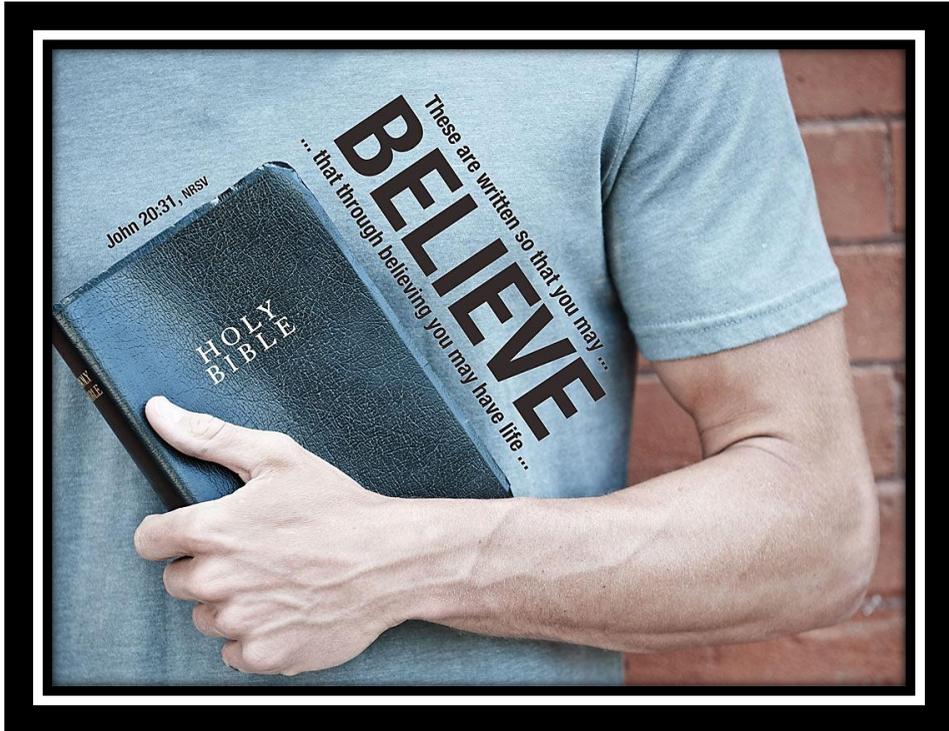


Wesley Chapel Methodist Church

February 15, 2026



820 West Park Street

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Sylacauga, AL 35150

256-245-3536

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Minister: Mark Ledbetter

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Website: www.wesleychapelsylacauga.com

We welcome you to this worship service.

Sharing of Joys and Concern
Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

The Love of God

CH 157

***Doxology:** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Hymn

I Stand Amazed

GRP 122

Scripture
Sermon

That You May Believe

John 20:30-31
Mark Ledbetter

Hymn

It Is Well with My Soul

GRP 344

Postlude

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

CH 602

***Please stand if you are able.**

Prayer List

Brenda and Pat Jones, James and Janice Adams, Vicky Rollins, Chris Kramer, Jr., Ruth Cox, Bill Crenshaw, Beth Major, Glenda Rumsey, Tanner Bowen, Matt Abrams, Bobbie Kinser, Mike Cleveland, Louise Rhodes, Jane Reynolds, Donald Caine, Danny and Alice Collins, Van Abbott, Chris Bishop, JoAnne Cleveland, Honest Gaddis, Kathy and Roland Roberson, Jeanne & Glen Deason, Sheila Pody, Ethan Corbitt, Jeff Thomas and family, Cindy Natali, Perry Duffey, Mallory Caine, Lisa Barnett, Ray Stone, Elliette Fillingame and family, Jerry Jordan, Charles and Janet Akin, Connor Edmondson, Frances Coleman, Jill Bailey, Leslie Hassal, Sarah Hethcox, Colin Pody, Janice Snyder, Dustin Bentley, Rachel Hobson, Kent Clifton, Dianne Sellari, Bobbie Hogan, Steve Ward, Jackie Vigiani, Brett Kelley, Ashley Williamson, Teresa Austin, Leonard Huskey, Fisher Camp, Johnny Jones, Randy Foster, Marie Kendrick, Anthony Grogan, Alton Williams and the family of Vick Bannister.



Prayer Focus: Releasing Those in Bondage

Acts 12:4 recounts, "...but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church of God." This passage sets the stage for understanding the power and importance of focused, persistent prayer when a fellow believer is in bondage or facing oppression.

The Historical Context: Peter's Imprisonment

King Herod Agrippa I (37-44 AD), following the footsteps of his notorious grandfather, Herod the Great, exploited religious tensions between Jewish leadership and the church. Agrippa aimed to win favor with the Jewish authorities by targeting the early church executing James, the brother of John, and seeing that this pleased the Jewish leadership, Agrippa proceeded to arrest Peter and have him imprisoned and executed. In response, the church united in fervent, continuous prayer on Peter's behalf, gathering in a local house to seek his deliverance.

Peter's Miraculous Deliverance

Chained between two soldiers and guarded by sentries, Peter was awakened by an "angel of the Lord" sent to free him. At the angel's command, Peter stood up, and the chains fell from his wrists. Without alarming the guards or sentries, he followed the angel through the courtyard, the gates opening before them, until Peter found himself outside the prison. He then made his way to the house where the church was praying for him. Initially, those inside did not open the door, but as Peter continued knocking, they were astonished to find him free and listened as he shared the story of his divine rescue.

The Power of Persistent Prayer

The decisive factor in Peter's release was the church's unwavering, earnest intercession. They resolutely prayed for Peter's freedom, perhaps recalling Jesus's teachings about persistent prayer—such as the neighbor seeking bread at midnight, the widow persisting before the unjust judge, and the encouragement to keep asking, seeking, and knocking. These lessons inspired the church to pray without ceasing, trusting that God would respond to their faith and perseverance.

Application: Praying for Those in Bondage

Many people today may not be confined in physical prisons but are held captive by circumstances, doubts, fears, or oppressive influences. Faced with such situations, what should we do? We are called to pray—both individually and collectively as the church—persistently and expectantly, believing that God's mercy and grace can set the captives free. By uniting our hearts in prayer, we can intercede for those in need, trusting God to bring deliverance from whatever bondage they face.

February

Weekly Calendar

Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.

Prayer Meeting tonight at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night Bible Study 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 1st

The communion offering will go toward our Mission Fund.

Keeping money in this fund allows us as a church to be able to address any emergency mission relief.

Administrative Board Meeting

Monday March 2nd at 5:30 p.m.



Connecting Congregation and Community with Jesus Christ.



JOIN US FOR A

baby shower

HONORING THE MOM-TO-BE

Lauren Ward

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd
2:00 - 4:00 pm

WESLEY CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCH
820 WEST PARK STREET
SYLACAUGA, AL 35150

LAUREN IS REGISTERED ON BABYLIST.COM