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"New Testament
Christianity Today"



Mid-Week Announcements

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Welcome



- ◆ We pray God will be glorified, and you edified, by our time together this evening.
- ◆ We ask all cell phones be set to **silent** or **vibrate**.
- ◆ **Hearing devices** are available for those who could benefit from their use. Check with the sound room.

Youth News



- ✓ **Sandy's** Bible Bowl team will meet **this Sunday (Mar. 29)**, from **3:30 pm** until worship. The "Kids Who Did It" questions are due **Apr. 5**.
- ✓ **Robie & Todd's** Bible Bowl/Bible Quiz will meet **this Sunday at 1 pm**.
- ✓ **Puppets (6th & under)** will meet at **3 pm**.
- ✓ **Puppets (7th & up)** will meet at **3:45 pm**.
- ✓ **Live Modern Drama** will meet at **4:30 pm**.
- ✓ **LTC participants**, please turn in your banquet questionnaire to **Sandy today**.
- ✓ **Service Project:** If anyone wants to donate a bag of Easter candy for a service challenge project, please bring it to **Carla Matthews by April 5**.

Ladies' Class



Ladies' class will meet **Wednesday, Apr. 1**. All ladies are encouraged to take part in this study on prayer. Please read lesson **12** of The Begging Place.

Visitation



Visitation team #2 (**Joe/Paula Harle**) will meet **this Sunday, Mar. 29**. All members asked to be present.

Calendars



April anniversary/birthday calendars are on the tables in the foyer. Get your copy tonight!

Points to Ponder



- ❖ *We must be masters of ourselves that we may be servants of others.*
- ❖ *We are pardoned from sin, but we are not excused from service.*
- ❖ *It is the greatest of all mistakes to do nothing because you can do only a little.*

Remember in Prayer



Information available when the bulletin was printed. Listen to the announcements for updates.

- ▶ **Jo Nell Westbrook** was in an auto accident yesterday. She has two broken bones in her left hand, and is sore, but otherwise is okay.
- ▶ **Bill Ferguson** had shoulder surgery today.
- ▶ **Francis Rogers** has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and beta cell lymphoma. This health problem is treatable. Remember, Francis is in Heritage at Longview and would appreciate calls, cards, and visits.
- ▶ **Jessie Anderson** will have hip replacement surgery Apr. 2.
- ▶ **Aline Cox**, former member, is recovering from a fractured shoulder. She is at Pine Tree Lodge, room **25**.
- ▶ **Robert Nipper, Charlie's** brother, will have his colon removed **Mar. 30**.
- ▶ **Wesley Dubois**, a friend of **Gary & Laura Boone**, has been diagnosed with cancer.
- ▶ **Matt James**, a friend of **Chase Warr**, has been diagnosed with a brain aneurism.

Please continue to remember in prayer our **shut-ins**, whether home bound or in nursing facilities.

Elder/Deacon Nomination



This Sunday (Mar. 29) you will have the opportunity to submit the names of individuals to be considered to serve as **elders/deacons** for the Longview congregation. There will be forms and a box to put them in in the foyer following **morning** worship.

Tri-C Meal



We will once again be providing the meal for the Kilgore Tri-C **Thursday, Apr. 16**. The **Harris Chapel** congregation will be helping us out in this effort. This is a good work supported by the **Chandler St.** congregation, and brings in close to 300 young people to share a meal, and hear a message from God's word. **Sherry Krueger** is heading up this effort. There is a list on the table in the foyer with needed menu items. Please sign up and help out! If you need more details, please see Sherry.

Remember Bible Class & Worship Wednesday!

LIVING WITH GOD

No one likes being used by someone else. Any relationship, whether as a friend, colleague, husband/wife, parent/child, or any other, is to be mutually beneficial. We give of ourselves to others, hoping they will show the same concern for us. When it doesn't happen that way, when another, just for their personal benefit, exploits you, it hurts. You feel betrayed and angered, and sometimes suffer a loss of self-esteem. The emotional harm is real, and it may take some time for the wounds to heal.

Isn't it curious, then, while no one likes being used, how many people use others? And isn't it strange how some people take that attitude with God? In Christ we have a **relationship** with God, walking with Him and living for Him each day. Paul exhorted the Colossians to "*walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God*" (Col. 1:10). Paul is speaking of a constant relationship with God. We should always be conscious of our life in Christ, of His abiding presence, and of what that means in all we say and do.

There is a big difference, then, between a relationship with God and using God. God is more than a "cosmic bellhop," only there to cater to our whims and needs when it is convenient for us. How often do you pray to God? Do you speak with Him each day, or only when you need His help to remove you from some difficulty? Is daily Bible study part of your routine? Are you a "*living sacrifice*" (Rom. 12:1), or do you serve randomly? If you only think about the spiritual when you need something from God, you are using Him. That is no more of a positive relationship than when others treat you the same way.

God knows the difference between using Him and living for Him. James told his readers, "*You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures*" (James 4:3). By contrast, one should "*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you*" (James 4:8). The richest blessings come to those who live with God day by day. To try and use God is only a sign of selfishness, of a heart that has yet to learn the beauty of life in Christ. May we seek to live with God each day of our lives, and experience the joy that such a relationship offers. "*LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his heart*" (Psalm 15:1-2).

Robert