I Saw Some Brethren at the Ballgame

On a frigid fall evening my family and I decided to go to the local high school football game. I knew there would be some familiar faces there, but didn’t expect to see so many Christians who were dedicated to such an important cause.

At the football game I saw a sister who’s poor physical condition hindered her from attending worship services! She was sitting next to a family who had brought some visitors that had unexpectedly “dropped in.” Even though the temperature was extremely uncomfortable, not one person left before the game was over, including overtime, nor did any of them complain, but seemed to enjoy the extended period of play!

I also saw some of the player’s parents, who had to make special arrangements with their boss in order to be present at every game, ON TIME! When I went to the concession stand I stood in line behind a brother who was embarrassed to attend worship because he had no money for the collection plate. Working in the concession stand were two Christians who had recently argued that the church should hire someone to do personal work because it was not right to ask someone to give up their spare time!

Most of the brethren there had memorized name and number of every player. When the marching band played the fight song they sang so loud they could have been heard clear across town. When the game ended, many got together to discuss the game and talk about next week’s game with eager anticipations.

As I contemplated the things I had seen, I thought how unkind it would be to visit one of these brethren if he or she ever missed a game. I thought how offensive it would be to tell them that the team needed their support, financially and spiritually. However, I knew that would never be necessary, for these individuals displayed such devotion, dedication and determination that wind, rain, snow, cold or a team of strong horses could not keep them from supporting the team in person—every time!

I left the scene being overwhelmed with the dedication Christians can display when they really want to! (The proceeding event was fiction, but the principles are often times true!)
Please remember these in your prayers:

Jim Davis had minor surgery this last week.
Sandy Singleterry's sister Beverly Carr had open heart surgery this last week in Odessa.
Gary Coates had a heart procedure in Tyler at Mother Francis Hospital this last Thursday.

Continue to remember: Dennis Ellison, Gayle Hamilton, Jane Grumbles, Da phne Prince, Toni & David Degelia, Gary Oliver, Toby Williams, Gerald Wilcher., Liam Lowe.

Servicemen: Jeffery Rose, Blaine Klein & Jason Mottern.

Our Fellowship Luncheon last Sunday was great. Thanks to Sandy Singleterry for coordinating and to the ladies and men who helped. They are: Ike and Joyce Weatherly, James Singleterry, Lois King, Jane Davis, Pam Boyette, Fred and Beth Freeman, and Martha Oliver.

It was a wonderful day. Our Monday Night For the Master program resumed last Monday night with good attendance and good food and a lot that was accomplished. So many in the church here work tirelessly, giving of their time and energy to honor God and accomplish the work that He has given us to do. We are so grateful to each of you for what you do and what you mean to the Lord's Kingdom at this place.

Our meeting in Groesbeck resulted in one responding to the invitation of Christ. It was good to be with the brethren there. Today we are in Tippton, Okla. The church here helps support the Children's Home there. We are thankful to be a part of this wonderful benevolent program.

The care that is given by those at the home will result in young men and women becoming Christians and having an opportunity grow up with influences that are good and wholesome. I will be with the church there through Wednesday night. I will not be away again on Sunday morning until next Spring. My thanks to Bernie for preaching for me. He always does a great job. We taped segments of “GIVE ME THE BIBLE” television program last week. Continue to watch on NBC 56 KETK each Sun. at 7 am.

We are planning a church Fall Fest after services on Sunday afternoon Oct. 30th, in the activity building and parking lot. Mark your calendar.

You and I are much like that little boy. All of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and the "ship" onto which we have boarded is sinking, headed for destruction (Romans 3:23; 6:23). Noticing our plight, the "Captain" of the Universe—Jesus Christ, the Son of God—willingly and lovingly gave His life that we might be saved (1 Thessalonians 5:10). Because of His death on the cross, we can be saved from our sins when we place our trust in Him (Hebrews 11:6), repent of our sin (2 Corinthians 7:9-10), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38; cf. Mark 16:15-16; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:27; 1 Peter 3:21).

The call from the cross of Calvary upon which Jesus died is, "Never forget what's been done for you." May each of us gratefully respond to that wonderful gift by submitting our lives to the One who died for us. — David Sargent

"And He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again."