

Teen News

Next week we will have our teen vs. adult volleyball game in the activity building after the evening worship service. We will have sandwiches, chips, and cookies for anyone planning on attending. Even if you don't want to play, come out and enjoy the fellowship. We look forward to seeing you then.

There will be a devotional tonight in the activity building. Please plan on sticking around after worship tonight.



We'll be back in a couple of hundred years and drill for oil off your shores. Then you'll be sorry.

OWEN & SYBIL'S ADDRESS:

Owen & Sybil Perry
c/o The Arbor
4518 Hwy 80 East
Ruston, LA 71270

"SELF-PITY"

Self-pity is defined: "pity for oneself; especially - a self-indulgent dwelling on one's sorrows or misfortunes". It is a very easy thing to give over to our feelings and find ourselves feeling so sorry for ourselves. Sympathy is a wonderful virtue. A Christian should develop a sympathetic understanding toward his brethren and his fellowman. Paul wrote: *"Rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep"*. (Romans 12:15) But if one isn't careful, he can overdo sympathy toward someone to the extent, as in self-pity and sympathy craving, one can virtually give up. This is the worst thing that can happen to anyone as far as this world is concerned. As we keep moving along, there is hope that things may improve and strength can be gained. But not so when one possesses a "give up" spirit. In essence, we become our own worst enemy. We get to the point that we can't see the forest for the trees. We defeat ourselves and become tools of Satan who wants all of God's children to become engrossed with self-pity to the extent that they give up the faith. Problems of life are not limited to just a few. All of us have obstacles to overcome. Peter wrote: *"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you."* (I Peter 4: 12) Some seem to think that they are the only ones who have any problems. They let their problems control their lives to such a degree that they lose sight of the joy that Christians are to experience.

**RESPONSES
FOR PRAYER & REDEDICATION:
BRANDON FRANKLIN
GEORGE WARD**

DOOR GREETERS

**Oct. 10, 2010
Bernie and Millie Baur**

COMMUNION PREPARATION

**Oct. 10, 2010
R.D. and Daphne Prince**

Gospel Worker

Crockett Road Church of Christ

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MINISTERS

Dan D. Manuel
Pulpit Minister
Joshua Shellenbarger
Youth Minister
Owen Perry
Personal Evangelism

ELDERS

Dan D. Manuel
Dale Sparks

DEACONS

Henry Baker
Sam Ellis
Dwight Franklin
Adam Harding
Kyle Lock

SECRETARY

Lorelee Reeder

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Brown Trail School of
Preaching, Bedford, TX
Jose Cuadras— Mexico
School of Preaching
Hershel Bearden
India Mission
Ken Upchurch
Tanzania Africa Work
Central TX Children's
Home—Buda, TX
Tipton Children's Home
Tipton, OK
Gospel Broadcast Network

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sun: 9:30 AM Class
10:30 AM Worship
6 :00 PM Evening
Wed: 7:00 PM

"In Defense of THE BOX"

Popular vernacular calls ideas which break with the norm, "thinking outside the box." Some aspects of considering the abnormal or new can be challenging, even refreshing. It can be an exercise which tests flexibility and open-mindedness.

The Bible is a book for thinkers: *"Consider the lilies"* (Matt. 6:28); *"Meditate on these things"* (1 Tim. 4:15); *"Think on these things"* (Phil. 4:8). We cannot think our way to heaven, but we *can and must* understand God's communication as to how to receive His grace (Eph. 3:4). Whether we need to think "outside the box" to be saved depends on what the box is.

If the box is the religion and teaching of men, then we are going to have to break free of it in our thinking and actions. It is usually difficult and painful to see when something we believe or a religion we are part of is not dependent wholly on God's Word. Our thinking stays inside the box of false religion when we argue based on things like sincerity, good works accomplished, and the number of those who are involved. Jesus, Himself, said there will be many like these to whom He will say, *"I never knew you; depart from Me"* (Matt. 7:22-23). Thinking outside the philosophies and theologies of man is healthy and necessary in order to think inside the right box. The modern concept of "thinking outside the box" is probably asking us to do more than simply be open-minded or shake off error. I suspect we are being taught not to ever box our thinking. Put another way, it is being advocated that truth is not absolute and therefore we should not be bound by any concept or standard.

