

Thank you all for being here this morning! It has been a very cold week and its nice to be here around warm hearted christians. I hope you have had a great week and that you were good. (You know who has been watching you... God.) It always seems that people act better around the holidays and that is a good thing, but we as christians should be good all year.

Today after our worship service here the youth group will be going on a mission trip. We are going to visit the shut-ins and give each one of them a gift. We are looking forward to this and I know the ones who we visit we be happy too. Also next Wednesday the youth group will have a Christmas Devotional in the activity building. Youth please be there by 6:15 pm. We will eat, play games, sing and have a good time. Thanks again for being here.

BEN



"Loved the sermon. Hated casual Sunday."

## "IT REMAINS THE SAME"

There has been a prolific amount of philosophical "sowing to the wind" in recent years about marriage and now we watch as our culture "reaps the whirlwind" of distorted thinking and behavior (Hosea 8:7). Society has undergone a dangerous disconnect with common sense and Biblical teaching about gender differences and the unique roles and responsibilities of men and women, especially in marriage and parenting and the church. Powerful personalities and politicians in our land, including the current President of the United States, are now unwilling to define marriage the way the Bible does — as a God designed relationship between a man and a woman, ideally to last a life time (Genesis 2:18, Matthew 19). God's plan for marriage and the home and the church requires two complimentary, but distinctive components — males and females — and no amount of trying to redesign marriage to the contrary by a high and mighty judge or court, a church council, a president, popular practice, or pop culture personalities can change that fundamental fact. In God's plan each gender has a unique and God-given work to do. Marriage is still between a man and a woman. DAN

## THANK YOU

A big thank you to **SHELLY FRANKLIN** for cleaning the ovens in the activity building. She did a wonderful job and they look great. Thank you Shelly. We really appreciate all you do for us.

## DOOR GREETERS

Dec. 18, 2016

Marshall & Eva Walker

## COMMUNION PREPARATION

Dec. 18, 2016

Charles McCullough

# Gospel Worker

## Crockett Road Church of Christ

1717 Crockett Road; P.O. Box 288  
Palestine, Texas 75802  
903/723-6291  
www.crockettroadchurchofchrist.org

### MINISTERS

Dan D. Manuel  
*Pulpit Minister*  
Ben Rhone  
*Youth Minister*

### ELDERS

Dwight Franklin  
Dan D. Manuel  
Dale Sparks

### DEACONS

Henry Baker  
Johnny Jenkins  
Kyle Lock  
R.D. Prince

### SECRETARY

Lorelee Reeder

### MISSIONS

Brown Trail School of Preaching, Bedford, TX  
Jose Cuadras— Mexico School of Preaching  
Hershel Bearden  
*India Mission*  
Central TX Children's Home—Buda, TX  
Tipton Children's Home  
*Tipton, OK*

GBN T.V. NETWORK  
GIVE ME THE BIBLE

T.V. Program  
KETK-NBC 56 Tyler, TX.  
FOX 44 KWKT—Waco, TX  
FOX 33 KMSS

Shreveport, LA.  
NBC 28 KYLE, Bryan-College Station, TX.  
NBC 53—KLSB Lufkin, TX.  
FOX 29 KSVP Lake Charles, LA.

### ASSEMBLY TIMES

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

## If Jesus Came to Church?

Matthew Martin

Let's suppose, hypothetically, for a moment that the Lord returned. But instead of taking the saints to glory and the world burning up (1 Thess. 4:17; 2 Thess. 1:8), let's suppose that He just decided to sit in on one of our Sunday morning worship services. I wonder what His reaction would be when the final "Amen" was spoken?

I wonder if Jesus would have the same critiques that so many people have when services are over. Do you think you would overhear Jesus commenting on certain people who were not "dressed the best." We hear it often in our assemblies by our brethren, but do you think we would hear Jesus saying such things?

He might chuckle at a good sister throwing a fit because the song leader led "two" songs before the Lord's Supper, and not the standard "one."

Or maybe He would shake His head sadly when a brief argument ensued because one brother sat in another brother's "assigned" seat.

As the people poured out of the assembly, He might frown on the one who would yell at a small child for doing what small children do: play.

People, in general, get so mad over things that don't matter. Often that attitude spills over into the worship service. Just remember that, even though Jesus isn't bodily there, He is there, and He knows our attitudes (Rev. 2-3).

It's easy to let things that bother us, distract us. We, however, have an obligation to worship God, and not let trivial things prevent us from doing that.

**Annual Christmas proved to be a wonderful evening of good food and fellowship.**



*From Dan's desk:*

The Annual Christmas party for the congregation here was well attended and it was the largest attendance we have ever had in our history. That is great. A big thank you to Doug Sumrall for hosting the event and catering all the good food. It was delicious. Doug and Barbara really worked hard to insure that everything would be just right, and it was. Thanks you so much for all your hard work. A big thank you to Sandy and James Singleterry, Audrey Manuel and Willette Rasure for decorating the activity building. It is just beautiful. They worked really hard as well. It was just a great and memorable evening. Thanks to anyone who helped in any way to make it a great night. Thanks also to those who came. I know you had a wonderful evening. Thank all of you for being here this morning. It is always good for brethren to dwell together in fellowship. At the time of this writing, several are planning to go to Natchitoches for the Annual Christmas lighting of the city. It will be a fun experience for all who go. Thanks to Charles McCullough for driving the bus and others who took their cars. All reports are in on the Ladies Ornament Exchange. Everyone had a great time and all the ladies survived the gift exchange. Thanks to Sonda for opening her home and for preparing the noon meal. Other events during the month of December are scheduled. Please check the bulletin board. See you tonight.

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES**



## TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

**BOBBY BAIRD** is recovering from heart surgery at ETMC. He is to go to rehab this week.

**LINDA CHEAIRS** is in ETMC. She is recovering from additional surgery. She too will be going to rehab.

**SUSIE TATE** is recovering from back surgery this last Wednesday in the Spine and Joint hospital. She is doing better.

**JOE HANCOCK** is also recovering from his shoulder replacement surgery this last Tuesday in Shreveport, LA. He is better.

**SAMMIE & JOY**, young great-grandchildren of Millie Baur, are extremely ill with respiratory illnesses. They ask for your prayers.

## SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to Millie Baur on the death of her sister, CAROL CARUSCO, in San Antonio, TX. Services are pending

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

**Marshall & Eva Walker**  
**236 CR 3324**  
**Jacksonville, TX 75766**  
**713-806-3442 (Eva)**  
**713-806-3408 (Marshall)**

## New Testament Worship

An important aspect of the New Testament church is worship. Jesus stated in John 4:24 that worship must be "*in spirit and in truth.*" Worshiping God "*in spirit*" involves having the proper attitude and disposition. To worship God "*in truth,*" a person must participate in the acts of worship that are authorized in the New Testament. Worship on the first day of the week consists of the following activities.

SINGING: "*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord*" (Ephesians 5:19). "*Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord*" (Colossians 3:16b).

PRAYING: "And they continued steadfastly... in prayers" (Acts 2:42). "What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also" (1 Corinthians 14:15a).

GIVING: "*Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come*" (1 Corinthians 16:1-2).

EATING THE LORD'S SUPPER: "*For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come*" (1 Corinthians 11:26). "*And they continued steadfastly... in breaking of bread*" (Acts 2:42). "*And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread...*" (Acts 20:7a).

PREACHING: "*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine*" (Acts 2:42). "*And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight*" (Acts 20:7).

Worship is a tremendous blessing in that it provides opportunities for God's children to offer praise to Him.

**Raymond Seig**