

Good morning and welcome to services! We are so happy to have you here. Thursday is Thanksgiving Day, and it is a time when our nation pauses to give thanks for all we have. As Christians, though, we know we are to give thanks every day for the many blessings God bestows upon us. We hope you find so much to be thankful for! Since this week is Thanksgiving, we will meet on Tuesday for our midweek service and we will be in the auditorium rather than in our regular classes.

We are so glad to have so many joining us for our study of the book of Joshua on Wednesday nights. It is the Bible Bowl topic for Lads to Leaders this year and our overall theme is "Be Strong and Courageous". We had a lot of fun hosting our single and single again crowd last Sunday. We really appreciate everyone who helped out! Have a great week! DOUG

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name." Psalms 100:4

CREDIT CARD PRAYERS

Do you use prayer as a kind of "spiritual credit card?" Lots of people do; they assume that all we have to do is ask God for whatever physical things we want, and He will provide them ("interest-free," we hope!). Most of us are familiar with promises like the one Jesus made in Matthew 7:7-8, where we are told "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened." This statement, and others like it in the Bible do not promise blessings for us without "cost" or responsibility. Jesus isn't offering us a "buy-now, pay-later" plan! When we pray, our prayers should reflect what God wants as well as what we want. James 4:3 tells struggling Christians that the reason they did not receive the things they prayed for was because their motives were selfish; they weren't thinking about God's will, only what they wanted to satisfy their lust.

CHRISTIANS, JUST CHRISTIANS

In only three places in the New Testament the followers of Christ are called Christians. "The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch" (Acts 11:26). King Agrippa said to the apostle Paul, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian" (Acts 26:28). "If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in his name," 1 Peter 4:16, ASV). This is the "worthy (honorable) name by which ye were called" (James 2:7). It is important that Christians wear the name of Christ, and no other name. Christ is honored by this name. It signifies that we belong to him. All his followers can unite in this name. We can wear it in faith. "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Colossians 3:17). In order to have the salvation that is in Christ, we must be baptized into his name (Acts 2:38). "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized in Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:26, 27). Our plea to the religious world is "let's just be Christians". DAN

Nov. 28, 2021
Door Greeters
Security Team
Communion Preparation
Eva Walker

Gospel Worker

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ELDERS

Dwight Franklin
 Dan D. Manuel
 Dale Sparks

DEACONS

Henry Baker
 Steve Camp
 Kyle Lock
 R.D. Prince
 Doug Rader

SECRETARY

Lorelee Reeder
 Eva Walker

MISSIONS

Brown Trail School of
 Preaching, Bedford, TX
 Jose Cuadras- Mexico
 Hershel Bearden-India
 Steve Handley-Prison Min.
 Central TX Children's
 Home-Buda, TX
 Tipton Children's Home
 Tipton, OK
 GBN T.V. NETWORK
 GIVE ME THE BIBLE-
 T.V.
 FOX 44 KWKT-Waco, TX
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 Texarkana-Shreveport, LA.
 KFXK FOX 51 Tyler
 NBC 28 KYLE, Bryan-
 College Station, TX.
 FOX 29 KSVP Lake
 Charles, La
 ABC 10 KTEN Sherman-Tx
 KTXD- 47 Dallas, Texas

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sun: 9:30 AM Class
 10:30 AM Worship
 6:00 PM Evening

"Thanksgiving For God's Cleft Of The Rock"

On the Gettysburg battlefield, there are two round top hills with a rocky area between known as "Devil's Den" It became a place of refuge during the fierce battle. Following the battle, many bodies were retrieved of soldiers seeking refuge "in the cleft of the rock." What was hoped to be protection became a vault by which they were entrapped. We have been promised refuge during times of threat and harm which cannot be penetrated by the most cunning enemy. David had found refuge in God's protective custody many times about which he wrote with these words: "I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies" (Ps. 18:1-3). God's glory is seen from the Rock as is expressed by the words of the old song, "Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee". I find comfort in the passage where God told His people of the Exodus that "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock" (Ex. 23:21-23). There is the story of a little bird that was being chased by a much larger bird of prey. The little bird flew to save its life, darting about while being pursued by the larger bird. The little bird quickly flew into a crevice in a rock face, inside the cleft in the rock. The larger bird gave up. The little bird had found shelter in the rock, out of reach from fearsome claws. It's life was saved. How like the little bird are we! Keep in mind that "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty" (Ps. 9:1). "He will cover you with His pinions and under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark" (Ps. 91:1). The wonderful and warm embrace of our heavenly Father is a place of refuge and not a "Devil's Den." When we try to find comfort in the clutches of alcohol, drugs, sex, money or so many other cares of the world by which we are surrounded, they become a prison and not a refuge. We must take confidence and courage in knowing that our God is our protectorate and never a threat. Praise God and be thankful for His loving care. SELECTED

Thank you all for being present today for our Annual Thanksgiving Message. "HAPPY THANKSGIVING"

From Dan's desk:



It is great to see each of you today. We are so happy that you have joined us in worship and we pray that the services today will bless you in special ways. My focus this morning in the worship will be to express gratitude to God for His wonderful favor and blessings. We all too often forget to say thank you. Many have been going on the church bus to various places in the East Texas area in recent weeks and all report a GREAT TIME. It is one way that we can draw closer to each other and to get to know one another better. We can never get enough fellowship. I did however hear a little poem several years ago that I will share with you below:

Mary had a little

And it was quite a sheep

It went to all the Church fellowships

And died from lack of sleep.

