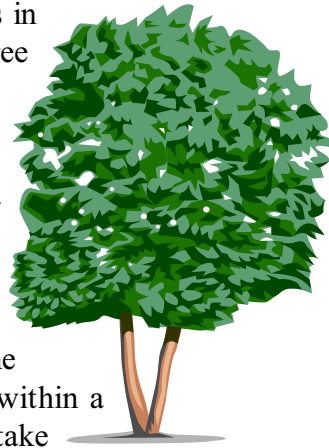
# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 739

April 12, 2009

**T**rees are mentioned hundreds of times in the pages of the Bible. From the tree that was wrongfully eaten from in Genesis 3 to the tree of life in Revelation, trees often had a vital role in the Bible.

No doubt you have many trees on or near your place of abode. Consider the following lessons that can be “harvested” from trees.



1. **Trees take time to mature.** No one expects to have a lawn full of stately trees within a few months after trees are planted. Trees take many years to mature and reach their maximum potential. We could plant a tree and for many months easily bend or break the tree with our bare hands. In a few years though, the very same tree would refuse to yield to our strength. It is the same tree, but time has made the difference.

Likewise, we need to be patient with ourselves and others who are Christians. Christian development and strength takes time and patience.

2. **Trees must be firmly rooted.** The root system of a tree must be deep, wide spread, and in soil conducive for growth.

We must be firmly rooted if we are to survive as Christians. This is accomplished by our dedicated studying of the Bible, prayer, regular worship, and daily Christian living.

3. **Trees often need to sacrifice in order to grow.** How often have you seen trees that have had to sacrifice diseased limbs in order to survive?

We will greatly enhance our spiritual development if we rid ourselves of bad habits, activities, and attitudes.

4. **Trees face varied hazards.** Disease, drought, and storms can all bring a tree to an early demise. How often have we seen trees that have weathered storms for decades and then suddenly, a strong wind topples the tree?

We face spiritual hazards each day. We must not take any spiritual danger lightly. Heed the words of Paul in I Corinthians 10:12, “*Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall.*”

5. **Trees are expected to produce.** Whether a tree is planted for shade, fruit, or simply beauty, we expect it to perform its intended function. We see the fate that awaited the fig tree in Luke 13:9 if it failed to bear fruit. “*And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.*”

As Christians, we are to produce fruit and be productive citizens in the kingdom of God.

6. **Trees support other life.** A tree might have moss, vines, birds and numerous other animals living on its bark and in its branches.

Those who are stronger Christians can support the weak and encourage the downhearted. Someone’s spiritual survival may be made much easier by the strength you offer.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

# News

—Hallie Davidson is in the Hart County Health Care Center in Horse Cave. Continue to remember **Mandy Hankins, Jean Coffee, Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jimmy Terry.**

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7. **Trees continue to influence long after they die.** Many objects in your home are made of wood. The trees from whence they came are now deceased, but you are reaping the benefits of their life.

When we die, we leave behind a legacy. Will we be remembered for the evil in our lives or will people continue to be influenced by our Christian lives for years to come? We are told concerning Abel in Hebrews 11:4, *“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.*

—Marty Edwards ❖

## The Value of Time

To realize the value of one *year*— ask a student who has failed a final exam.

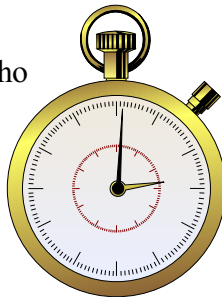
To realize the value of one *month*— ask a monthly magazine who has been scooped on a major story.

To realize the value of one *week*— ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realize the value of one *hour*— ask the student who is waiting for a class to end or a mother waiting anxiously for a child to arrive home late at night.

To realize the value of one *minute*— ask the person who has missed the train, bus or plane.

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Sunday, April 5, 2009

Classes	17	Revelation 20
Preaching	22	Ezekiel 37
Contribution	\$298.00	
Evening	18	Singing

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

Classes	25	Exodus 11:1-10
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## Bible Quiz

At what time of day did the last plague come upon Egypt?

Last Week's Answer— East (Exodus 10:13)

To realize the value of one *second*— ask a person who has survived an accident.

To realize the value of one *millisecond*— Ask the person who has come in second in the Olympics

Time— it waits for no one. Treasure every moment you have.

—adapted from Rod Hovter  
via University Hills Church of Christ, Austin, Texas

## —God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)