



LET'S VISIT

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THE MODEL CHURCH

The Jerusalem Church is often called “the model church”. In Acts chapter 2, Luke has this to say about this great church in verses 46 and 47, *“And they continuing daily with one accord in the temple, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart. Praising God and having favor with all the people.”* No description has ever been furnished of a happier and more grateful people than this. Never has there been a happier or more prosperous church than this. Because this is true, and because we are a church of Christ like the one in Jerusalem, it might be that we should study their recipe for happiness and prosperity.

“Continuing daily with one accord in the temple” refers to their habit of meeting for religious services. The part of the temple where they met was open to all. They did not have a meeting place of their own. It was only natural that they used the most logical and natural meeting place open to them. They were so full of their religion that it seems that they had a meeting going on all the time. There was no question of their attending what we call “regular services”. They had services each day. The question of church attendance was not one that needed any emphasizing with them. I feel sure it was not necessary to rebuke any of them for failure in this matter. Later, the writer of Hebrews wrote to those brethren that they should *“not forsake the assembly”* but in the early church they were not forsaking it. A little study of this verse should make any person ashamed who has said that Hebrews 10:25 refers only to the Lord’s day assembly, or that it is only necessary to assemble once a week. In this we are doing what is so common among the religious world today. We are

trying to make the Bible fit what we want to do. The truth of the matter is this, the early church was meeting daily.

“They ate their meat with gladness” reveals how much they depended on God, and how thankful they were for his blessings. Some of these people had nothing. It became necessary that some sell what they had in order to help those who had nothing. These things, however, were small matters with them. They were thankful for what they had, and anxious to get on to the meetings. Food, clothing and shelter, are very small matters compared to the joys that we have when we have fully placed our trust in God. How well these people fared, the Bible does not say. It is doubtful that they knew anything of what we call luxury. They were not interested in such things. They were interested in their religion.

“With singleness of heart,” proves more completely that their affections were centered entirely on things above. It indicates they were satisfied and thankful, not perplexed or anxious. When we say they ate their meat with singleness of heart, we say they regarded it only as a means to an end. The end in view was service to God.

“Praising God,” reveals their happiness. They
(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
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



My Church

For The Pantry. . . July 7 – Peanut Butter

Offering – June 30, 2024. \$2,196.00

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

The Model Church – continued from page 1

had much for which to praise Him. Had he not sent His son to redeem them? Had they not been bought with the blood of Christ? Were they not enjoying the greatest privilege of any generation? What blessing could there be greater than membership in the blood bought church of Jesus Christ. They were a people made free from the slavery of sin. They were enjoying this freedom and anxious that others be freed. Is there any difference in their religion and ours? Should we not be just as happy and concerned about our religion? Do we really praise God for His goodness as they did?

This kind of happiness and singleness of heart is contagious! There is nothing more attractive than a group of people who are happily engaged in serving God. Others will be drawn to a group such as that. The question is, are we drawing others to us?

tp

Worship

1. Remember the purpose of worship; it is not to entertain nor amuse, but it is to pay a debt of love and honor to God.

2. Remember the people in worship, they are not perfect and those with imperfections worship Him who is perfect. He who realizes his own

imperfections most is better qualified to worship Him who he knows is perfect.

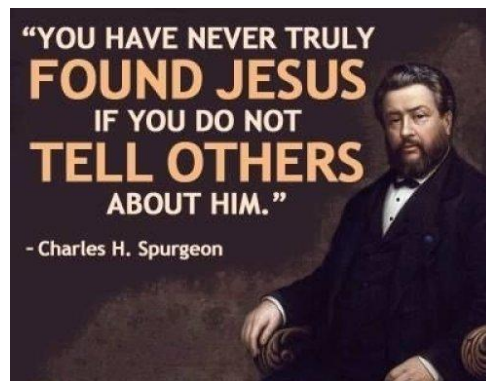
3. Come to worship thinking of how great God is and how little you are.

4. Give due attention to the thoughts contained in gospel songs, as well as to the singing of the songs themselves.

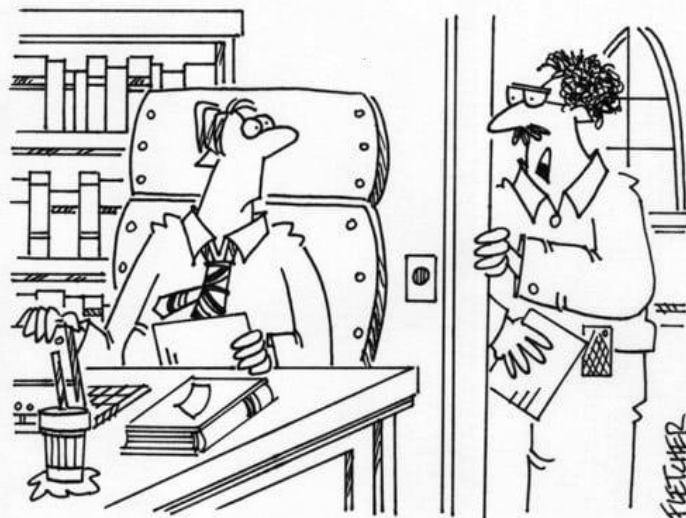
5. Remember that a sermon depends as much on a good hearing as it does upon a good presentation.

