

# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 849

June 5, 2011

**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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Munfordville Church of Christ  
104 Back St — P.O. Box 322  
Munfordville, KY 42765  
(270) 524-3345  
www.munfordvillechurchofchrist.com

Marty Edwards, Minister  
577 Possum Trot Road  
Hardyville, KY 42746  
(270) 528-2447  
medwar@scrtc.com

Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

# News

—Continue to remember **Jean Coffey, Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jimmy Terry, Vicki McDaniel and Alroy & Lois McDaniel.**

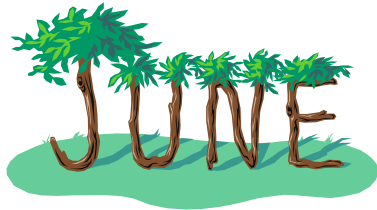
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7. **Trees continue to influence long after they die.** Many objects in your home are made of wood. The trees from whence they came are now deceased, but you are reaping the benefits of their life.

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 ❖



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Abby Edwards — June 7

Lauren Edwards — June 27

Marty & Ruby Edwards — June 27 ☆25th Anniversary☆

Sherry Crabtree — June 28

Jewell Watkins — June 28

Ali Rose Duncan — June 29

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Sunday, May 29, 2011		
Classes	17	Luke 1:48-2:35
Preaching	22	Hebrews 11
Contribution	\$380.00	
Evening	7	Hosea 6:1-7:16
Wednesday, June 1, 2011		
Classes	18	Numbers 18:1-32

## Bible Quiz

The goodness of Ephraim and Judah was as what?

Last Week's Answer— Almonds (Numbers 17:8)

—Tonight will be our first-Sunday singing.

—We have five signed up to go to Bible camp at Freed-Hardeman University. Going to Bible camp was one of the most enjoyable activities of my summers for many years. I attended the same camp our young people (all girls so far) are going to. I'll have a list of those going and where to send them cards and notes as the time gets closer.

—Marty

## —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)