



LET'S VISIT

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THE STORM OF FORGIVENESS

Remember the storm of anger? Well, there is a first cousin to anger and that is holding a grudge. So, let's consider forgiveness. How do we move from anger, past holding a grudge and find forgiveness in our heart?

Imagine what it would have been to have been in Jerusalem that fateful Friday that changed the world? No doubt you would have been brought under the spell of the hour. There was an excitement in the air. An execution was taking place. Three men were about to be put to death and two of the men were revolutionists. The third man was a young prophet named Jesus.

There was a crowd gathered with a natural love of the gruesome. They were wanting a show and were hideously eager for it. You see, all three of these doomed men were well known. They also were popular. The revolutionists were ardent patriots. They had fought like men and they would die like men. The crowd looked upon them as heroes. The young prophet had also been popular and was still popular.

However, those immediately surrounding the cross were intensely hostile. Their antagonism toward Jesus was extremely bitter. So bitter that they would not let him die in peace. Even the revolutionists added their insults to the others.

Then something happened that silenced one of the revolutionists. It changed his insults into prayers. The young prophet on the central cross prayed and said, "Father forgive them; for they know not what they do." This is one of the most amazing utterances on the pages of history. Jesus had been hounded, betrayed and denied. He had been tried before an unjust court. He was led out of the city and nailed to a cross.

Yet, the first words from his mouth were not a complaint. It was not a plea for his own innocence. It was not a cry for vengeance. Rather, it was a prayer for the forgiveness of those who put him there. Reading His prayer for their forgiveness implies that he forgave them. You see, only someone with a forgiving soul can pray such a prayer.

There is such a need for the grace of forgiveness. There are many who are unstained by sensuality. They are far from immorality. They are highly esteemed by their fellowman and even attend church services regularly. Yet, there is enough malice in their hearts to damn their souls to the fires of an eternal hell.

God is not cruel, harsh or stern in his dealings with his children. Throughout the Bible He is represented as a God of mercy. God is much more willing to forgive and forget than we often are. Blessed is the man or woman in whose heart is found "the quality of mercy". That man or woman who holds no malice. One who has learned to forgive others their trespasses. That individual is God like, they are God's man or woman. They shall receive God's mercy.

Toward whom should we show mercy and forgiveness? We should forgive the Judases in our life, those who prize us less highly than they do money. There is no doubt that Judas knew something

(Continued on page 2)

In Search of the Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSHV 45 -Shreveport - 7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Pentecost – Did You See What Happened?

For The Pantry. . .

August 30 – Pancake Mix



**August 23, 2026
\$ 2,859.00**

The Lord's plan of giving ... "as ye have prospered"

The Storm of Forgiveness – Continued from page 1

of the beautiful life of Jesus. He knew of his tender compassion and marvelous power. Yet, Judas thought less of Jesus than he did 30 pieces of silver. In spite of that, Jesus was ready and willing to forgive a penitent Judas. There are those who would pretend to be our friend who would sell us for a minor consideration. Let us not deal severely with them but rather let's lend them a helping hand.

We must forgive our unfaithful friends. Those that would forsake and desert us in a time of critical need. When the mob entered Gethsemane and laid hold on Jesus, the disciples forsook him and fled. When Jesus saw them after the resurrection, he dealt kindly with them. He called them "my brethren".

Forgive the Simons who are too weak to know you in your hour of trial and forgive the Pilates who are too cowardly to defend your innocence.

Forgive, they know not what they do. On that fateful day, those present did not know what they were doing. Those Roman soldiers had no idea what they were doing. The Jewish leaders thought they were doing God a service.

We must forgive because we have been forgiven. Remember the parable Jesus taught in Matthew 18? The servant owed his Lord what would be millions of dollars today. A fellow servant owed this servant what would be one hundred dollars. Yet, the servant who had been forgiven the greater debt sought to deal harshly with his fellow servant.

