

Those to Serve

Sunday 01-03-2010

Sunday Morning Worship:

Announcements..... Jerry Freeman
 Song Leader..... Rance Robison
 Opening PrayerRoyce Armstrong
 Closing PrayerBronson Roper

Month of January 2010

Sunday Morning Lord's Table

South Side:

Bob Hedges
 Melvin Norfleet
 Chuck Kyle

North Side:

Royce Armstrong
 George O'Neal
 Daniel McCary

Sunday Evening Lord's Table

Jim Duncan Fred Harkrider

Sunday Evening Worship:

Announcements.....Jerry Freeman
 Song Leader.....Rance Robison
 Opening PM Prayer.....Jerry Freeman
 Closing PM Prayer.....Roger Grimes

Serving Wednesday Night—January 06, 2010

AnnouncementsJerry Freeman
 Song Leaders.....Hal Roper and Weldon Miller
 First Prayer..... Fred Harkrider
 Closing Prayer..... Ron Traughber

*If you plan to be out of town or are not physically able to serve, please call someone to take your place. or call the church office.

Attendance for the week of 12-27-2009

Bible Classes..... 92
 Morning Worship..... 154
 Evening Worship 101
 Tuesday Ladies Class (will resume this Tuesday)
 Wednesday Night 95
 Regular Contribution \$ 3,663.78
 New Construction Fund Contributions.....\$55.00

Averages To Date This Year

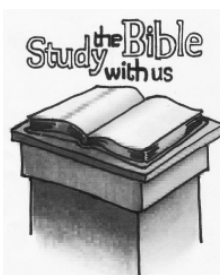
Bible Classes..... 99
 Morning Worship.....139
 Evening Worship 97
 Tuesday Ladies Class 12
 Wednesday Night 93
 Regular Contribution.....\$ 4,274.16
 New Construction Fund Contributions to date..... \$ 78,494.00
 (Also includes transfers and interest earned)

PLEASE NOTE: This bulletin is formatted Friday morning each week. Any news items or articles you wish included must be submitted to the Editor no later than Thursday Night. You may call Rhodney Freeman at 903-572-1181 (home) or 903-572-1136 (Office)

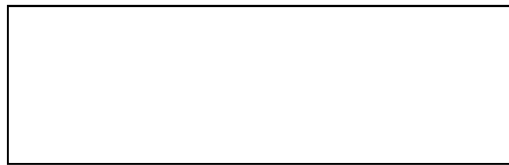
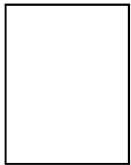
Today's Sermons

AM: Thoughts for a New Year
Kris Groda, Preaching

PM: Pulpit Swap—Unity Series
Kevin Ruiz, Preaching



North Jefferson Church of Christ
 P.O. Box 963
 Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456



Address Correction Requested

Assembly Times

Sunday

Bible Classes9:00AM
 Worship10:00AM
 6:00PM

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class ..10:00AM
 (September—May)

Wednesday

Bible Classes7:00PM

Church Office:
 903.572.1136

Elders

Gene Campbell
 Weldon Miller
 Wayne Pickrel

Deacons

Grady Duncan
 Jim Duncan
 Jerry Freeman
 Bob Hedges
 Rance Robison
 Hal Roper

Gospel Preacher

Kris Groda

Secretary

Rhodney Freeman

Website:
www.njcofc.com

Email:
njcofc@sbcglobal.net

North Jefferson Messenger

As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him" Proverbs 25:13



Volume 12 No. 01 Founded on the Word—Focused on the World January 03, 2010

Setting Goals

By Kris Groda

After conversing with the Samaritan woman at the well, the disciples were concerned about Jesus eating. Jesus told them, "I have meat to eat that ye know not of" (John 4:32). Not understanding His words, they asked each other, "hath any man brought him ought to eat?" (John 4:33). Jesus went on to explain, "My meat [food] is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work" (John 4:34). Paul contrasted his former confidence in the fleshly Jewish customs and "the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:7). Paul added, "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil 3:13-14).

