

Those to Serve

Sunday 01-31-2010

Sunday Morning Worship:

Announcements..... Wade Miller
 Song Leader..... Royce Armstrong
 Opening Prayer Weldon Miller
 Closing Prayer Wade Miller

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..... Wade Miller
 Song Leader..... Weldon Miller
 Opening PM Prayer..... Bronson Roper
 Closing PM Prayer..... Ron Traugher

Serving Wednesday Night—February 03, 2010

Announcements Wade Miller
 Song Leader..... Daniel McCary
 First Prayer.....Bob Hedges
 Closing Prayer..... Royce Armstrong

*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 1-24-2010

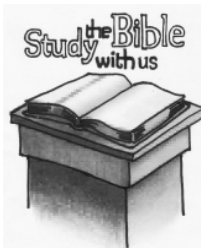
Bible Classes..... 101
 Morning Worship.....140
 Evening Worship 84
 Tuesday Ladies Class10
 Wednesday Night 83
 Regular Contribution \$ 4,044.75
 New Construction Fund Contributions.....\$ 0.00

Averages To Date This Year

Bible Classes..... 98
 Morning Worship.....139
 Evening Worship 97
 Tuesday Ladies Class 12
 Wednesday Night 92
 Regular Contribution.....\$ 4,221.21
 New Construction Fund Contributions to date..... \$ 80,245.88
 (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: "A Dedicated, Working, & Optimistic Congregation"
 Kris Groda, Preaching

PM: "Grace In the Old Testament"
 Kris Groda, 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. 49 *Founded on the Word—Focused on the World* January 31, 2010

ARE WE CONDITIONING OUR CHILDREN TO BE LIBERALS?

By Michael Light

That's a question I imagine we don't ponder every day. But I do think it is one to consider. For the most part, children's world views are going to be shaped by their parents (2 Tim. 1:5). If we as parents do not properly teach our children how to think and convey to them some basic biblical truths, they will never think correctly and live in accordance with God's word.

How do we condition our children to be liberals (by "liberal" I mean one who goes beyond what the Bible authorizes; "loosens" where God has "bound;" treats obligatory things as though they are optional; etc...)?

A. Fail to teach them to respect things holy and Divine. We must teach our children to have the utmost respect for Deity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

We do this in several ways:

1. We need to teach them about all three and convey the majesty, power, and purity of each. Their works need to be discussed in detail. Passages which show the interaction between God and man need to be discussed to show God's great concern for us and the proper relationship between a holy man and His Divine God.

2. We must teach them to respect, believe and obey the holy scriptures (John 8:32; 12:48; Ps. 119). Taking our children to church with us is not enough. They must grow into an understanding of the Bible and its uniqueness (only inspired book in the world 2 Tim. 3:16-17). While men may fail you and cultural changes are inevitable, God's word is a rock to which we can always hold (never changing, Mt. 24:35).

If they rarely see us studying our Bibles or engaging in Bible discussions, all the lectures in the world will have little effect.

3. We must teach them to respect the Lord's church, elders, preachers and teachers. Our children should never hear us "running down" the church, its elders, preachers, and teachers. This does not mean that problems in each of these categories will never arise (and even need to be addressed or opposed). But it does mean that care is taken to insure that our children understand that the church is pure and right and is God's divine institution (Acts 20:28).

Elders are to be respected and submitted to (as long as they are not advocating sin). Preachers and teachers are to be held in a positive light and respected as the messengers of God. In the Old Testament, God struck many people dead (and even sent some bears to kill some disrespectful children) when they mocked, made fun of, or made light of his ministers. We certainly do not blindly follow men, but we had better respect those who accurately convey the truth (Rom. 10:10-17).

Many parents unintentionally sour their children on the church simply by fussing, feuding, and belly-aching about the church all the time. Why would a young person (or anyone for that matter) want to be involved, let alone committed, to something so "messed up" that a supposed member has nothing good to say about it?

B. When we give our children everything they want. If we spoil our children, we are setting them up to either be dissatisfied with God and the church or molding them so

they will quit when the choice is theirs to make.

1. Spoiled people can scarcely be faithful children. Christianity is a religion that demands putting others before ourselves (Mt. 5:40ff) and in treating others as we want to be treated (Mt. 7:12). It is a religion that involves submitting to God and His will in all things.

When someone is spoiled (and by that I mean someone who is used to getting their way all the time), they are not used to being told "no." Also, they often have a mindset that the rules don't necessarily always apply to them. They are somehow "special" and feel very put upon if they have to yield to someone else's ideas or desires.

2. Another form of being spoiled in our day is not knowing how to work. If our children are too lazy to work, they will not be faithful children of God. There is much work to be done in the Lord's body (1 Cor. 15:58). In fact, at the tender age of twelve Jesus told His parents that He had to be about His Father's business.

God's workers are built from a young age. A simple way to begin to ingrain good work habits is by giving younger children chores. As they get older, these jobs should carry more and more responsibility. If they are allowed to "dog off" or quit before the job is done (and done right), they will likely grow up to be the same type of adults. We all know people who can be counted on to never be around when the church work starts. Or if they do show up, they have a way of never doing anything, or they quit long before the task at hand is complete.