Monday Night For The Master off to a great start. New Attendant in the Nursery each Sunday Morning & Evening



From Dan's desk:

We have all been so busy over the last week and the rest of this weeks looks busy also. I begin a meeting with my hometown congregation this morning in Hallsville. Joe Hancock is the preacher there. Thanks to Ken Upchurch for speaking this morning. We are supporting the work in Tanzania and it is good to have him give a report on what is going on there. We all said goodbye to Owen and Sybil Perry last Sunday. We will miss them, but bid them Godspeed in their new home. Monday night for the Master was well attended and we accomplished much. Thanks to 64 who came for a wonderful evening together. The singles went to Athens Thursday of last week. The youth are planning a volleyball game tonight with the adults in the activity building. Children's Bible has gotten off to a great start. Classes have resumed on Wednesday night. All of this is just great. The ladies had their meeting and class last Tuesday morning and a luncheon that followed in the small fellowship area. Last Sunday morning BRANDON FRANKLIN responded to the invitation to acknowledge sin and a desire to do better. We commend him and appreciate his great love for God. The Elders have decided to secure a Nursery Attendant for the Nursery on Sunday for Bible Class and both Worship services. GLENDA BASKIN will serve in this position. Children 2 yrs. and under can remain in the nursery during services with her, if parents choose to do so.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES



**TO KEEP
IN OUR PRAYERS**

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS:

Elizabeth Chandler is recovering from surgery this last week in Tyler.

Bernie Baur is also recovering and doing better following treatment.

Carlos Blanco, brother-in-law of Dale and Ann Sparks is recovering from recent by-pass surgery and stroke.

Sandy Singleterry will go to Scott and White hospital in Temple this week for tests and treatment.

Bob Burchfield will have surgery this coming Tuesday.

REMEMBER: all of those with ongoing illnesses and those who are shut in at their homes and cannot attend services. They are listed on the prayer list. Pick up one on the

CONGRATULATIONS

Paul and April Cartwright's new daughter EMMA ANNE was born on Sept. 5th Paul is a former youth Director at the church here and grandson of the late Earl and Sybil Milner.

NEW NURSERY KEEPER

The Leadership of the church has decided to employ a Nursery attendant on Sunday for Bible class, and both worship services. GLENDA BASKIN will be in the Nursery each Sunday to assist parents with their young children. Children age 2 yr and under can be left in the nursery during these times. Thanks for your help and cooperation.

Twisting the Picture Won't Help the Scene

I once read of a New York enthusiast who had an outstanding collection of etchings, one of them being the Leaning Tower of Pisa, which hung over his writing desk. For a long time he noticed that it persisted in hanging crooked despite the fact that he straightened it every morning. At last he spoke to the maid, asking her if she were responsible for its lopsided position each morning. "Why, yes," she said, "I have to hang it crooked to make the tower hang straight."

Perhaps you wonder why reference is made to such an account as this. Simply this: That is exactly how a lot of people, not recognizing the real position and beauty of the Scriptures, deal with the Bible. They twist the word of God in order to justify their own actions and doctrines hoping to make them all appear right. Peter stated that Paul wrote some things hard to be understood, "*which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, (twist NKJV) as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.*" (2 Peter 3:16)

The denominational doctrine of salvation prior to and without baptism is such a twisting of the Scriptures. Its position is that "he that believeth and is saved may be baptized." But such is plainly the wrong view of the thing, because Jesus said that instead of salvation being before baptism, it was exactly the other way around: "*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.*" (Mark 16:16) Whoever has the impression that salvation is before or without baptism has a perverted view of it. The Galatians were reminded: "*For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*" (Galatians 3:26-27). Salvation is only to be found in Christ and only those baptized into Christ are in Christ where this salvation is to be obtained. It takes a great deal of twisting to keep from seeing that baptism is essential to salvation!