



Heflin Baptist Church Messenger

*Heflin Baptist Church exists to:
Share God's Word, Show God's Love,
Send God's People.*

November 1, 2018



Dear Church Family,

I was writing in my journal just the other day on the subject of influence. As children and teenagers, we all experienced our fair share of "peer pressure". Somehow, most of us thought that our struggles with peer pressure would magically disappear when we became adults. Sadly, we all soon realized how our struggle would continue. When we talk about the subject of peer pressure, it is often discussed in a negative way. We talk about the dangers of following the crowd or compromising our convictions to simply get along with others. Even though we are familiar with the negative aspect of peer pressure, I believe we must also look at how it can be used in a positive way. It all comes back to the word "influence". Influence is not pressure, its leadership. God has entrusted to each of us a circle of influence. Within this circle are your family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc. Regardless of the size of your circle, people are looking to you for guidance in their own lives. As a Christian, you have an awesome privilege and responsibility of living a Christ-like life toward those in your circle. Your influence will be seen by your attitude and your actions. I plead with you to take to heart the desperate need to be the right kind of influence to those who are looking to you for leadership.

The "BIG" Question for the day is, "Who are you influencing?" Who do you know that is looking at your life for direction in how to live theirs. Honestly, you probably have no idea just how many people are doing so. The number would probably surprise you and you would also be surprised at who some of them are. I can think of many people over the years that left a positive imprint on my life and had no idea I was learning from them.

The other "BIG" Question is "What about your attitude and actions?" As much as we could be responsible for leading someone to a deeper walk with God, we could also bear the grim responsibility of pushing someone away from getting closer to God. I don't know about you, but I don't want anyone to become cold toward God or His church and be able to say that I led them to that place. I deeply desire to encourage, equip and inspire God's people to live completely sold out to Him! Let's all make a heartfelt commitment to day to fill our circle of influence with a message of hope, help and healing! Let's not give anyone an excuse to become cold toward God — let's help them fall deeper in love with Him each day.

I Love You ALL and there ain't nothing you can do about it.

Pastor Brent

Proverbs 30:5



HEFLIN BAPTIST CHURCH WEEK AT LIFEWAY!

Now through Saturday, November 3, 2018, we're partnering with LifeWay for *Heflin Baptist Church Week* to lead you to resources for every step of your faith journey. Just stop by the Oxford Lifeway Christian Store and mention our church at checkout to receive a 20% discount!

DIAMOND SET LUNCHEON

Diamond set will meet in the Fellowship Hall Tuesday, November 6, for their monthly covered dish luncheon. All are welcome!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoeboxes are now available for pick-up! You may pack your box with items such as: toiletries (combs, hairbrushes, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap, soap dish, nail clippers, Chapstick, Band-Aids, deodorant), small books, small coloring books, flashlights and batteries, scarves, hat, gloves, etc. Operation Christmas Child Dedication Sunday will be November 11 in the Morning Service. All boxes must be turned in at this time.

SOUP & CHILI SUPPER

On Friday, November 16, we will have our annual Soup & Chili Supper and decorate for Christmas. On this night we will put up the beautiful Chrismon tree in the Worship Center. Please make plans to come fellowship and be part of this wonderful occasion. The fun begins at 5:30 PM.



LOTTIE MOON MEAL - NOVEMBER 18

Our Lottie Moon Thanksgiving Meal will be Sunday, November 18 at 6:00 PM. Cost will be \$8 per person. It will feature a traditional Thanksgiving menu. We will have a guest speaker that night and all proceeds will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.



THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The church office will be closed Wednesday, November 21 – Friday, November 23 so that our staff may spend some quality time with their families over the holiday. There will be no evening service on Wednesday, November 21, or Sunday, November 25.



JOIN US AT 9:00 AM FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Sunday School now begins at 9:00 AM. Please come be a part and stay for Morning Worship at 10:00.



THOMAS NELSON DEVOTIONAL

Pastor Brent has the honor of being a contributing author in the 2018 Thomas Nelson Devotional. These books make wonderful gifts. Copies are just \$15 and can be purchased through the church office.

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