



LET'S VISIT

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LOVING JESUS

Personally speaking, I think it is a good thing at this time of the year that the majority of the world focuses on Jesus Christ. Though we do not know for certain the date that Christ came into this world, and though he specified he wanted us to commemorate his death rather than his birth, the important thing is that he came, no matter when it was. During this season of the year, when the majority of the religious world celebrates the birth of Jesus, you hear a lot of folks talk about how much they love the Lord and how loyal they are to Him. Sadly, over the years we have known people who talked a good game about how much they loved the Lord and how loyal they were to Him who were later found lacking in their love and loyalty.

You see, claims concerning loyalty to Jesus are no proof of loyalty. Anyone can talk about how much he loves the church. However, it is often the case that the thunder of what an individual is drowns out the whisper of what that individual says that he is. The final test of loyalty comes in what an individual does and not in what he says. One man talks long and loud about how much he loves the body of Christ. While talking in this way about his love for the church he may be setting in motion something which will eventually divide the body, crush the spirits of good people and set the cause of Christ back for years to come. Do you suppose a man's wife would get the idea that he loved her if he came home each day telling her how much he loved her, while at the same time he was blacking both her eyes and otherwise mistreating her? Strange love! Yet, that love is no more strange than the love we hear "lipped" concerning the cause of Christ sometimes by those who sow discord and often divide the body of Christ.

Another says he loves the Lord. In fact he would resent it very much if anyone should suggest that he is not loyal. Yet he does not hesitate to turn away from Christ when business or other interest demand it. In fact, he may be willing to stand by and hear someone speak disparagingly of the body of Christ or of those who are members of that body, without so much as lifting his voice in protest. Do you suppose a wife would think her husband loved her very much who knew that he allowed others to speak of her in an insulting manner, and perhaps entered into the speaking a little himself? It would be a strange love indeed.

This matter of loyalty to Christ and loving the Lord is not something that is determined by what we say or how many tears we shed. Jesus said concerning such people, *"This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth and honoreth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me."* (Matthew 15:8) Love for Jesus is determined by what we do. Every child of God has many opportunities to reveal their love by what they do. If we fail to reveal by our actions how much we love the Lord, our lip service will only serve to point out how far our heart is from Jesus. Is your love for Jesus strong enough to live a life of faithfulness? Is your love deep enough that others can see Jesus living in you?

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In Search of the Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSHV 45 - Shreveport - 7:30 a.m. Sunday
KSLA 12 - Shreveport - 11:00 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 373 - 7:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 83 - 7:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



The Coming of Jesus

**For The Pantry. . .
December 8 – Canned Fruit**

Offering – December 1, 2024. . . \$ 2,202.00

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

Don't Hide Your Enthusiasm!

One thing that constantly puzzles me is how one can be a Christian and still be matter of fact about it. Some seem to take the relationship with God as one of his children, and hence a joint-heir with the Christ of the eternal home as though it is "just one of those things." Complacent, nonchalant, indifferent apparently about the whole matter. Let one of these persons be a "Kiwanis" or a "Rotarian" or a "Jaycee" and he or she is always talking about it. They are wearing "badges", "giving grips" and lauding its values and activities. Are they members of the church? Well, you have to drag it out of them. You could not "Tell it by looking at them", nor indeed "listening to them." Why? I fear some of us are "dying of self-control".

Enthusiasm upon the part of the child of God is nothing but normal. If a person is not enthusiastic about being a Christian, he definitely is subnormal. He or she is lacking something vital. The greatness of my stewardship as one upon whom rests responsibility to teach the Gospel "unto the uttermost part of the world" should be a constant challenge that thrills. The very grandeur of the objective of the children of God – the salvation of souls_ will be to the normal Christian a constant source of inspiration. And, when we think of the one who is our "Chief Executive", our "Commander

in Chief" our "king" noting should be able to dim our ardor.

There cannot be any substitute for enthusiasm. Real achievement in the service of Christ unto the salvation of our own souls, as well as those of others is impossible without enthusiasm. Enthusiasm makes all the difference between happy, joyous service and the drudgery of being compelled to work. The greatest need of the church today is not a "pulpit that will draw" but rather "pews that radiate".