There are plenty of liberal churches in the world that teach doctrines that allow people to ignore the true nature of God and disrespect the scripture and its teaching about the church. They expect virtually nothing of their members. These churches teach a variety of doctrines (not in the Bible) and disregard biblical concepts that are unpopular with the masses (who have no regard for the truth).

If our children are not properly taught they too will have liberal tendencies and be in danger of gravitating toward liberal religion. Those who leave the truth of God will lose their souls (Gal. 5:6).

As unpleasant as the thought is, this truth applies to our children just as surely as anyone else. May we be committed to protect our children from this particular danger.

Raising Children

Behind the scenes of an Arizona circus, a visitor started chatting with a man who trains animals for Hollywood movies: "How is it that you can stake down a ten-ton elephant with the same size stake that you use for this little fellow?" - The visitor was pointing to a baby elephant who weighed three hundred pounds.

"It's easy . . ." the trainer said. "When they are babies, we stake them down. They try to tug away from the stake maybe ten thousand times before they realize that they can't possibly get away. At that point, their 'elephant memory' takes over and they remember for the rest of their lives that they can't get away from the stake."

Shouldn't this not be the way we treat our young people in our local congregations? Should we not "stake" them to the word of God as a youth, thus helping them to remember that they can never escape their obligation and responsibility to the Word of God?

Moses said it this way, "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates" (Deut. 6:6-9).

Solomon said, "Train up a child in the way he should go, And even when he is old he will not depart from it" (Pro. 22:6).

Beloved, we have a lot of work to do!

Tom Moore
Avenue T Church of Christ
2009 West Avenue T
Temple, Texas 76504

Please Remember in Prayer:

Justin Barker, Rachel Barker, Doris Bell, James & Sue Browning, Billye Campbell, Gene Campbell, Suzanne Charlton, Randy Cooper, Jim Duncan, Barbara Duncan, Irene Duncan, Patsy Duncan, Rhodney Freeman, Wade Miller, Wayne Pickrel, Thelma Reed, Bud Roach, Helen Roper, and Rebecca Tippit.

Also: Ozroe Bush, Carolyn (Katy) Cabell, Gary Duncan, Denise Hess, Cato Jones, Margaret Laurence, Mary Jo Lee, Janice Lineberger, Kent Stephenson, Kaitlin Taylor, and Charles Whitney

Congregational Shut-Ins:

Pleasant Springs Assisted Living: Doris Jean Bell, Annah Brown, **Home:** Irene Duncan, **Villa Assisted Living:** Georgia Lide.

HEALTH UPDATES

Patsy Duncan met with her doctor last Thursday regarding her back. The surgery would be very involved and Patsy has made the decision to not have the surgery because of the dangers of the surgery.

Helen Roper went to Tyler last Monday to begin treatments to hopefully stop the bleeding in her eye. Her doctor is prescribing a series of treatments over the next few months. Please remember Helen in your prayers that the therapy will restore her vision.

Sue Browning came through her surgery OK at the Bone and Joint Hospital in Tyler. Doctors told her she may be able to come home this past Friday (day of printing the bulletin). She will be in some pain for several days as she recovers from the surgery.

Wayne Pickrel got a good report from his doctors. The hole in his lung has closed and the oncologist says there is only a trace of the cancer. Chemotherapy treatments are scheduled to begin on Wednesday of this week and then on Mondays beginning the next week.

Connie Stewart asks that we put her dad, **Ozroe Bush**, on our prayer list.

Caitlin Taylor of Houston, friend of Cathy Robison, has a brain tumor. She is a Junior in High School. She is currently in Texas Children's hospital in Houston. They are waiting on the biopsy results. Please keep her in your prayers.

Margaret Laurence (Rance Robison's mom) had a

heart procedure this past week. The tests turned out OK and her problem will be treated with medicine. Please keep her and the family in your prayers.

Rance Robison (at the printing of the bulletin) was snow and ice bound in Oklahoma City. He hoped to return home on Saturday, weather permitting.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

North Jefferson youth placed 3rd at **Bible Bowl** this past Monday night. We had a good crowd with 111 present. Be sure to give your appreciation to our young people for a job well done!

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

Ladies Bible Class this Tuesday at 10:00am. Studies in Titus Chapter 2. Mothers are encouraged to attend. Child care will be provided in the nursery.

Wednesday Night Supper There has been interest in having a potluck meal on Wednesday nights prior to services to help with our busy families. Meal time would be from 5:45pm to 6:45pm in the fellowship hall. If your family is interested in participating, please contact Keely McCary at (903) 563-7895 by Tuesday of each week to see how you can contribute to the meal.

LADIES DAY will be **April 17**. More details later.

Mailing address for **Jodie O'Rand**:
P.O. Box 813, Omaha, TX 75571

COMMUNION DUTIES FOR YEAR

JANUARY—RONNIE AND CONNIE

FEBRUARY—TIM AND LINDA

MARCH—RODNEY AND JOAN

APRIL—FRANKIE AND CAROLYN

MAY—RHODNEY AND JUDY

JUNE—JODY AND STEPHANIE

JULY—RON AND DELORIS

AUGUST—LINDA FERRELL

SEPTEMBER—JERRY AND ALICE

OCTOBER—JIM AND BARBARA

NOVEMBER—WAYNE AND ANN

DECEMBER—WAYNE & SUZANNE

PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS LIST FOR YOUR READY REFERENCE.