

Those to Serve

Sunday 04-04-2010

Sunday Morning Worship:

Announcements..... Jerry Freeman
 Song Leader..... Hal Roper
 Opening Prayer Grady Duncan
 Closing Prayer Doug Abbey

Month of APRIL 2010

Sunday Morning Lord's Table

South Side:

Weldon Miller
 Rodney Cook
 Roger Grimes

North Side:

Bob Hedges
 Daniel McCary
 Jon McCain

Sunday Evening Lord's Table

Grady Duncan Jody Sparks

Sunday Evening Worship:

Announcements..... Jerry Freeman
 Song Leader..... Hal Roper
 Opening PM Prayer..... Frankie Sargent
 Closing PM Prayer..... Tim Jones

Serving Wednesday Night—April 07 2010

Announcements Jerry Freeman
 Song Leader..... Daniel McCary
 First Prayer..... Gene Garner
 Closing Prayer..... Ronnie Stewart

*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 03-28-2010

Bible Classes..... 94
 Morning Worship..... 143
 Evening Worship 93
 Tuesday Ladies Class 10
 Wednesday Night 90
 Regular Contribution \$ 3,812.50
 New Construction Fund Contributions.....\$ 45.00

Averages To Date This Year

Bible Classes..... 92
 Morning Worship.....128
 Evening Worship 89
 Tuesday Ladies Class 9
 Wednesday Night 92
 Regular Contribution.....\$ 3,959.32
 New Construction Fund Contributions to date..... \$ 80,740.88
 (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: "Walking in the Newness of Life"
Kris Groda, Preaching

PM: "Hindrances to Church Growth"
Kris Groda, Preaching

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

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

Assembly Times

Sunday
 Bible Classes9:00AM
 Worship10:00AM
 6:00PM
Tuesday
 Ladies Bible Class ..10:00AM
 (September—May)
Wednesday
 Bible Classes7:00PM

Website:
 www.njcofc.com

Email:
 njcofc@sbcglobal.net

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. 05

Founded on the Word—Focused on the World

April 04, 2010

"OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN"

God has created us and given each of us life (Acts 17:28). As our Creator, there is a sense in which He can be referred to as the "Father" of all men (Mal. 2:10; Psa. 100:3). In this general sense, He is mankind's Father and we belong to Him. However, in Matthew 6:9 when Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He referred to the Father in a more specific sense. Jesus wanted His disciples to know they were in a position to call God "Father". This is not a privilege enjoyed by every person.

When we obey the Spirit's teaching (the gospel), we come to know God in an intimate way (Rom. 8:14-17). In Christ (Gal. 3:27) we become God's adopted children (Eph. 1:7), "whereby we cry, Abba, Father" (Rom. 8:15).

According to John 3:3-5 this Father/child relationship is experienced through the new birth. Like all spiritual blessings, addressing the Father in prayer is a special privilege available to those who are in Christ Jesus (Eph. 1:3). In this article we want to consider some implications of addressing "our Father Who art in heaven."

"Our Father Who art in heaven" implies nearness. Our Heavenly Father encourages His children to draw near to Him, promising that when we do, He will draw near to us (James 4:8; Acts 17:27). The writer of Hebrews encourages God's people to come boldly unto His throne of grace (Heb. 4:16). The Father loves His children (1 John 3:1); He is near to His children and invites us to come to Him, making all of our wants and wishes known (James 4:2; Phil. 4:6), in accordance with His will (1 John 5:14).

Secondly, Jesus' instruction to pray to "our Father

"Who art in heaven" implies His eagerness and willingness to hear our prayers. Jesus encourages prayer because not only is God near but He wants to hear from us: "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers" (1 Pet. 3:12). He wants to hear about our cares and concerns because He cares for us (1 Pet. 5:7). We would do well to stop worrying and rather start praying. The apostle Paul wrote, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Phil. 4:6).

Prayer is such an incredible blessing and one that we often take for granted. In Revelation 8 when the seventh seal was opened, we read that there was silence in Heaven for about half an hour. John then reveals that the "prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand" (Rev. 8:4). The prayers of the saints are of such significance to the Father that there is silence in heaven when they ascend! Because our prayer gets Heaven's attention, we ought to pray for the lost (Rom. 10:1-2), pray for one another (James 5:16), pray for the sick (James 5:15), pray for our leaders (1 Tim. 2:1-2), and even pray for our enemies (Matt. 5:44). Our Father is near and He is listening.

Considering all these things let us pray earnestly, fervently, and constantly to "our Father who art in heaven."

Clay Bond preaches for the Lord's church in Johnson City, TX.

