From the Family Room

Creekwood Church of Christ Mobile, AL 19 August, 2018

Facing Life's Issues of Grief



Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. II Corinthians 1:3-5

Several members of our family here at Creekwood have suffered losses in the recent past. These losses include the loss of life, loss of health, loss of family structure, or loss of a job. The natural response to any loss is grief. The grief is greater if there is a strong bond or affection associated with the loss. Many of the members of God's family here at Creekwood are still being affected by grief today. As a family of God, we love each other. We are a part of each other. As a result, when one of us grieves, we all are affected.

In response to this condition, a **weekend seminar** on the subject of **grief and loss** will be held **October 13 and 14, 2018**. The facilitators will be **Ron Williams** and **Don Williams**. They are both graduates of Freed Hardeman University with degrees in Bible and ministry. Don also received his Masters of Ministry degree from Harding Graduate School in 1984. After 30 years of ministry, Don has worked the last two years as Executive Director of North Alabama Christian Children's Home. Ron received his Masters of Science in Counseling from Southern Christian College in 1997. Ron has served in ministry since 1978 and is currently the pulpit minister for the Lincoln Church of Christ in Huntsville, AL where he has served since 1997. Ron and Don have taught community grief support classes for many years. They both serve as chaplains for numerous law enforcement and health care facilities. They have co-authored one book on grief entitled *Walking with Those Who Weep – A Guide to Grief Support*. Don also authored a second book – *Hope for Those Who Struggle – Coping with the Losses of Life*.

The seminar is for everyone. It is for all who have been affected by loss and the ensuing grief. It is also for others not currently dealing with grief but who would like to be able to offer comfort to those who are in their journey of grief. More details will be made available in the near future. Everyone is encouraged to take part in this seminar. We all have personal experiences in life that may serve as a key to unlock a door that provides strength and comfort to those grieving now.

May we all rest securely in the comfort that comes from God in the losses we will experience in life. May we all be conduits that deliver God's comfort to others.