



LET'S VISIT

A Publication of the Center Church of Christ
110 Hurst Street Center, Texas 75935

Volume 12

Number 47

November 23, 2025

LOVE THE LORD THY GOD

Matthew records for us an interesting incident that took place during Jesus' last public ministry in Jerusalem. In the temple court, a Pharisaic Lawyer asks Jesus a legal question in Matthew 23:36. He wants Jesus to tell him the great commandment in the law. Now, bear in mind that this was not a question that was asked in a friendly and cordial spirit.

In the answer to the question, Jesus gives an admirable summary of our duty towards God and our fellowman. Jesus says, *"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind"* then he further states; *"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself"* (Matthew 23:37, 39) Those two rules are so very simple and at the same time so comprehensive.

Love is the grand secret of true obedience to God. Yet, when we think of our love for God, how do we measure it, what proves our love for God? How do we treat those whom we love?

One of the things we do is seek the presence of that person we sincerely love. When we love someone, we want to spend time with that person, we want to be where they are. Do we have a burning desire to be where God is? Do we seek the company and fellowship of God? The Psalmist would state, *"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord."* (Psalms 122:1) Is that our attitude when it comes time to assemble at God's house on the Lord's day? If not, then perhaps we are only giving lip service to God when we say that we love Him.

In order to express our love, we present gifts and presents to the one that we love. Not only do we bring them gifts, we find genuine delight in doing so. Do we present gifts to our God? Do we honor him with our substance? At the birth of Christ, the Wise

Men came from the east bearing gifts. When Paul wrote the second Corinthian letter, he urged those brethren to abound in the grace of generosity in chapter 8 and verse 7.

We take every opportunity to converse with the individual we love. We talk to them often and we listen while they talk. It is something we look forward to. How often do we converse with our heavenly Father: How often do we talk to God through prayer? How often do we let God speak to us through his word.

Eating and drinking with the object of our love is a great pleasure. Do we always avail ourselves of the opportunity of communing with the Lord? On the first day of every week, the saints of God gather together to partake of the Lord's Supper. Do we have a burning desire to eat with Him and to drink with Him at His table? How often do the flimsiest of excuses keep us from being present with the family of God to participate in this memorial feast?

One of the things we do is try to please the person we love. We don't want to do anything to bring them sorrow or disappointment. We would never do anything intentionally to hurt them. What about God? Are we doing our best to please God? Jesus said, *"If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments"* (John 14:15) How are we doing with that?

(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



A Feast of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

For The Pantry. . .
November 23 – Peanut Butter

Offering – November 16, 2025 . . \$ 3,000.00

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

Love The Lord Thy God – continued from page 1

Jesus said that loving God was the first and great commandment. The second was that we love our neighbor as ourselves. We must learn how to treat God and how to treat each other if we would be pleasing to the Father in heaven.

tp

In The Name of My Father

*The following poem, definitely a "Poem with a point"
is from the pen of that prolific writer anonymous.*

What nerve, what gall,
For Mrs. Whatsit to call!
I don't even know the one who died,
And the family, at church, I've never spied.
Now I wouldn't mind to open a can,
If it were someone I knew, like Ann or Dan.
Why I've got washin' and ironin' to do,
And shoppin' and bakin' and cleanin' too.
Ask someone else to do that chore,
I've got all I can do....and more!
These words ring clear in my ears,
And cut at my heart like a pair of shears.
You see...last week my loved one died.
And I needed a friend by my side.
Mrs. Whatsit was the first to drop by,
With words of comfort and an apple pie.
Others came in a steady flow,
People from the church whom I did not know.

They came with food and a sympathetic smile,
Some took time to talk a while.
I've asked God to forgive me for my lack of love
And pray for His blessings sent from above.
For never again will it be a bother
To take a dish in the name of My Father!

It's Easy To Like People.

