

April 17, 2025

BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

As Lads to Leaders approaches this week and our young people wrap up their preparations for the convention, I'm filled with fond memories of my own time participating in Lads to Leaders while growing up. I remember the effort my family and I poured into it each year to help make it a success. Now, as an adult looking back, I'm even more amazed to witness our children, and so many others from different congregations, gathering at the Opryland Hotel, all eager to glorify God and share His word. Events like Lads to Leaders remind me why Jesus so often used children to teach us how we are meant to be.

On two powerful occasions, Jesus used the innocence of little children to reveal some of the clearest and most profound truths about the kind of heart required to enter the kingdom of heaven. These moments are recorded in Matthew 18 and 19, as well as in other gospel accounts. Through them, Jesus clearly demonstrated what God desires each of us to become. We've all sung the words, "Jesus loves the little children of the world," but Jesus didn't just sing it, He lived it.

On one occasion, while Jesus was teaching a crowd, some people brought their children to Him. The disciples tried to turn them away, but Jesus stopped everything to welcome the little ones. In **Mark 10:15** He said, "Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." Jesus didn't just speak of love, He showed it. The gospel accounts tell us He interacted personally with the children: He lifted them up, placed them in the midst of His disciples for all to see, held them in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

Imagine the memories those children carried for the rest of their lives. Years later, a grandfather might have said, "I was there when Jesus used my five loaves and two fish to feed a crowd." Or perhaps someone joyfully recalled, "When I was a child, I sat in Jesus' lap." These are not only touching moments, but they are also powerful reminders that children are not just learners; they are teachers of the very lessons Jesus taught.

First, consider that children are born innocent. They do not inherit sin, nor are they born with a sinful nature. At birth, children are just as innocent as Jesus was when He entered the world. Baby Jesus was not a sinner, nor did He possess a sinful nature. As **Hebrews 4:15** reminds us, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Jesus

also said in **Matthew 18:3**, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Children are not evil, and they do not have an evil nature. That is why Jesus said we must become like them.

Children are a living example of the kind of heart we must cultivate. They embody humility, trust, and a pure desire to follow. If you read the account in **Matthew 18**, you'll find that the disciples were arguing over who would be the greatest in the kingdom. Jesus responded by using a child as an object lesson. He placed a child before them and said, "Unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Then He added, "Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (**Matthew 18:4**)

Jesus went on to say that to receive a child is to receive Him. (**Matthew 18:5**) He also described God's anger over those who destroy that child's innocent faith. In **Matthew 18:6** Jesus said, "but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea." Jesus even went on to say, "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven." (**Matthew 18:10**) Imagine that! Children have angels who watch over them and report to God how they are treated. But just as they report harm, they also witness and remember the good you do in teaching and guiding them.


So, take time to really *see* children, not just with your eyes, but with your heart. Learn from them. Become like them. Because Jesus said, "Unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

That's why I am so thankful for the support we have and offer here at Nashville Road through programs like Lads to Leaders, as well as others such as Truth Seekers, Tuesday Nights Together, Vacation Bible School, and more. If you're looking for an opportunity to learn from our children and grow in childlike faith, I encourage you to come watch our youth this weekend at Lads to Leaders. I know you'll be glad you did.

Andrew Spivey

As for you, O Lord, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!
Psalms 40:11

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES Sunday Read – Exodus 19 Wednesday Read – Exodus 20

Questions for last week's reading of; 
Exodus 17 & 18.

Questions:

1. How did Moses get water for the Israelites at Rephidim?
2. How did the Israelites win the battle against the Amalekites?
3. What did God say He would do to the Amalekites?
4. What stories did Moses tell Jethro?
5. What advice did Jethro give Moses?

UPCOMING EVENTS

** 4:15 Singing class every Sunday*
Truth Seekers every Sunday @ 5pm*

April 26 – Ladies Day @ Nashville Road
9 am – 1 pm, Lunch Provided

April 29 – TNT - 6pm
Ladies Bible Class – 6:30 pm

May 3 - Cleaning Day /9am-12pm

May 3 - Baby Shower honoring Brittany & Daniel
Yates, from 2 – 4pm

May 8 - Elders meeting 6:30 pm

May 10 - Baby Shower honoring Olivia & Corey
Nelsen, from 2 – 4 pm.

