

LET'S VISIT

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

Volume 11 Number 40 October 20, 2024

ATTITUDES

Often our attitude reveals more than we would like for it to reveal about us. Some folks just naturally have a sour, stinking attitude. They remind me of the story I heard about the cantankerous grandpa who was taking a nap. His grandson put some limburger cheese on his mustache. There it was, right under his nose. He later awoke with a snort and said, "this room stinks". He walked around and said, "this whole house stinks". Once outside he said, "the whole world stinks". Yet, all the time the problem was right under his nose.

A person's attitude is important. If there was ever a man who had the right to a bad attitude it was Job. Think of all that he suffered, think of the loss and the pain. His wife said, "curse God and die" (Job 2:9)

Yet, attitudes can be changed, they can be adjusted. I remember reading a story of a man who received a parrot as a gift from his friend. The parrot was fully grown and had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. What wasn't profanity was just plain rude. The man tried saying polite words and playing soothing music. Nothing worked, so finally he put the bird in the freezer. After he had been in there some time, the man was afraid he had hurt the bird, so he opened the freezer door. The parrot, calmly stepped onto the man's extended arm. Perfectly calm, the parrot said, "I am very sorry that I offended you with my language and my actions and I ask your forgiveness. I will endeavor to correct my behavior, and I am sure it will never happen again." The man was astonished at the change in the bird's attitude and was about to ask what had changed him when the parrot said, "May I ask what the chicken did?"

In your mind, go back to Saul, the man chosen to be the first king over God's people. Saul's attitude toward God and the kingship changed. He began as a humble young man hiding in the baggage. He became arrogant in worship, he tried to kill David and finally sought information from a sorcerer.

Then there was Paul. When he and Barnabas were about to embark on the second missionary journey, they had a disagreement over taking John Mark. Paul did not want to take him because he had deserted them on the first trip. The disagreement became so sharp that Paul and Barnabas parted ways. Yet, when we read the second letter that Paul wrote to Timothy, we find that he wants John Mark to come to him for he is profitable for the ministry. At one point, he did not want to take him and then later he sends for him.

Throughout the Bible we find examples of those with both good attitudes and bad attitudes. The Pharisee of Luke 18 felt he was a Godly man and all others were sinners. His attitude was that God should feel complimented that such an important man as he was would bother to worship Him.

In III John we read about an elder by the name of Diotrephes. He didn't care what others might think, he was the elder, he was the one who was "large and in charge". He wanted to be a "big name" in the brotherhood. He made the boast that no matter what, he stood his ground and circulated hard words against those who dared to disagree with him.

(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



Jesus Never Changes

For The Pantry. . . October 20 – Zip Lock Bags

Offering – October 13, 2024. . . \$ 2,258.00 The Lord's plan of giving ..."as ye have prospered"

Attitudes - continued from page 1

There was the prodigal son who left home because of his father's restraint and then later realized what a fool he had been. There was his elder brother who wallowed in self-pity and became angry when his brother returned home.

Yet, in contrast to these we have Joseph who was sold into slavery by his jealous brothers. He said "you meant it for evil but God meant it for good." You have Peter who, when he was rebuked by Paul for his sin was grateful that Paul helped him see the error of his ways and Peter would say he loved him the more for it. You have Paul who once persecuted Christians who would later say that for him to live is Christ and to die is gain.

What is our reaction to the problems of Life? Our attitude determines how we react to life and its challenges. When we make Jesus Christ the Lord and Master of our lives, we will have the confidence of Paul who says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13) If Jesus is not the Lord and Master of your life, resolve to make the changes necessary in your life to make him Lord and Master.

The Story Of The Terrapin

"For the love of Christ constraineth us" (II Corinthians 5:14) I read a story the other day about a small boy who lived in the country and who had found a terrapin. He wanted to examine him more closely-but the terrapin closed his shell like a vise. The boy tried to pry the creature open with a stick, but an uncle reproved him. "That's not the way. You will kill him."

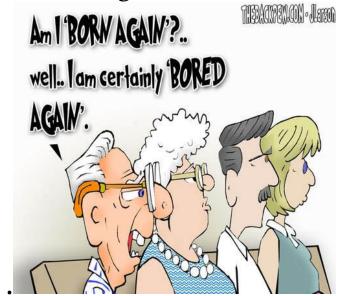
The story continued that the uncle took the terrapin and placed him on the hearth. In a few minutes, warmth caused the terrapin to put out his head and feet, and he crawled away. The story closed with the uncle's sage remark that "People are like the terrapin; they cannot be forced into anything but they can be warmed up by human kindness so that they will come our way."

The power of the gospel of Christ is manifest and declared not only in the preached word, but also in a consecrated life, in good works, which God has ordained, and which will glorify Him in the memorials He left behind.

You may never preach a gospel sermon, but can lead a person to Christ by the life that you live. You can exude a warmth that will make it possible for them to learn the truth and be saved. Make no mistake-your personality will not save them-but it may be the instrument by which they are led to the Lord who can save.

tp

On The Lighter Side. .







No Excuse Sunday!

Sunday, December 8, 2024 is the day set aside for our annual "No Excuse Sunday". There will be no acceptable excuse for missing worship that day! Make your plans **NOW** to be here and bring someone or several someones to be your guest.

Of course we will be having a covered dish luncheon that day following the morning worship. Hospitality group 3 will be responsible for this luncheon. The members of that group are: LaJuan Baugh, Martha Bradshaw, Sheri Burgay, Tiffanne Klein, Trish Lout and Dee Sims.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal October 30, 2024 6:00 P.M.







The truck from Sunny Glen Children's Home will be here the week of November 10th. They have requested Spaghetti Sauce, Salad Dressing, Zip Lock Bags and Trash Bags. Let's fill the Little Red Wagon!





Cohen Byrnes (infant son of Trey and Alex Byrnes) is recovering from surgery this past Friday to repair a condition known as Craniosynostosis

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), Jackie Barnes (Friend of Gene & Martha Bradshaw) Patrick Elam (friend of Norma Perkins) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Jovce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Bobbie Grav (Jerry Pate's Aunt) **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) Gene Perkins (Tim Perkins Aunt) Verven Pate (Jerry Pate's brother) is being treated for stomach cancer. Eddie Paul (Wayne Sims son-in-law) Addi Scott (LaJuan Baugh's greatgranddaughter) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle); Michael Smith (Debra Pate's cousin) is being treated for lung cancer in Green Acres: **Buddy Sowell** (friend of Debra Pate) 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

December 15, 2024 – Christmas Party

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

In our world today, it seems that more and more people care little or nothing for the things of God. There are many who never think of being in the assembly when the saints of God have gathered. Often we speak of these as "waiting for the hearse to take them to church". Let me ask. Have you ever thought about that statement? I read the following somewhere, many years ago and saved it. I have no idea of the original source, and would like to claim it as my own, but sadly, I cannot. It does however provide some food for thought. Here are some things that will happen if you wait for the hearse to take you to church.

- 1. You will go regardless of the weather.
- You will go regardless of how your family feels about it.
- 3. You will go regardless of the condition of your body.
- 4. You will have beautiful flowers but you will not enjoy them.
- 5. Regardless of how good the singing is, you will not enjoy it.
- 6. Whatever the minister says will do you no good.
- 7. You may have a great need, but no one will be able to help you.
- 8. You will never be able to attend an assembly on earth again.
- 9. There will be relatives and friends there, but you will not worship with them.
- 10. You will go regardless of how many hypocrites are there.

All in all, waiting for the hearse to take you to church doesn't seem like such a good idea. Perhaps it would be better to attend on your own before that happens.

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

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