I don't anticipate this happening. The Ladies Bible Class had a wonderful luncheon last Tuesday. Thanks to the 30 who were present. The largest attendance since before Covid-19 hit. Happy Thanksgiving. We hope to see you all tonight at 6 P.M.

DAN

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES



**TO KEEP
IN OUR PRAYERS**

DALE SPARKS is recovering from recent artery surgery this last week in Tyler.

REX KRUMNOW (Adam's father) is also recovering from heart-bypass surgery in Tyler.

LORELEE REEDER has been moved to Park Place rehab in Tyler. She will be there for about three weeks.

J.M. RAY has been placed with hospice care.

All others who have been on the sick list are improving. Continue to pray for all.

WELCOME VISITORS

A big hearty welcome to those visiting today. Allow us to meet and greet you following the worship service this morning. At the end of the service today you will be given a gift bag from our congregation. "It is a small gift, but it comes from big hearts."

The Miraculous Cane

Bent over and obviously in pain, the old man with a cane hobbled laboriously through the auditorium and into the preacher's office while the song director was selecting songs. Ten minutes later he came out, walking upright and moving with grace and speed. "Good gracious," the song director exclaimed. "Did the preacher heal you by faith?" "No," the old man said with a smile. "He just gave me a cane that wasn't six inches too short!"

THE CHURCH THAT JESUS BUILT

The Church of Jesus Christ is always under attack. God calls upon us to rise to defend the Truth and the One who gave it. The church Jesus built, the one you read about in your New Testament was designed to be always and everywhere in constant confrontation with the wisdom and the ways of the world (1 Cor. 1:20-25). The idea was not to be converted to the culture, but to convert the worldly culture to belief in and acceptance of God. But today too many of us seem to be making peace with the ungodly world. Even many of those known to be conservative churches have not only modified their worship styles and moral standards, but their message too, to conform to the world's demands. It seems the idea is for the church not to confront the contemporary evil culture, but to seek its acceptance and approval. Too many others have decided to remain neutral; to just sit this fight out. Still others are saying what a young preacher said to me recently, "You're concerned about something with no cause! God is still in control of this world, so everything is going to be alright." Yes! My friend, God is still in control. So wake up! He who is in control warns us in Psalm 9:17: "The wicked shall be turned into hell, And all the nations that forget God." Churches of Christ simply MUST get our gospel message out to the people who live in those houses that line the streets and roads of our American cities and towns. I'm encouraged and optimistic! There's the sound of an awakening! God's people are equipped to win the battle over evil. Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-6. God calls on all of us to awaken to the responsibility of standing for the Word of God and the Church that Jesus built. He gave His life for the Church and for that reason we must not defer or neglect the challenge that is before us. The future of the church, our children and generations yet to be born will be determined by what we do today to keep the church pure and strong in the faith

DAN

Nov. 21st 2021

PLEASE CONTINUE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Dale Sparks is back home recovering from surgery

Rex Krumnow (Adam's father) had heart by-pass surgery in Tyler. He is doing better.

Jerry Thornton of Canton, is undergoing cancer treatment in Canton

Kenlee Harbour will have stomach surgery on Dec. 3rd in Dallas.

Lorelee Reeder had additional back surgery in Tyler, Texas at U.T. Medical Center. She has been moved to Park Place Rehab in Tyler. Her address is on the bulletin board

Mindy Petty friend of the Hawkins is having health issues.

Christine Oliphant has breast cancer & undergoing treatment

Cindy Pace has been undergoing tests recently on her heart.

J. M. Ray has been placed with Hospice Care.

Kelli Robinson daughter of Jimmy and Janette Alford has started her radiation treatment.

Emily Davis (granddaughter of the Hollands) has brain cancer

Marlene Thompson has been moved back to Brookdale Nursing facility.

Kenneth Holland is still having breathing issues.

Scott Hilliard (cousin of Dwight Franklin) cancer

Wesley Wellborn (brother-in-law of Kyle Lock) cancer

Remember those in nursing homes and the homebound in your prayers.

They need our prayers. Courtney Bell, Odessa Boyette, Ruth Cox, Blackie Foreman, Jerry Graham, Sue Grubbs, Gerry Hahn, Bobby Johnson, Miki Kiser, Jessie Kraus, George Lester, James and Irma Ray, Patsy Bush, Gary and Emalie Tusch-off and Martha Sims.

NOTE: We try to update the prayer list each week. When people are improving and doing better we remove their names and add new ones who have asked to be on the list. We need those of you who are acquainted with those on the prayer list to let us know when they are improving. If you know of someone who needs to be on the supplement prayer list or removed, please notify us in the church office. The Elders