Though the words "goal setting" never appear in scripture, the concept is Biblical. "Goal" is defined as, "The purpose toward which an endeavor is directed; an end; objective." For the most part, each of us set goals for ourselves in the secular arena. While, having secular goals can be a good thing, and very rewarding, we must not fail in prioritizing our goals. It would do us well if we would not remove ourselves from the likeness of the people who have been referenced in God's Holy Word.

Consider Moses. It is implied that Moses knew God would use him to deliver the children of Israel from Egypt, "for he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not" (Acts 7:25). By this time in Moses' life, he had determined to please God. Hebrews 11:24-26 states, "By faith Moses, when he

was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches, than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward." Moses definitely had the opportunity to set some secular goals, but we see his spiritual goals emphasized—having the goal of Heaven!

Ezra and Nehemiah, were both convicted, goal-oriented men of God. Ezra, one of the great reformers of Israel "had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord and do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments" (Ezra 7:10). Nehemiah, co-worker with Ezra in reforming Israel, motivated the people of Jerusalem to build their walls. Nehemiah said, "so built we the wall; and all the wall were joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work" (Neh. 4:6).

Just as the righteous children of God of old, Christians today are to have spiritual aims and ambitions. The Lord has set work before us in His Kingdom. When Jesus stated, "my meat is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to finish his work" (Jn. 4:34), He further stated, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then commeth the harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest" (Jn. 4:35). Similarly, the North Jefferson church of Christ should have spiritual goals this year, and then have the mind to press toward those marks!

Renew Your Mind

By Brad Harrub, Ph.D.

Is faith a “blind leap” or can one know the Bible holds all Truth? Consider a piece of evidence from the field of archaeology—the Moabite stone (also known as the Mesha Inscription). A missionary named F.A. Klein first discovered the stone in August of 1868. When he initially saw the black basalt stone, it measured approximately 3.5 feet high and 2 feet wide. Years later, Arabs decided to shatter it (possibly for profit or for retaliation) and the pieces ended up being scattered. But eventually, about two-thirds of the original stone ended up being relocated, and currently reside at the Louvre in Paris.

The written inscription on the stone provides a piece of outstanding evidence that verifies the Bible’s accuracy. Mesha, the king of Moab, had the stone cut in c. 850 B.C. to relate his numerous battle conquests. In the over 30-line text (composed of approximately 260 words), Mesha mentioned that Omri was the king of Israel, just as 1 Kings 16:21-28 indicates. Furthermore, it mentions Ahab, Omri’s son, in close connection with the Moabites, as does 2 Kings 3:4-6. In addition, both the stone and 2 Kings 3:4-6 list Mesha as King of Moab. Further down in the inscription, the stone records the Israelite tribe of Gad, and the Israelite God, Yahweh. Each word verifying the accuracy of the Bible!

Another important feature of the Moabite stone is the fact that it resolved a question that has remained unanswered for years. The biblical record chronicles the Moabite suppression under King David and King Solomon, and how the Moabites broke free at the beginning of the divided kingdom. However, the Bible also mentions (2 Kings 3:4) that Ahab was receiving tribute from Moab. As Alfred Hoerth has remarked: “Nowhere does the Bible state how or when Moab was reclaimed, for Ahab to be receiving such tribute. The Moabite Stone provides that information, telling, as it does, of Omri’s conquest from the Moabite point of view.” Taken as a whole, the Moabite stone remains one of the most impressive pieces of evidence verifying the historical accuracy of the Old Testament. We have the evidence—our faith should not be a “blind leap.”

[Brad Harrub is a professional apologist who works with Focus Press. www.focuspress.org]

Great Smoky Mountain Marriage Retreat

February 17-20, 2010 Pigeon Forge Holiday Inn Conference Center - Pigeon Forge, TN

Theme: Joy in the Journey—Celebrating God’s Gift of Matrimony.

Who: This is a couples only retreat for married couples of all ages. It is designed to be part getaway and part practical instruction seminar on enriching marriage relationships.