We must forgive lest malice multiply in our soul and stifle every noble impulse. If we do not forgive, hatred will rob us of the joy of the Christian life. If we do not forgive, enmity will embitter us and take form our soul the sweetness that has been planted there by the Savior. We live in a world of conflict and competition. If the grace of God is not in our heart and soul, malice will mount up, pile on pile, until our hearts become dark and dead. You see, the heaviest of all hearts is the unforgiving heart. We cannot live together, work together, and enjoy the Christian life together until we learn to forgive. Jesus will see us safely through this storm also.

tp

On The Lighter Side. . .



**"I HOPE YOU HAVE A FEW MINUTES.
IT'S A LONG LIST."**



September 13, 2026

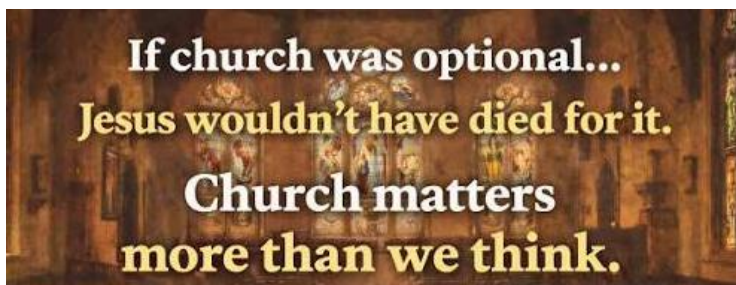
**Make Your Plans To Be Here!
Invite Others To come be our guest!
Let's Have a Great Day to the Glory of God**



We had an enjoyable time of fellowship this past Wednesday night as we gathered for our monthly meal at 6:00 p.m. and then spent the hour singing from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Make your plans to join us on **Wednesday, September 30, 2026** when we will meet at 6:00 for our fellowship meal and followed by singing at 7:00 p.m.

If you don't want to come and share the meal, **PLEASE** plan to come and join us for the singing.



OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Stanley Amos, LaJuan Baugh,
Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden,
LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate,
Jerry Pate, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) Leslie Adams (friend of Diedra Hughes) being treated for brain cancer; Peggy Baylor (Tim Bradshaw's mother) Debra Clifton (friend of LaResa Livingston) Norma Cortez (Manny Ortiz mother) Coleen Dickerson (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Pat & William Ford (cousins to Martha Bradshaw) Dot Grant (Friend of Debra Pate) Suzi Hogan (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) Ibert Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's father) Karen McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher) Doug "Goob" Milford (cousin of Amanda Molloy) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle); Heather Simmons Stewart (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; Max Windham (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw,
Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

**Reserve these dates for important events
in the life of our Church for 2026**

December 6, 2026 – "No Excuse Sunday"
December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party

Communion Preparation - September
Larry & Melonia Molloy



Across The Preacher's Desk

Out in the backyard not long ago, I saw some, as we always called them "lightning bugs". Suddenly, in my mind, I was about five or six years old again and trying to catch them and put them in a jar. I remember that one of the big challenges of those little bugs (some call them fireflies) was that their light didn't last very long and they were hard to find when their light was out. Well, that made me think about what Jesus said in Matthew 5:16. He was telling his followers, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

That brings up another question. What kind of light am I? Is the light that I shine for the world to see the intermittent, fleeting light of a lightning bug? A match will give you light for a moment, but usually goes out before it does any good. A candlelight gives a faint light but is easily obscured. A gas light gives a bright light but may be blown out by the wind.

When I think of the kind of light, Jesus wants us to have, I think of the great lighthouses on the rocky sea coast. They stand tall, their light shines bright and it is easily seen. Moreover, their light warns of the rocky coast and at the same time serves as a beacon to the safety of the harbor. Is that not what we are to do as Christians? Warn a world lost in sin of the dangers of being lost and at the same time serve as a guide to lead the lost to Jesus? What kind of light are we?

it's something to think about.....tlp

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
Will you?**