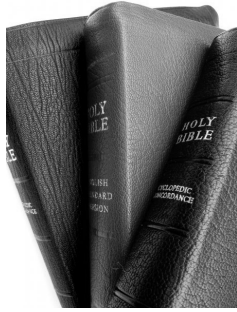


April 30, 2010

Editor:
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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.

Senior Banquet/Going Away

We would like to invite the congregation to attend the graduation banquet/going away party in honor of **Chase Warr**. This event will take place **Sunday, May 16**, immediately **following evening services** in the **new** multipurpose room. Please sign the list in the foyer if you plan to attend, so we may coordinate meal planning and seating.

Youth News

The monthly service project at **Whispering Pines** is **this Saturday, May 1**, at **10:30 am**. For further information, please see **Carla**.

Medina Home

Medina Home needs **Oreo's** and/or **dishwashing soap**. The truck will be here **next week**. Let's bring as much as we can!

Change of Address

Joanie Woodruff has moved. Her new address is: 205 W. Whaley St., Apt. 206, Longview, TX 75601-6377. Her phone number is still the same. Please update your directory.

Points to Ponder

Nine Mistakes to Avoid

1. *Remorse* over yesterday's failure.
2. *Anxiety* over today's problems.
3. *Worry* over tomorrow's uncertainty.
4. *Procrastination* with one's present duty.
5. *Resentment* of another's success.
6. *Criticism* of a neighbor's imperfections.
7. *Impatience* with youth's imperfection.
8. *Skepticism* of our nation's future.
9. *Unbelief* in God's providence.

Remember in Prayer

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

- ✦ **Madeline Morgan's** heart catheterization went well. Her problem can be treated with medication.
- ✦ **Christine Ellis** is continuing her rehab from home. If you can provide a ride to therapy, please check the sheet in the foyer.
- ✦ **Ciff Wright** had surgery in Dallas Monday. This was to repair a small leak at the base of a stint.
- ✦ **Clyde Graham, Blou's brother-in-law**, is having health problems at this time.
- ✦ **Doris Hacker, Jackie Lee's** cousin, is receiving treatments for pancreatic cancer.
- ✦ **Maxine Ray, Lynn Hickey's** aunt, is not doing well. Therapy is no longer working. She is on Hospice care.
- ✦ **Evan McElduff, Gloria Gilmore's** 11 year old second cousin, is to see a pediatric cardiologist tomorrow in Monroe, LA. He will ultimately have surgery in New Orleans to repair a hole in a chamber of the heart that did not close at birth.

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

Help Wanted

Natasha Busch is in need of a part-time job to help pay rent on her new apartment. It would need to be on Saturdays so she could bring her daughter **Hailey** with her. She is willing to do light yard work, house cleaning, etc. If you can help out, please see her or call her at 225-788-1018.

Change Cans Are Coming

Foster's Home for Children will be bringing their change cans to us in **May**. We will have until August to fill them up. Let's all start saving our change now !

Visitation Program

Visitation team #2 (**Joe/Paula Harle**) will meet **Sunday, May 9**. All members are asked to be present.

Calendars

The **May** calendars are on the tables in the foyer. Be sure to pick one up today.

Be Holy

God, through His word, calls us to a high moral standard by which we should live. To Israel He repeatedly said, *“Be holy for I am holy”* (Lev. 11:44). In like manner Peter urges us, *“As obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires of your former ignorance but, as the One who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct; for it is written, Be holy, because I am holy”* (1 Pet. 1:14-16). We are to walk in purity of heart and lifestyle, as this sets us apart from the evil attitudes and actions characteristic of the world around us.

Why has God required this kind of life from us? Is it so we can't have fun or enjoy the pleasures of this life? The answer, of course, is no, but so we can enjoy life as it should be. Only life in Christ is truly abundant (John 10:10), as it's within the parameters for which God designed us and means for us live. For example, I read several years ago about an individual who, at that time, was fifty years old. As a result of alcoholism, he suffered sustained memory loss. He could remember in great detail events of his life until he was twenty, but after that everything was blank. Even more tragic than that was, whenever anything happened to him, he could remember it for only a few seconds. For this person, due to his following the pattern of the world, even watching television was an impossible task, as he would forget the beginning of the show before it would end. He was a man truly lost in time.

This is just one example of what living in the pleasures of sin has to offer. How many have suffered due to being addicted to drugs, the misery of existence that brings? Or how many have lost themselves and their families due to living a sexually immoral lifestyle? I know of family members separated because of words spoken in anger, and no one willing to yield so that forgiveness and reunion can happen. Lying only brings more problems, not solutions. The broken hearts and lives that are created in the wake of sin are seemingly endless.

God calls us to His holiness and His way of life because it's the **best** life to live. It doesn't embarrass us, hurt us, or ultimately destroy us. It allows us to truly enjoy this life, without it controlling or dominating us. It offers hope for eternity. Don't be deceived by the allure of sin, because Satan is the father of lies (John 8:44) and never delivers on what he promises. Hold fast to those things that will endure for eternity. As Paul says, *“put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness”* (Eph. 4:22-24). To do so, and so live, means *“when he appears we will be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure”* (1 John 3:2-3). This is truly the life that's worth living.

Robert