It's a natural desire for all of us to want people to like us. But before we can have genuine friends who like us for what we are, we must learn to like others. Learning to like others is one of the easiest things we can do.

The first lesson is to learn to laugh at one's own faults in order to speak kindly about the faults of others. We each have our own peculiarities which doubtless rub people the wrong way. It is an excellent practice to be a little bit blind, somewhat deaf, and unnoticeably mute in liking people for their good qualities and forgetting their undesirable ones. Just refuse to see them. No doubt we want them to reciprocate.

Real friends mean so much to all of us that none of us can afford to make enemies. But, first of all, we must be worth knowing and liking. If we want them to like us we will never forget that they are human. If we become likable then we shall have friends.

-borrowed

On The Lighter Side. . .



**I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE THANKS FOR ALL
THE GREAT YEARS WE HAD BEFORE
TOFU-TURKEY AND SOY-STUFFING**



No Excuse Sunday December 7, 2025

Make Your Plans To Be Here
Sunday, December 7, 2025
Our Annual
“NO EXCUSE SUNDAY”

Put this date on your calendar, make sure you plan to be here, invite your friends and neighbors to come and worship with us and stay for our covered dish luncheon. We will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries for the months of December, January and February and enjoy a great time of fellowship together.

Hospitality group 1 is in charge of the luncheon that day. The members of that group are Marsha Bounds, LaResa Livingston, Betty Miller, Lisa Miller and Melonia Molloy.

Communion Preparation - November
Manny & Brittany Ortiz

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!



Save this Date. . .
December 21, 2025



Amanda Molloy is scheduled for a surgical procedure this coming Wednesday

OUR “CHURCH FAMILY”

Cissy Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, 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; **Stanley Amos** (Cissy Amos' husband) **Krista Andrus** (Tim and Norma Perkins niece) **Richard Barbee** (Gene Bradshaw's nephew) **Peggy Baylor** (Tim Bradshaw's mother) **David Bissett** (Mike O'Brien's brother in law- cancer) **Dwayne Brister** (Cissy Amos' cousin) **Debra Clifton** (friend of LaResa Livingston) **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) **Dot Grant** (Friend of Debra Pate) **Suzi Hogan** (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) **Ted Holt** (former member of this congregation) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Albert Magby** (Melonie Bradshaw's father) **Norma Magby** (Melonie Bradshaw's mother) **Karen McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle); **Heather Simmons Stewart** (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; **J. C. Tate & Pat Tate** (Jana O'Brien's father and mother) **Max Windham** (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

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

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

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

March 1, 2026 – “Pack-A-Pew Sunday”
April 24, 2026 – Area Wide Singing & Fellowship
June 7, 2026 – “Friends and Family Day”
September 13, 2026 – “Back To Church Sunday”
December 6, 2026 – “No Excuse Sunday”
December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party



Across The Preacher's Desk

It's the season for Thanksgiving, and to be sure, we have much to be thankful for. Most of us will never be rich in the way that the world measures riches, and yet, all of us may be rich toward God. The riches of the world are subject to loss, taxation and the fluctuation of the markets. The riches of God cannot be stolen, taxed or devalued. They can however be shared.

To many folks, there is only one kind of wealth. Houses, stocks, securities and money in the bank. Their happiness rises or falls with the stock markets. To these people everything has a monetary value. Often, only bitter experience is able to teach them that some things in life are more valuable than money.

The carpenter of Nazareth lived and died as one of the poorest men on the earth, yet he taught the true sense of values when he proclaimed, "A man's life consists not in the abundance of the things he possesseth" (Luke 12:15) He came to enrich human life, to teach the value, not of man's accumulations but of his soul. Faith, hope, love, these attributes of the soul, Jesus made them of inestimable value.

We must not let things which are part of the passing scene, stocks, houses, securities and money in the bank cloud our vision to the finer spiritual securities in Jesus Christ. Yes, at this season of the year we say, "Thank you Lord!"

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

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
55 in '25!**