

Teen News

Thanks to the ones who stayed after church last Sunday and helped with the bulletin boards. You all did a great job!! Christmas is just a few days away!! I hope that you get everything you asked for, but remember that Christmas isn't just about receiving, it is about giving as well. Today before the evening worship service we will be taking fruit baskets to the shut ins. I hope that each of you will be able to help with that!! If we have enough people with us we may sing a few Christmas songs too. I know that they will enjoy seeing all of you. See y'all later!!
BEN

"THE TONGUE"

One of the first things that a physician says to his patient is, "Let me see your tongue." A spiritual adviser might often do the same (N. Adams). It has been said by another insightful person that "Speech is the index of the mind." Truly, how sweet the words of truth breathed from the lips of love. How repulsive those spoken from the lips of a self-serving individual! The writer James is known for coverage of the subject of the tongue. In the very first chapter, he warned his readers to "lay aside all filth" (Jas. 1:21) which he made sure to include the sins of the tongue. He addressed the subject once again in his third chapter. Most of us are aware of the negative uses of the tongue and the consequences promised for such usage. It can devour (Isa. 30:27), like a scourge (Job 5:21), a sword (Ps. 57:4), it is false (Ps. 120:3) and needs to be kept from evil (Ps. 34:13). So much warmer thoughts can be entertained by reading about the beauty of the tongue when used correctly. It can be used wisely (Pr. 12:18), as a singing tongue (Ps. 126:2), to the wise it is health (Prov. 12:18), wholesome, a tree of life (Prov. 15:4) and powerful (Prov. 18:21). There is never a sermon that I preach but what I am keenly made aware of the gravity of every word to be spoken. I just hope they may see Christ!
DAN

"PEACE, PEACE, PEACE"

A Chinese proverb presented some insight to peace of mind, "If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there be beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there be harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world." It sounds almost simplistic, but it also makes such good sense. Society's problem is that we are not at peace with self; when not at peace with self, nothing else can be right because we are constantly looking through jaded windows. "Peace is: the normal, non-warring condition of a nation, a group of nations, or the world; a state of mutual harmony between people or groups; freedom of the mind from annoyance, distraction, anxiety; tranquility, serenity, silence, calm or quiet." There have always been times of peace and war. Solomon said: "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven...a time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace" (Ecc. 3:18). Our nation has not become the nation that it is without many battles, sacrifices, blood and tears of our forefathers. Our nation has always been peace loving. Wars have been fought because of unrest and ulterior motives of other countries trying to disturb or rob our nation of its privileges. The world has been a constant battleground for thousands of years. How can we achieve that peace we all so much crave? God is the author of peace John 14:27

ADAPTED

DOOR GREETERS Dec. 21, 2014

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**COMMUNION PREPARATION
Dec. .21, 2014**

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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-56 Tyler, TX.
FOX 44—Waco, TX.
FOX 29, Bryan-College Station, TX.
NBC 53—Lufkin, TX.
ASSEMBLY TIMES
Sun: 9:30 AM Class
10:30 AM Worship
6:00 PM Evening
Wed: 7:00 PM

