

From the Family Room

**Creekwood Church of Christ
Mobile, AL**

2 December, 2018

Happy 70th Anniversary Joy and Bud McDonald!

Love is patient, love is kind...love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails... I Corinthians 13:4a, 7, and 8a

Congratulations to Joy and Bud McDonald who celebrated their 70th anniversary this past Tuesday, November 27th. We at Creekwood have benefitted for many years from the example of agape` love we have seen in Joy and Bud. Joy lives up to her name with her continuous smiles. Bud is a model of love with his kindness and care for Joy.

Their long time relationship began on a blind date in the summer of 1948 when Bud was home from Auburn where he was a student. When asked what attracted him to Joy, he replied in a straightforward manner, *"She was pretty and she seemed to like me."* In November of that year they were married in Joy's home in Chickasaw. One of the funniest things that happened to them occurred on their honeymoon. Their car stalled at a traffic light in New Orleans. Bud asked a lady driving the car behind them to give them a push to start the car. She did and the car cranked. Bud waved "Thanks" to the lady but the car kept following them. Then the lady began blowing her horn at them. This went on for two blocks before Bud stopped. He discovered that their bumpers had locked and they were pulling the lady's car.

They have been blessed in their life with six children, 17 grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren. They have also experienced several trials in their life. One very trying time was when they moved to Illinois away from their families, their church, and their friends. During this time, Joy's arthritis was very painful and confining. When asked what the source of strength that empowered them to endure all of the trials they have encountered, they gave this answer. *"We have been encouraged in our faith by many Christians we have worshipped with over the years. We will never forget the love and care given to us by them in difficult times. Our faith has been strengthened by the evidences of events in our lives."* Bud said they drew strength from church attendance and Christian friends.

Joy and Bud offered this response when asked about advice they would offer young engaged couples and newly married couples at Creekwood.

- Engaged couples should discuss their goals and desires and be assured that by working together, these goals can be accomplished. They should determine each one's limitations and responsibilities and adjust to each other to achieve the "common goal."
- Young couples should agree early in their relationship that they are both dedicated to obeying God, worshipping together regularly, managing their money for their needs and avoiding needless debt. "Don't bite off more than you can chew."

Their advice to couples with young children is to train their children primarily by their example. This includes active church attendance with the children and by developing strong Christian fellowship for the family.

Joy and Bud said that couples with teenage children have many difficult decisions to make. As parents they must be in agreement in setting the limits for the teens and disciplining when necessary. Parents should never disagree in front of the children. Duties should be assigned to each child in assisting in the maintenance of the home. Reliability is a virtue that must be taught. Regular attendance and involvement in church is a blessing, an opportunity, and a lifelong memory.

We are blessed at Creekwood with several examples of blessed, successful, lifelong marriages. Certainly the marriage of Joy and Bud McDonald is a shining example of blessedness. Thank you for your faithful lives. Thank you for your dedicated marriage that glorifies God. We pray that the upcoming year is another year filled with God's blessings for you and your family. We love you.

RICKY