

Those to Serve

Sunday 03-28-2010

Sunday Morning Worship:

Announcements..... Bob Hedges
 Song Leader..... Royce Armstrong
 Opening Prayer Bob Hedges
 Closing Prayer Jimmy J. Fox

Month of March 2010

Sunday Morning Lord's Table

South Side:

Jim Duncan
 George O'Neal
 Austin Neal

North Side:

Jerry Freeman
 Doyle Riley
 Chuck Kyle

Sunday Evening Lord's Table

Charles Kyle Ron Traugher

Sunday Evening Worship:

Announcements..... Bob Hedges
 Song Leader..... Rance Robison
 Opening PM Prayer..... Fred Harkrider, Jr.
 Closing PM Prayer..... Chuck Kyle

Serving Wednesday Night—March 31 2010

Announcements Bob Hedges
 Song Leader..... Weldon Miller
 First Prayer..... Jim Duncan
 Closing Prayer..... George O'Neal

*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 03-21-2010

Bible Classes.....	74
Morning Worship.....	118
Evening Worship	79
Tuesday Ladies Class	07
Wednesday Night	94
Regular Contribution	\$ 3,765.00
New Construction Fund Contributions.....	\$ -0-

Averages To Date This Year

Bible Classes.....	91
Morning Worship.....	123
Evening Worship	88
Tuesday Ladies Class	10
Wednesday Night	92
Regular Contribution.....	\$ 4,008.25
New Construction Fund Contributions to date.....	\$ 80,695.88

(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: "Conflicts of Interest"
Kris Groda, Preaching

PM: "Church Growth:
 What is my part?"
Kris Groda, Preaching



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

Address Correction Requested

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. 04

Founded on the Word—Focused on the World

March 28, 2010

ARE YOU PUTTING GOD FIRST?

Gary Colley

(Guest article from Mabank Church of Christ Bulletin)

One of the first quotations that should be learned by a new Christian is Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." There is not a time or a circumstance when this verse should not be called to mind in all—young and old alike! Priorities are more necessary now than ever before in this hectic and rushing world in which we live. To seek first God's kingdom and righteousness (commands) is a basic key to a happy, successful life in Christ and brings the sustained hope of eternal life (Heb. 11:1). God's care for the Christian is evident at all times. But many wonder at God's care just the same; some wonder if He will care for them, while others wonder (are amazed) when He does! Putting God first is a test of our faith, that faith comes by hearing God's Word (Rom. 10:17).

Let us examine some areas in which we need to determine if we are putting God first:

- In relation to self?** Selfishness and pride run neck and neck as great hindrances to Christianity (Matt. 16:24, Rom. 12:1-2).
- In relation to our appearance in public?** Do we dress in a modest way "which becometh women (and men) professing godliness? (1 Tim. 2:10)?
- In relation to our opinions?** Many are willing to put God second to their opinions about instrumental music, sprinkling, etc. (Matt. 28:18).
- In relation to our business affairs?** Do we neglect the Lord's word for the sake of business?

Do we take jobs, knowing these jobs will cause us to miss the services of the church (Matt.6:24)?

- In relation to whom we choose to marry?** Will my mate help me go to heaven? Help me with the proper example for our children? Does he (or she) have an interest in spiritual matters, especially worship of God (Matt. 4:10; Heb. 10:25; Eph. 6:1-4)?
- In relation to personal pleasures?** Pleasure is not wrong within itself, but any pleasure that puts God in second place is worldliness — whether a trip to the lake, fishing, ball games, TV, etc. (1 Jn. 2:15-17; 2 Tim 3:4; Ps. 84:11).
- In relation to important decisions?** Are all our thoughts centered in our likes and dislikes, instead of what may benefit or harm us and our children spiritually, in education moves, jobs, etc. ("Remember lot's wife? Lk. 7:32)?
- In relation to teaching and preaching?** Teachers and preachers must see the importance and charge of 2 Timothy 4:1-5 — whether in the classrooms, pulpit, or in a weekly bulletin of the church. So many today need to ask, "Am I putting God first" (Matt. 6:33)?

The God of Heaven, who created us, gave us breath, life, and this wonderful world to live in (Acts 17:28), deserves the first place in our lives! His kingdom and righteousness should be first in our time, affection, and importance. As our creator, provider, ruler, majesty supreme, and judge, we are indebted to honor and serve Him with our very best!

Are you putting God First?

