

Those to Serve

Sunday 12-06-2009

Sunday Morning Worship:

Announcements..... Royce Armstrong
Song Leader..... Hal Roper
Opening Prayer..... Glenn Parham
Closing Prayer..... Doug Abbey

Month of DECEMBER 2009

Sunday Morning Lord's Table

South Side:

Weldon Miller
Rodney Cook
Austin Neal

North Side:

Royce Armstrong
David Neal
Charles Kyle

Sunday Evening Lord's Table

Grady Duncan Ron Traughber

Sunday Evening Worship:

Announcements..... Royce Armstrong
Song Leader..... Hal Roper
Opening PM Prayer..... Gene Garner
Closing PM Prayer..... Chuck Kyle

Serving Wednesday Night—Dec. 09- 2009

Announcements..... Royce Armstrong
Song Leader..... Rance Robison
First Prayer..... Charles Kyle
Closing Prayer..... Tim Jones

\*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 11-29-2009

Table with 2 columns: Activity and Attendance. Rows include Bible Classes (101), Morning Worship (136), Evening Worship (95), Tuesday Ladies Class (07), Wednesday Night (82), Regular Contribution (\$4,224.80), and New Construction Fund Contributions (\$180.00).

Averages To Date This Year

Table with 2 columns: Activity and Average Attendance. Rows include Bible Classes (99), Morning Worship (139), Evening Worship (98), Tuesday Ladies Class (12), Wednesday Night (93), Regular Contribution (\$4,283.29), and New Construction Fund Contributions to date (\$78,494.00).

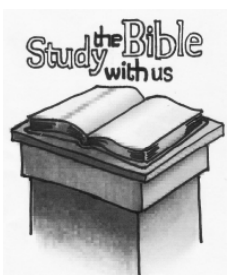
PLEASE NOTE: This bulletin is formatted Friday morning each week. Any news items or articles you wish included must be submitted to the Editor no later than Thursday Night. You may call Rhodney Freeman at 903-572-1181 (home) or 903-572-1136 (Office)

Today's Sermons

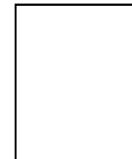
AM: Fellowship 101: Joining Affinity With Ahab

Kris Groda, Preaching

PM: The Times of Ignorance
Kris Groda, Preaching



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



Assembly Times

Sunday

Bible Classes .....9:00AM
Worship .....10:00AM
..... 6:00PM

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Bible Classes .....7:00PM

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



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 11 No. 41 Founded on the Word—Focused on the World December 06, 2009

I'll Have to Miss These Sundays

Dear God,

I know worship is important, but I need to miss sometimes. I think I should be excused for the following reasons:

- Christmas,, New Years, July 4th, other holidays 5
School beginning and closing. 2
Out of town ball games, tournaments. 10
Family reunions (1 for wife, 1 for husband). 2
Anniversary. 1
Sickness (1 per family member). 5
Unexpected company, bad weather, Super Bowl, TV specials. 8
House and car repairs. 3
Time change/ alarm not working 4
Business trips and vacation. 6

I see the total of 46 is a little high, but You can count on me the other Sundays, if I'm not hindered.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24).

Editors Note:

My beloved brethren, while the article is fiction, during the years I have preached, I've heard everyone of these excuses. These things ought not to be! I love you and seek the best interest of each soul here. Think Bible Classes and worship! Kris.

## All Scripture Is God-Breathed

An article in a local newspaper took a look at the history of the Bible. While much of the article had good information about the process God has used to give us His word, there was an interesting statement made regarding the apocryphal books, books not included in our canon of Scripture. "The Authorized Version of 1611 included the apocryphal books that most Protestants say are not part of the Biblical canon. The apocrypha was not removed until 1885."

While this statement is basically true, in and of itself, without any further explanation it may leave a false impression about the apocryphal books, especially with so much interest these days in what are typically called the "lost books" of the Bible. Some more information is helpful in understanding why usually only Catholic editions of the Bible include some apocryphal works.

The evidence is clear that the apocryphal works were never accepted by the Jews as inspired. They were written between the 2<sup>nd</sup> century B.C. and the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D. The time after Malachi is sometimes called the "four hundred silent years," as it is acknowledged there was no prophetic word from God during this time. In addition, the works contained in the apocrypha never claimed direct inspiration from God. In fact, there is a great deal of historical, geographical, and doctrinal error to be found in them! They have never been part of the Hebrew Scriptures, nor were they ever quoted by Jesus or the apostles.