You'll Get Dizzy

A certain man was troubled with dizzy spells, redness in his face and bulging eyes. Every day when he went to his office, he experienced these things. Weekends were not so bad, so he concluded his work was causing his physical discomfort. He went from one doctor to another and none could tell him what the problem was. He consulted psychiatrists, psychologists and psychics. What was wrong? Why was he constantly suffering from dizzy spells, redness in his face and bulging eyes? He tried everything, it seemed. Nothing helped. He finally resigned himself to the fact that whatever was causing all this was fatal. It bothered him so much he began to lose weight. He couldn't sleep at night. He feared he would never overcome this. He became a nervous wreck and his health began to deteriorate. He had lost hope that he would ever recover. He decided to prepare for the worst. He made out his will, bought a cemetery plot, instructed the preacher what he wanted at his funeral, and even made arrangements with the local undertaker. He was fully convinced of his soon demise. He even decided to buy a new suit of clothes to be buried in. When he went into the clothing store he was measured for everything. He picked out shoes, socks, coat, and pants. The sales person asked, "What size shirt will you be need-ing, sir?" "Size 15, please," he replied. The clerk said, "But, sir, I believe that is a bit small. Let me measure your neck size." After the measurement, the sales person said, "I'm sorry sir, but your will need a 16 1/2, not a size 15." But the man insisted, "No, I have worn a size 15 for years." The sales person tried several times to convince his customer that he needed a 16 1/2, but the man would have nothing of it. Finally, the exasperated sales person said, "Well, sir, if you insist, we'll get out a size 15, but I must warn you, you will have dizzy spells, get red in the face, and your eyes will bulge out." Some people are so set in their ways, they will never admit the obvious. Some are so unwilling to change they appear to prefer to remain spiritually without comfort. Long ago, a very wise man wrote: The way of the fool is right in his own eyes, but he who harkens to counsel is wise. Prov. 12:15
SELECTED

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The Christmas Season a busy time of year.



From Dan's desk:

Thanks to all of you for being present today. It is always great to worship God collective and to be encouraged through the singing of great gospel hymns, and through the study of His Word. We are thankful for our visitors today. We hope you will come again. We had a lot of visitors last Sunday. December seems to be the month that most people visit our city. Thanks to Sonda Baker for opening her home for the ladies Ornament exchange. All the ladies report that they had a wonderful meal and fellowship. Thanks also to Pam and Sue for opening their home last Tuesday for the card signing. Everyone had a great time and we had a large group in attendance. Many cards were signed and sent to a number of folks. Through your efforts, others will be uplifted and encouraged. Those who went to Natchitoches had a good time. Thanks again to those who went along for the trip. Natchitoches is a beautiful city. It is the oldest city in the Louisiana purchase. It was established in the year 1714. Others events are forthcoming for the congregation here. Next Sunday night Dec. 21st David and Jennifer Sparks are once again opening their home for a Christmas fellowship following the evening worship service. We will have finger foods and a wonderful time of fellowship. We hope you will want to join us. They are always so kind to open their home at this time of year and I always look forward to being there. Thanks for being with us this morning. We appreciate your presence. God is glorified and the church edified by the presence of you all. See you tonight. DAN

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES



TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

ED FURMAN continues to recuperate at home from his surgery.

JIMMY COOK finished his radiation last week.

SHERI CHAMBLESS hopes to see a cancer surgeon soon.

DEANNA CHAPMAN remains homebound awaiting back surgery.

SUE GRAVES, sister of James Henry, had knee surgery last Tuesday.

REMEMBER to pick up a prayer list for all those with continuing health issues.

Ladies Bible class will have their annual Christmas Party this Tuesday, December 16th, immediately after class. Bring a dish and a small gift to exchange and join us.

BAPTIZED:
KRENA LEWIS
(She is moving to Gainesville, Texas)

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." Thanks again for coming.

Finding Fault

Sid and Barney head out for their usual 9 holes. Sid says, "Let's make the time worth the while, at least for one of us, and bet \$5 on the lowest score for the day." Barney agrees and they enjoy a great game. After the 8th hole, Barney is ahead by one stroke, but hits his ball into the rough on the 9th. "Help me find my ball, you look over there," he says to Sid. After five minutes, neither has had any luck, and since a lost ball carries a four-stroke penalty, Barney quietly pulls a ball from his pocket and tosses it to the ground. "I've found my ball!" he announces triumphantly. Sid looks at him forlornly, "After all the years we've been friends, you'd cheat me in golf for a measly five bucks!?" "What do you mean cheat? I found my ball sitting right here!" "And a liar, too!" Sid says with amazement. "I'll have you know I've been standing on your ball for the last five minutes!" It's so easy to point the finger at others when we're guilty of the same thing! That was the problem with the Pharisees. It wasn't just their judgment (because some judgment is appropriate and necessary). The problem was the kind of judgment, their anxiousness to find fault in others while taking no time to examine their own lives. "And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye." (Matthew 7:3-4) ADAPTED