THE PEOPLE BUSINESS

—Borrowed

(Guest article from Mabank Church of Christ Bulletin)

1. **Speak to people!** There is nothing as nice as a cheerful word of greeting (1 Cor. 16:20).
2. **Smile at people!** Smiling is the international Language. It takes 72 muscles to frown; but only 14 to smile. And, it pays dividends (Prov. 18:24)!
3. **Call people by name!** The sweetest music to anyone's ears is the sound of their own name! "Great the friends byname! (3 John 14).
4. **Be friendly and helpful!** The best way to have friends is to be a friend. Jesus was called the "friend of sinners" (Luke 7:34).
5. **Don't put strings on your love!** None of this "I'll love you IF." Jesus loves "because" and "in spite of."
6. **Be genuinely interested in people!** It's easy to treat people as if they are really worth something if you remember — THEY ARE!
7. **Be generous with praise!** You can literally "praise people to greatness" (works with kids, marriages, and church members).
8. **Be considerate of the feelings of others!** The golden rule applies "as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise" (Luke 6:31).
9. **Be thoughtful of others' opinions!** There may be three sides of controversy: (1) yours, (2) the other fellow's, (3) and the right side!
10. **Be alert to give service!** The "servants" and the givers are the ones on the way to "greatness." *"But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister"* (Matthew 20:26). Jesus came to serve! *"Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many"* (Matthew 20:28).

I know YOU HAVE SEEN THIS ONE BEFORE, BUT IT IS STILL FUN TO PLAY ...

"There are thirty books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them?" This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing the banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving the puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Hummana humbly puts it, "the books are all right there in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel will occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found."

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, Wade Miller, Wayne Pickrel, Thelma Reed, Helen Roper, and Rebecca Tippit.

Also: Ozroe Bush, Carolyn (Katy) Cabell, Denise Hess, Cato Jones, Margaret Laurence, Mary Jo Lee, Janice Lineberger, Kristen Powell, 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

Continuing to improve: Jo Ann Miller (broken bone), Sue Browning (surgery), Wade Miller (hyperbaric treatments), and Gene Garner (after falling at home).

A reminder to keep **Kristin Powell** in your prayers as she sees her doctor on April 9th to see if surgery is an option at this time to correct the shortness of her left leg.

IN SYMPATHY

Ann Carter's sister, **Helen Parker** (age 91), passed away on March 22nd at Wood Memorial Nursing Center in Mineola, TX. Helen was a faithful member of the Church, as well as all her children, and taught the Ladies Bible class for many years. Her funeral was conducted Wednesday at 2:00 pm at Broad Street Church of Christ in Mineola with burial at Shiloh Cemetery. Ann says that a card to Helen's daughter and family, Mrs. Jean Delafield, would be appreciated. Mrs. Delafield's address is 4548 So. State Hwy. 37, Mineola, Texas 75773. Mrs. Delafield is the secretary for the Church in Mineola. Please remember Ann and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Bill Jeffery, brother-in-law of Mary Glover, passed away on Wednesday. His funeral was conducted at Blundell's Creek Baptist Church with burial at the cemetery there. Please remember the family in your prayers.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

CHILDREN'S BIBLE HOUR — TODAY — following morning services ... from 11:15 am to about 12:15 pm. Parents please take advantage of this time period ... for your children to learn and for you to have some free time.

BIBLE BOWL PRACTICE today at 5:00 p.m.

LADIES DAY PLANNING MEETING today at 5:30 p.m. MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM (WEST) All ladies of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

Reminder for All Ladies ... Ladies Bible Class this Tuesday at 10:00am. Studies in Hebrews. All the ladies of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

LADIES DAY Saturday, April 17 With Speaker Sandi Smith.



A little info about Sandi: "Sandi received a BA degree from Lubbock Christian University in 1989. Upon graduation, she spent one and a half years working in Italy. On her return to the states she met and married her husband, Joe. They have three daughters and one son whom they school at home. She teaches elementary grade classes and ladies' classes at the Brown Trail church of Christ, and she teaches for the wives' classes in the Preacher Training School."

*Gary and Anita Cornett
And
Van and Terri Lee
Announce the engagement
And approaching marriage
Of their children
Natalie Marie McPeters
And
Jason Scott Lee
(both of Dallas)

The couple plan to wed on
Friday, April 2nd in Dallas*

Thank You

Thank you so much for the great dinner on March 14th. The food was wonderful, the decorations beautiful. But most of all, thank the young folks for loving the Lord and us with your service. I also thank the Moms and Dads and Instructors. Keep the good work going - another Bingo game wouldn't be bad.

—I love you so much, Ola Mae

Dear Brethren of North Jefferson: It looks like my left foot is finally healing and I will once again be able to get around a lot better. Thank you again for the cards of encouragement and for keeping me in your prayers.

—Wade Miller