The Catholic Council of Trent affirmed some of the apocryphal books as canonical in AD 1546, and condemned those who would reject them. This all occurred during the days of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation. During this time, Luther condemned many practices of the Catholic church as being without Biblical authority (such as prayer for the dead). It was convenient that some of these practices could be found in apocryphal works. It is also interesting

that the Council of Trent pronounced that the Scriptures are and mean what the Catholic church says they mean.

Catholicism calls the apocrypha "deuterocanonical," or second canon. They acknowledge these books were not originally a part of the canon, but were accepted later. The evidence is clear that only the 66 books in our Bible are those that are inspired, that possess the marks of inspiration. No individual, or church council, has the right to later add to the canon of Scripture given by God. There is only one canon of inspired books, which we have in the 66 books of our Bible.

The apocrypha had been placed in English Bibles since the translation of Coverdale (1535). It was placed **between** the Old and New Testaments, not **in** the Old Testament, which reveals it was not held with the same regard as the Old and New Testament Scriptures. As early as 1629, an edition of the KJV was published without the apocrypha, even though its omission did not become general until the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

When all of the evidence is examined, we understand why the apocrypha is excluded from the Bible. It is not the word of God. We can have confidence in the Bible we have, in what it tells us of God and Christ, of salvation, of life today and eternally. May we not only trust it, but live by it each day. *"So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts"* (2 Peter 1:19).

Robert Johnson  
Longview, TX

Psalm 119:105  
Your word is a lamp to my feet,  
And a light to my path."

**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, Julia Terrell, Rebecca Tippit.

**Also:** Carolyn (Katy) Cabell, Lucille Cavallo, Denise Hess, Mary Jo Lee, Janice Lineberger, Ruby McFarland, Kent Stephenson, Charles Whitney

### Congregational Shut-Ins:

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

**Some of the following has appeared in the bulletin a couple of times, but they bear repeating so as to keep them in our minds.**

### Church Happenings:

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

### **Boles Home Christmas Present Project:**

All gifts need to be brought to the foyer by Sunday, December 13. If you wish to give monetary donations, please see Stephanie Sparks.

### **Youth Group Project:**

The youth will gather in the fellowship hall to wrap the Boles Home Christmas gifts for the Boles Home on Sunday, December 13 follow morning worship. Pizza will be provided :-)

**Men and Boys:** Young Men's Training Seminar Saturday, January 02, 2010 Mount Vernon church of Christ. Theme: "The Privilege of Service and Worship" This is a great teaching/training opportunity. If you want to train to lead and serve better—this seminar is for you. Kris Groda will speak on "The Privilege of Service and Worship."

**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.* For more information, please call, 256.435.9356.

**Holiday Open House:** Saturday, December 19 from 11AM-2PM at the Groda's at 315 CR 1520.

**"FILL THE FOYER" Food Drive:** Thank you for all the donations! God is good and so are you! Your contributions are appreciated.

### SOMETHING NEW:

On this coming Tuesday, December 08, the Ladies Bible Class will be preparing Christmas baskets. If you would like to contribute baked goods, and candy, please bring to building by 10:00 AM Tuesday morning. We will not have class ... but will prepare and deliver the baskets.

### HEALTH UPDATES:

**Karigan Fox** was able to come to church last Sunday and is feeling better.

**Bayla Weston**, of Longview, 2 year old great granddaughter of Grady and Patsy Duncan is now back at home. She is doing much better but is still taking strong antibiotics to help with her infection.

**Ruthie Jeffery** (sister of Mary Glover) is still in TRMC in room #334. She suffered at stroke about a week ago. She is improving but her blood pressure still has not stabilized.

**Billye Campbell** will have an appointment with her physician on Tuesday. She has been retaining fluid around her surgical site.

**Julia Terrell** is adjusting quite well to being at home. Feel free to call and ask about a home visit!

**Wayne Pickrel** went to ER this past week, with a hole in his lung. He was scheduled to return home this past Friday afternoon.

### **Request from Hal and Karen Roper:**

**"Please pray for our friend Denise Hess.** She recently found out her breast cancer has spread. She is currently getting treatment at the Cancer Treatment Centers of America in Tulsa, OK."

### **THANK YOU ...**

"Thank you so much for the beautiful arrangement sent for our Mother's service. The thoughts and prayers said in her behalf these last difficult years were a comfort to her and the family.

Sincerely,  
The Alice Lovelady family"