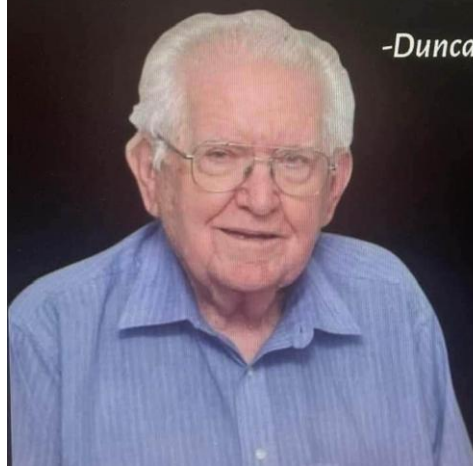
God expects his children to be enthusiastic. It was a prominent characteristic of the Christ. Follow the Apostle Paul around a while and observe how he radiated.

*-Gayle Oler
-Just A Moment*

On The Lighter Side. . .

Being a preacher is not stressful

-Duncan, age 22



Too True

When a garage mechanic makes a mistake, he adds it on your bill.

When a lawyer makes a mistake, it is just what he wanted. He can try the case over again.

When a judge makes a mistake, it becomes the law of the land.

When a doctor makes a mistake, he buries it.

When a preacher makes a mistake, heaven help him!

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No Excuse Sunday!

Today is our long awaited “No Excuse Sunday”. We are so appreciative of your presence and hope that you are planning to stay and join us for our covered dish luncheon today.

Remember, Hospitality group 3 is responsible for this luncheon. The members of that group are: LaJuan Baugh, Martha Bradshaw, Sheri Burgay, Tiffanne Klein, and Trish Lout.



MEN’S BUSINESS MEETING

Today, following our covered dish luncheon in the church offices. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Sunday December 15, 2024

Immediately following the morning worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Please bring finger food – think outside the box!
Men bring a gift for a man and women bring a gift for a lady and remember there is a \$20.00 limit on the gift.
Plan to come and have a good time!

OUR “CHURCH FAMILY”

Cissy Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Martha Jean Golden, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

“EXTENDED FAMILY” AND FRIENDS

Cody Anthony (LaResa Livingston’s nephew) Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston’s brother), Jackie Barnes (Friend of Gene & Martha Bradshaw) Cohen Byrnes (infant son of Trey and Alex Byrnes) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher’s brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate’s mother) Geneva Harrison (Mike Bostick’s mother) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins’ mother dealing with memory issues) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Kutter Milford (Cissy Amos’ grandson) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate’s uncle); Heather Simmons Steward (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; J. C. Tate (Jana O’Brien’s father) Clark Paul Williams (LaResa Livingston’s cousin)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Andrew Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

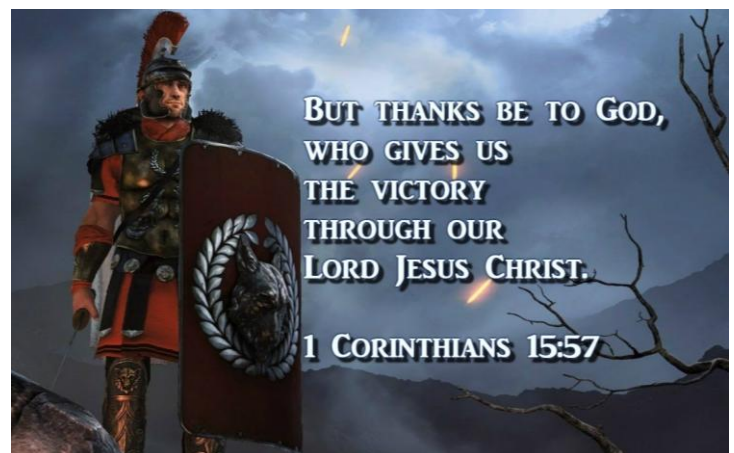
UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

March 2, 2025 – “Pack-A-Pew Sunday”

April 25-27, 2025 – Area-Wide Singing and Gospel meeting with Phil Sanders.

June 1, 2025 – Covered Dish Luncheon

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!





Across The Preacher's Desk

(NOTE:I wish I could claim originality for this, but I found it in a file in my office, I have had it for many years and it contains some valuable food for thought.)

A man was being tailgated by a stressed out woman on a busy boulevard, when suddenly the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing and stopped, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman hit the roof, and the horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection. As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, finger printed, photographed and placed in a holding cell.

After several hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects. He said, I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, shaking your fist at the driver in front of you and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the "choose life" license plate, the "What would Jesus Do?" bumper sticker, the "Follow Me to Sunday School" bumper sticker and the chrome plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk.

Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car.

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

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
54 in '24!**