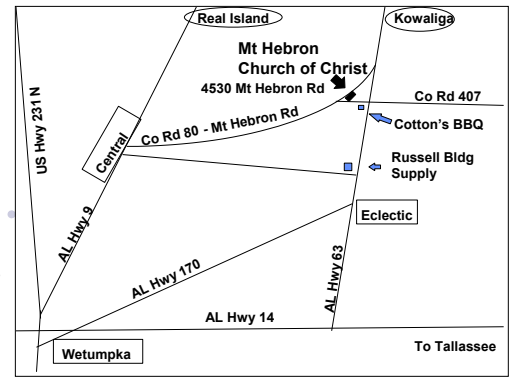


# Neighborly News

*Brought to you by your friends at the Mt. Hebron Church of Christ.*



## A double portion of spirit

There are many Biblical examples of inheritance that we take note of and use as examples: Jacob and Esau, the Israelites and the land of Canaan, Jesus' parable of the prodigal son. But if we look at 2 Kings Chapter 2, we find another example of an inheritance being passed down.

*"The prophet Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other side of the river, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. When the two of them had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, 'What I shall do for you, before I am taken from you.' And Elisha said, 'Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.'" (2 Kings 2:8-9).*

Elisha was not asking for a small favor. He had undoubtedly heard of Elijah's stand against the

prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:20-40). He surely knew of the drought and famine that plagued Israel for three and a half years (1 Kings 17:1-6, 18:41-45, James 5:17). Elisha most likely witnessed the two captains and their compa-

portion of the power of Elijah's spirit, but the responsibility as well. While Elijah primarily focused on King Ahab and Israel (and justly so), Elisha had added duties prophesying and proclaiming God's word in the kingdoms of Judah and Syria as well.



what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." (2 Kings 2:8-9).

Elisha was not asking for a small favor. He had undoubtedly heard of Elijah's stand against the

heavenly fire (2 Kings 1:9-12). He saw firsthand Elijah taken up to heaven in a whirlwind (2 Kings 2:11).

Still Elisha asked for this gift. He understood that the blessing represented not only a double

Elisha to ask for a double portion of Elijah's spirit. Let us all have that same courage in asking blessings from the Lord and the courage to use those blessings to further His kingdom.

—Ryan Dix

### Mt. Hebron Church of Christ

**P.O. Box 240159  
4530 Mt. Hebron Rd.  
Eclectic, Ala. 36024**

**Come and visit us**

**Sunday**

**Bible Classes 10:00 AM**

**Worship Services**

**11:00 AM & 6:00 PM**

**Wednesday**

**Bible Classes 7:00 PM**

*A joyful heart is good medicine—Proverbs 17:22*

"Daddy, I want to ask you a question," said little Bobby after his first day in Sunday school. "Yes, Bobby, what is it?" "The teacher was reading the Bible to us, all about the children of Israel building the temple, the children of Israel crossing the Red Sea and the children of Israel making sacrifices. Didn't the grown-ups do anything?"



*Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. (Psalms 25:8-10)*

## Four ways to rekindle your marriage

**1. Don't just tell her you love her.** Tell her why you love her. She knows you love her; she craves to know why. Adding "because" at the end of "I love you" increases intimacy in your marriage. "I love you because you're so unselfish."

**2. Reintroduce the element of surprise.** Identify patterns and break routines. Become unpredictable. Celebrate anything and everything. Buy the unexpected present. Take an unplanned trip.

**3. Strive to out-please each other.** Out-pleasing each other means putting the other's happiness first—especially in the mundane moments of life. When he washes the dishes, respond by keeping the kids out of his hair while he watches the game. But . . .

**4. Don't keep score.** Marriage breaks down when you constantly compare your sacrifices to your mate's. Concentrate on your giving and

you will become one. — Jim Magruder  
*Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth (1 Corinthians 13:4-6).*



## What do you think?

Recently, the chaplain for the Washington National's baseball team was suspended and barred from the clubhouse . . . What did he do? Did he spit in the face of an umpire as I have seen some players do? Did he run onto the field in an uncontrollable rage, cursing and screaming at the umpire or an opposing player as some managers and players do? Did he get in a locker room brawl as some players do?

The answers are "no." His offense was simply in answering a question that had been asked of him by a player. Ryan Church, an outfielder for the Washington Nationals asked the

chaplain if the Jews were "doomed" because they do not believe in Jesus. The chaplain nodded affirmatively.

While I understand that this answer may be offensive to some, my question is, "Why have a chaplain in the first place if you don't want biblical answers to biblical questions?" If you don't want religion in the locker room, then don't hire a chaplain, hire a counselor or a psychologist. However, it's not that



they don't want religion in the locker room, they apparently do. However, they want a watered-down, inoffensive, feel good, post-modern religion in the locker room. That's where the chaplain went wrong. It seems to me, they suspended a man for being who they hired him to be? What do you think?

—Steve Higginbotham at <http://www.glasgow-coc.org/mercemail.htm>  
*Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)*

## Possessions of Jesus

In the lifetime of Jesus we do not hear Him speak of:

- "my land,"
- "my farm,"
- "my books,"
- "my business" or
- "my money."

We do, however, hear Him speak of:

- "my Father" (Matthew 10:33),
- "my friends" (John 15:14),
- "my disciples" (John 15:8),
- "my church" (Matthew 16:18),
- "my name" (Matthew 18:20),
- "my words" (Mark 8:38),
- "my sheep" (John 10:27) and
- "my joy" (John 17:3).

It is significant that Christ, our example, thought more of spiritual possessions than of material ones.