Cbond001@peoplepc.com
 March 2010 Christian Worker

NOAH'S SALVATION — OUR SALVATION

—Jess Whitlock

NOAH WAS SAVED BY GRACE

“Grace” is defined: “favor, or mercy.”

Genesis 6:8 states, “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.”

ASV (1901) “But Noah found favor in the eyes of Jehovah.”

WE ARE SAVED BY GRACE

Ephesians 2:8 says, “for by grace are ye saved through faith ...”

NOAH WAS SAVED BY FAITH

Hebrews 11:7 reads, “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house ...”

WE ARE SAVED BY FAITH

Hebrews 11:6 specifies, “But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” As noted earlier, “For by grace are ye saved through faith ...” (Ephesians 2:8).

NOAH WAS SAVED BY OBEDIENCE

Cf. Hebrews 11:7 (again) with Genesis 6:22, “Thus did Noah according to all that God commanded him, so did he.”

WE ARE SAVED BY OBEDIENCE

Jesus said in Matthew 7:21, “Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.” The Hebrew author penned, “through He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him” (Hebrews 5:8-9).

NOAH WAS SAVED BY WATER

“Which sometimes were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water” (1 Peter 3:20).

WE ARE SAVED BY WATER

1 Peter 3:21 states, “The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

A faith that will not obey is a faith that will not save!

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR...

Rick Laing

If you are looking for flawless perfection in Christ's church, you have come to the wrong place. If you are looking for individuals who will do everything right every time, you have come to the wrong place. If you are looking for men and women who will never **judge you, irritate you, or disappoint you** in God's church, you have come to the wrong place. Why? Because Christians are human and sin from time to time (1 John 1:7-10; 2:1-2).

Conversely, if you are looking for those who love God and righteousness, you have come to the right place. If you are looking for those who are willing to admit their sin and shortcomings, you have come to the right place. If you are looking for those who will try to comfort you, encourage you, and attempt to keep you on a straight path, you have come to the right place.

It depends on what you are looking for. If you are seeking to serve God—so are we, and we hope we can help you do just that (Heb. 11:6; Matt. 7:7-8; Acts 17:2; Col. 3:1).

HELL

-Author unknown

Hell! The prison house of despair,
Here are some things that won't be there:
No flowers will bloom on the banks of Hell,
No beauties of nature we love so well;
No comforts of home, music and song,
No friendship of joy will be found in that throng;
No children to brighten the long weary night;
No loving smile in that region of night;
No mercy, no pity, pardon nor grace,
No water, O God, what a terrible place!
The pangs of the lost no human can tell,
Not one moment's ease – there is no rest in Hell!

Hell! The prison house of despair,
Here are some things that will be there;
Fire and brimstone are there we know,
For God in His Word hath told us so:
Memory, remorse, suffering and pain,
Weeping and wailing, but all in vain;
Blasphemers, swearers, haters of God,
Christ rejecters while here on earth trod;
Murderers, gamblers, drunkards and liars,
Will have their part in the lake of fires;
The filthy, the Vile, the cruel and mean,
What a horrible mob in Hell will be seen!
Yes, more than humans on earth can tell
Are the torments and woes of eternal Hell!

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

On April 9th **Kristin Powell** sees her doctor to see if surgery is an option at this time to correct the shortness of her left leg. Keep her in your prayers. We should get an update after that.

Catherine White (sister of Ruth Garrett) has been in TRMC, Rehab, Room 433. She hopes to be able to return home in a week or so.

Bayla Jones, daughter of Autumn, and granddaughter of Wade and Vicki Miller, had tubes put in both ears on Thursday. All went well.

In Sympathy

Bobby Stephenson (uncle of Reta Eubanks, passed away last week. His funeral was on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. with Welborn Funeral Home conducting the service.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Bible Bowl practice at 5:00 p.m. this evening.

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.

Events

Wednesday Night Supper is from 5:45pm to 6:45pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. If your busy 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. **THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET ON THE TABLE IN THE FOYER FOR THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO HELP.**

Youth Night

April 9

Mabank Church of Christ
Will leave Mount Pleasant church building at 5:15PM

Prom Alternative:

Friday May 14

at Tyler Rose Garden Banquet Hall
For High School Aged Youth

GOSPEL MEETING

Mount Vernon Church of Christ
April 18—21, 2010

THE 29th ANNUAL

SOUTHWEST BIBLE LECTURES

April 10-14, 2010

Proclaiming Christ: Called Unto Salvation

REMEMBER - EVERYONE SEEMS NORMAL UNTIL YOU GET TO KNOW THEM.