May 11 - Mother's Day

UPCOMING BABY SHOWERS

We will have a Baby Shower honoring **Daniel & Brittany Yates** on **Saturday, May 3rd** from 2 - 4 PM in the Fellowship Room. Please RSVP by April 19th by dropping a card in their box in the foyer. They are registered at Wal-Mart.

We will also have a Baby Shower honoring **Corey & Olivia Nelsen** on **Saturday, May 10th** from 2 - 4 PM in the Fellowship Room. Please RSVP for this shower by April 26th by dropping a card in their box in the foyer. They are registered with Amazon.

LADIES WORKSHOP

All Ladies are invited to Nashville Road church of Christ on **Saturday April 26, 2025** with registration at 9:00am. Workshop 9:30 - 1:00 pm ***Lunch will be Provided***

ORDER OF SERVICES SUNDAY

April 20, 2025

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Jim Cherry
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Bob Brown
Scripture Reading.....Ken Veale
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Adam Williamson
Lord's Supper.....Bob Sever
Servers.....R. Buck; M. Ellis; Z. Tooley
D. Johnson; T. Butler; F. Evans
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Josh Johnson

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Bob Brown
Song Leader.....Carl Newby
Opening Prayer.....Corey Nelsen
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Garrett Rowlett
Closing Prayer.....Kevin Siler

WEDNESDAY

April 23, 2025

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Bob Brown
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Jonathan Senn
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith
Ushers for April.....T. Cummins/E. Stephenson
Communion Care for April.....B/T Brown
Door Greeters – West Door.....B/M Smith
East Door.....L/J Clark
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Pam Newby

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL
Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

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 Gallatin, TN 37066
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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Bobbie Stephens is now home and doing better. **Tony Perry** had surgery to have a dialysis fistula put in. **Larry Hammock**, uncle of Andrew Spivey, has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. **Wayne Hunt**, cousin of Tim Cummins, had a bone marrow transplant. **Donna Murphy**, sister of Wanda Seals, is recovering from a stroke. **Chuck Tooley**, father of Zach Tooley, health issues. **Ethan Huffard** son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby has completed his chemo treatments. He returns to the doctor in six months. **Ariel Clift**, niece of Tarina Brown has been diagnosed with POTS. **Roscoe Smith** father of Brent Smith has been diagnosed with 2 cancerous tumors. Treatments will start soon. **Larry Bailey**, son of Tina Bailey a former member, has been diagnosed with lung cancer. He has begun chemo.



PRAYER LIST

Wanda Seals; Lena Baggett; Stella Messer; Hugh Fulford; Maddie Andrews; Mary Spivey; Ottis & Maxine Cothron; Shauna Lockett; Tony Perry; Jean Knowles; Zach Tooley; Mary Ann Reinhart; Sandi Jones; Pat Watson; Frances Catron; Jackie Williams; Pat Crump; Ethan Huffard son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby; **Heather Lemley** daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley; **Jean McCurdy** mother of Olivia Nelsen; **Elaine Reynolds**, friend of Christie Coleman; **Alan Greene**, nephew of Carl & Pam Newby; **Bethany Shoulders**, granddaughter of Evelyn Harris; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill; **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals.

SHUT-INS

Jean Deaton, Mary Spivey
 (new addresses for both Jean & Mary,
 please call the office or see the
 2025 pocket directory)

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK	
Bible Study.....	107
Morning Worship.....	176
Sunday Evening.....	77
Wednesday Evening.....	72
Contribution.....	\$8,863.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$11,530.00

<u>Elders</u>		
Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560	
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149	
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084	
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935	
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621	
<u>Deacons</u>		
Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Adam Williamson	

Phone (615) 452-3431
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org
Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net
ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister