

Those to Serve

Sunday 04-11-2010

Sunday Morning Worship:

Announcements..... Rance Robison
 Song Leader..... Randy Eubanks
 Opening Prayer Kris Groda
 Closing Prayer Wade Miller

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..... Rance Robison
 Song Leader..... Rance Robison
 Opening PM Prayer..... Darrell Cooper
 Closing PM Prayer..... Jody Sparks

Serving Wednesday Night—April 14 2010

Announcements Rance Robison
 Song Leader..... Hal Roper
 First Prayer..... Weldon Miller
 Closing Prayer..... Charles Kyle

*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 04-04-2010

Bible Classes..... 97
 Morning Worship..... 162
 Evening Worship 91
 Tuesday Ladies Class 11
 Wednesday Night 94
 Regular Contribution \$ 4,550.75
 New Construction Fund Contributions.....\$ -0-

Averages To Date This Year

Bible Classes..... 93
 Morning Worship.....135
 Evening Worship 90
 Tuesday Ladies Class 10
 Wednesday Night 92
 Regular Contribution.....\$ 4,077.60
 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: "For The Beauty of the Earth"
Kris Groda, Preaching

PM: "Church Growth:
 Against Great Odds"
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



Website:
www.njcofc.com

Email:
njcofc@sbcglobal.net

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

*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. 06

Founded on the Word—Focused on the World

April 11, 2010

"HALLOWED BE THY NAME"

We often hear this sentiment expressed at the beginning of prayers. As we seek to center our thoughts upon the person of God in prayer, focusing upon the holiness of God's name is tremendously helpful. This sentiment reminds us that we are not speaking to just anyone in some common conversation. It is, rather, an address to the Creator of the entire Universe as One who stands apart from it and is morally independent from it. It is also a reminder that this Creator has a Name, is a Person, and hears the cry of His people (Psa. 18:6).

Do we understand the importance of the Name of God? Moses first asked God his name in Exodus 3:13-15: *And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? What shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, YHWH, God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.*

This is no ordinary name. In God's setting forth the name YHWH (I AM THAT I AM), He distinguishes himself as the foundation for all life and existence. This is no tribal name conjured up from looking at some idol. This is no national name based upon some earthly king's family dynasty. This is not an attempt at self-flattery; who would believe that Moses was God? This is the name of the God of the Universe Who supports and upholds it through His power—the Existing One, the Great **I AM**.

It would have taken Moses some time to explain this to the children of Israel who had known him as "El Shaddai" (God Almighty) prior to Moses' revelation. God explains in Exodus 6:3:

"And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name YHWH was I not known to them."

The name God revealed to Moses signified a new relationship of God with His people that is reflected in the Mosaic Law. God works not only by power, but by authority; He is a God who governs based upon law, not by the capricious exercise of force.

At the giving of the Ten Commandments, God emphasized the importance of honoring His name when he wrote:

"Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain" (Ex. 20:7).

To take God's name in vain is to count it as something worthless. In contrast, God's people seek to sanctify God's name, to set it apart as worthy of reverence —

"Hallowed be Thy Name!"

God's name is the name above all names because His existence stands behind all existing things, His authority stands behind all other authorities, and His holiness stands behind all other holiness. He is the foundation for all things; His very purpose is to provide such a foundation; He exists as His own Reason; He has the explanation for Himself within Himself. All things return to Him as their Source. No other can claim to so be. His existence is absolutely unique and thereby absolutely holy.

"Hallowed be Thy Name."

Kevin Cauley is on the faculty of the Southwest School of Bible Studies and serves as editor of the Christian Worker.

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WHAT IS FORGIVENESS?

Tom Moore

One can hardly imagine a word filled with more meaning, beauty, and significance than “forgiveness.” Is it any wonder, then, that the poet Alexander Pope said, “To err is human; to forgive, divine.” Beloved, we have a loving God who is a forgiving Father. “Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth over the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger forever, because he delighteth in loving kindness” (Micah 7:18). Our God is ready to forgive: “But thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful” (Neh. 9:17). My friends, we all need the forgiveness of our merciful Father!

There are two Greek words often rendered “forgive” in our English Bibles. One is *aphesis* and literally means to “send away” or “to release from bondage.” This word is used 36 times in the New Testament and is always associated with the “pardon of sins.” For example, “And Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission [aphesis; translated as “forgiveness” in the ESV] of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38). A second term used for “forgiveness” is *charizomai*, which signifies “to bestow a favor” or to “show kindness.” Paul uses this word with reference to our forgiving others and Christ forgiving us: “Forbearing one another, and forgiving [charizomai] each other, if any man have a complaint against any; even as the Lord forgave [charizomai] you, so also do ye” (Col. 3:13).

Forgiveness is a show of kindness, it is a sending away of our sins. Notice what God does when He forgives our sins. “Repent ye therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that so there may come seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19). “For I will be merciful to their iniquities, And their sins will I remember no more” (Heb. 8:12). When God forgives He blots out our sins, remembers them no more, and restores us to our former position of good standing with Him. Furthermore, when God for-

gives He covers our sins from His sight: “Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered” (Psa. 32:1). Our forgiving Father also throws our sins behind His back: “Behold, it was for my peace that I had great bitterness: But thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption; For thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back” (Isa. 38:17). When God forgives He hides His face from our sins: “Hide thy face from my sins, And blot out all mine iniquities” (Psa. 51:9). Our sins are cast into the depths of the sea when forgiven: “He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea” (Micah 7:19). When forgiven, our sins will never be mentioned again:

“None of his transgressions that he Hath committed shall be remembered against him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live” (Ezek. 18:22).

We can also learn much about forgiveness by observing some of the synonyms used in Scripture for forgiveness. Notice a few: *remission* (Matt. 26:28), *reconciliation* (2 Cor. 5:17-21), *pardon* (Psa. 25:11), *justification* (Rom. 3:24-25), *freedom* (Col. 1:13-14), *cleansing* (Acts 22:16), and *healing* (Isa. 1:5-6).

Forgiveness implies an “offence” a sin that needs to be forgiven—“for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23), and sin is a transgression of the law (1 John 3:4). Forgiveness also entails the personal inability to remedy the violation of law. Sin cannot be undone by any human manipulation. It is only the Lord that can release us of our debt of sin (Matt. 18:27). Therefore, we must always remember that forgiveness has always been and will always be conditional. This is why Peter declared,

“Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38).

Jesus said, “I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all in like manner perish” (Luke 13:3).

CW

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, Odis Duncan, Ercel Fetters, 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

Odis Duncan did go see his doctor this past week. The decision was to not do a MRI at this time. The doctor thinks his problem may be related to a blood pressure problem. Odis is to discontinue all of his medications. He will have a follow-up visit with his doctor at a later date for evaluation.

Ercel Fetters is doing better. She has been released from the hospital and is now at home.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING TONIGHT FOLLOWING EVENING SERVICES. Meet in the Multi-Purpose Room. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

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

BIBLE BOWL Monday evening. The DeKalb congregation will be host congregation at 7:00 pm. Supper will be provided.

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.

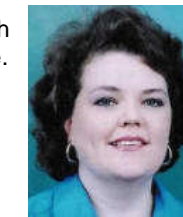
A group for this congregation went to **Mabank** Friday evening to the **Youth Lectureship**. In the group were: Cody Sparks, Tyler Hargrove, J. N. (Kris's nephew), Joanna Armstrong, Cade Armstrong, Bronson Roper, Jace Eubanks, Christina Trammel and Kris Groda.

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.**

Ladies who will prepare a salad for the Ladies Day are asked to sign the list on the table in the foyer.



LADIES DAY will be this Saturday ... **April 17**. Guest Speaker will be Sandi Smith. All Ladies of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend this uplifting event.

Examining

The church of Christ

With Bill Burk

Mount Vernon church of Christ
708 West Main Street

April 19—21

Sunday 9:30 am, 10:30 am and 6:00 pm

And

Monday—Wednesday at 7:00 pm

TOPICS:

The Churches of Christ: Who Are We Really?

The Lord's Supper?

To Play or Not To Play?

The Only Ones?

Why Emphasize Baptism?

What's Right About The Church?

THANK YOU: “Dear brothers and sisters in Christ at North Jefferson: “ I usually don't write a thank you note for cards, but I had to make an exception for you. I am just overwhelmed at the number of expressions of sympathy that I have received from the North Jefferson family. Just when I think I probably won't receive another one, several more come in the mail. Your care for my aunt Ann Carter and for the family of her sister is wonderful. You are truly “bearing one another's burdens,” and I am thankful to God for you. —love in Christ, Jean Delafield”