Cost: There is no charge for the retreat. Including food and hotel, a couple can usually for about \$250.

This retreat is sponsored by the Jacksonville church of Christ—Jacksonville, AL Allen Webster is the director.

For more information, please call, 256.435.9356. If you are interested in going, please see Kris for details.

Pulpit Swap—Unity Series Sunday Schedule

Kevin Ruiz
North Jefferson—Mount Pleasant, TX
“The Platform for Unity”
1 Cor. 1:10

Kris Groda
Mount Vernon
“The Problem of Pseudo-Unity”
2 Chron. 18

Joey Davis
Pittsburg, TX
“The Prayer for Unity”
John 17

Richard Rutledge
Atlanta, TX
“The Plea for Unity”
1 Corinthians 1:10



Please Remember in Prayer: Justin Barker, Rachel Barker, Doris Bell, James & Sue Browning, Billy Campbell, Gene Campbell, Suzanne Charlton, Randy Cooper, Jim Duncan, Barbara Duncan, Irene Duncan, Patsy Duncan, Wade Miller, Wayne Pickrel, Thelma Reed, Bud Roach, Rebecca Tippit.

Also: Carolyn (Katy) Cabell, Denise Hess, Mary Jo Lee, Janice Lineberger, Kent Stephenson, Charles Whitney

Congregational Shut-Ins:
Home: Doris Bell, **Pleasant Springs Assisted Living:** Annah Brown, **Home:** Irene Duncan, **Villa Assisted Living:** Georgia Lide.

HEALTH UPDATES:

Billye Campbell, had a couple of bad days this week. Please continue to remember in prayer.

Wayne Pickrel is at home now. When he is able, he will start rehab at TRMC.

Patsy Duncan had a dye test of her back on Monday to see if surgery is going to be necessary. The report has not been received yet. She will have a consultation with doctor on January 21.

Grady Duncan is at home with a bad cold.

Gary Duncan will surgery on his broken neck on January 5. Please remember in prayer.

Rhodney Freeman, is with us today. His test proved good health. He has, however, be battling anxiety.

Wanda Miller, is back home and back at work after having double lung pneumonia.

James and Sue Browning, continue to need your prayers and support. Sue continues to cope with pain. Please pray that her doctors will be able to find solution that will lead to a renewed quality of life.

IN SYMPATHY:
Jesilin Ragano, mother of Joe Ragano, passed last Monday and was buried in Longview on Wednesday. Please remember the family in prayer.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS:
Coffee Hour at the Groda House: Today from 1:00pm– 3:00pm 351 CR 1520. (Take Greenhill Road 2.3 miles from Applebee’s)

Bible Bowl Practice at 5pm today. This is for all young people from the 1st-12th grades.

Pulpit Swap: Sunday Evening Worship—6PM. Be sure to give a hearty welcome to the Ruiz family. We are privileged to have this talented family working in our area.

This Coming Tuesday: Ladies Bible Class will resume. Titus will be the topic of study. Mothers are encouraged to come. Child care will be provided in the nursery.

Volunteers are needed at the church office this week:

- Tract stamping.
- Deliver P.R. packets to local business. (Tracts, Bible reading schedules, and calendars)
- Answer Phone.
- Help edit Bible Bowl Test.
- Home Visitation (prayers, assessing needs, and delivery of sermons tapes/cd’s)

Next Area Wide Bible Bowl: January 11, at 7pm here at the North Jefferson building. Plan to come and enjoy an evening of education and fellowship.

AREA EVENTS:
Saturday, January 23— “Give Me the Bible” Conference at the:
Crockett Road Church Of Christ
1717 Crockett Road
Palestine, Texas, 75802.
Telephone: (903) 723-6291

Please mark your calendar and plan to caravan down to Palestine for an encouraging and educational day regarding the “Give Me the Bible” Television Broadcast. This program currently airs on KETK out of Tyler, TX. We are making efforts to get the program available to the Mount Pleasant viewing area.