6. Keep in mind that a critical, intolerant attitude is foreign to the spirit of Him whom you purpose to worship, so be sympathetic toward him who directs the singing and toward him who would instruct.

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On The Lighter Side. . .



"I need the audio recordings of sessions 3...7...9...and 13 of your sermon series on sporadic church attendance."



SEPTEMBER 8th

Mark your calendar for **September 8, 2024.**

That is the day for our annual "Friends and Family Day". We want this to be the best Friends and Family day we have ever had. To

do that depends on EVERY MEMBER of this congregation making their plans to be here and inviting their friends and family members to come and join them. We can do great things but it takes effort and commitment on the part of every member.

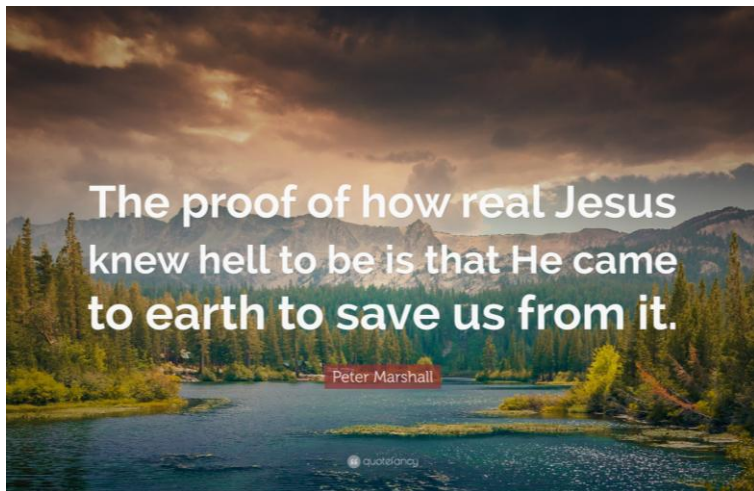
Hospitality group 2 will be responsible for this dinner. Those members are Sarah Fletcher, Jana O'Brien and Norma Perkins.

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Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal
July 31st
6:00 P.M.



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Alice Hall is now at Holiday Nursing Home for 20 days of Re-Hab. She is in room 109

LaJuan Baugh is receiving re-hab at home.

OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, 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), **Alton Bradshaw** (Gene Bradshaw's cousin – cancer) **Curtis Bradshaw** (Gene Bradshaw's brother) recovering from a stroke. **Hugh and Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) **Joyce Fontenot** (Debra Pate's mother) **Bobbie Gray** (Jerry Pate's Aunt) **Geneva Harrison** (Mike Bostick's mother) **Glynn Hartt** (friend of Cissy Amos) **Joe Hughes** (Cissy Amos' father); **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **Kutter Milford** (Cissy Amos' grandson) **Vervan Pate** (Jerry Pate's brother) is being treated for stomach cancer. **Addi Scott** (LaJuan Baugh's great-granddaughter) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; **Michael Smith** (Debra Pate's cousin) is being treated for lung cancer in Green Acres; **Buddy Sowell** (friend of Debra Pate) **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

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UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

December 8, 2024 – No Excuse Sunday

December 15, 2024 – Christmas Party

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!



Across The Preacher's Desk

James would write these words for us in James 3:8-10, "But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be."

Have you ever thought about how powerful the tongue is and how powerful your words can be? By our words we express our ideas and thoughts. Our words often convey the deepest thoughts of our heart. With words we can hurt, discourage, anger, stir up strife and crush the spirits of those around us, or we can cheer, enlighten, encourage, uplift and calm those we come in contact with.

We can speak a language pure and pleasing in the sight of God and unquestionable in the eyes of men. Conversely, we can corrupt that language until it damns our soul.

Do my words justify or condemn me? Is my speech pure and clean or is it discolored with the kind of foul language that makes us distasteful not only in the sight of God but also in the sight of men and women I come into contact with? We must seek to speak in a way that is becoming to Christians and uplifting to those we associate with on a daily basis.

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

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