

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

“...churches of Christ salute you” (Rom 16:16)
Established 33 AD

August 5, 2013
Volume 5 Number 28

1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, TX 75061
972/790-8606
972/790-3897 (fax)

Web site:
<http://www.beltlinechurch.com>

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Class.....9:00 a.m.
AM Worship...10:00 a.m.
PM Worship.... 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study.... 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday:

Ladies' Bible Class(Sept.–Apr.)
Class meets at 10 a.m.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

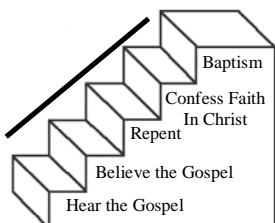
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

CUSTODIANS

Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear-Romans 10:17
Believe-John 8:24
Repent-Acts 17:30
Confess-Romans 10:10
Be Baptized-Acts 22:16
Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



Meditate Upon The Word Of The Lord

Don Hatch

Hearts and minds that are spiritually controlled are shaped into useful elements for a godly life. It is not unusual that the spiritually minded person has primary intentions which never vary or alter when faced with temptations (Jas 1:1-18). The heart and mind of a Christian is the product of meditation and reflection (Psm 1:2). Meditation is to ponder and consider the things which are acceptable in God's sight (Psm 19:14). Meditation represents a person searching for answers to store within and adding to them words of wisdom gained from deeper study of God's word (2 Tim 2:15).

Those who meditate, bow before God seeking His answers to the mysteries of life ((Psm 119:97-99). Being absorbed in thought and engaging in consideration is to “muse upon a subject” until fully satisfied that the solution can be applied and will further a relationship with God in holiness. Wisdom requires thought and use. Blessings follow the individual who meditates on the word of the Lord (Psm 1:1-6; Eccl 3). The “lack of desire” to model a life in a godly manner is due to a lack of meditation on the religious life found within the pages of the Bible (Lk 21:14).

Nourishing our lives with words of faith and good doctrine allows us to follow the ways of God and exercise ourselves in devoutness. Godliness has a promise of life now and that which is to come (1 Tim 4:8). Laboring and striving in the work of the Lord is a joy because it fills us with hope that the Living God accepts our labors because they are done faithfully in His name (1 Tim 4:6-15). Being an example to all in a good manner of life, love, faith and purity arises from reading the words of God and being diligent and taking heed to ourselves.

Drawing near to God presupposes that an individual desires to live within the holy concepts which God requires. Becoming comfortable with our thoughts and practices requires time and patience. Spending time with God literally changes lives for the better. Quiet time to read and reflect on what has been read engrains the will of God into our will (Heb 8:8-13). Tendencies to rush into study and accomplish it with speed generally gives “head knowledge” only and not the thoroughness

needed to quiet restlessness. Consistency will give us control.

Anchoring our thoughts with an aim to emboss them on our heart is a magnificent reason for study. Having scriptural phrases or certain aims like “learning to walk by faith” and “finding how to have a peace that passes all understanding” are influential concepts which give us a spiritual attachment to the meditation of our hearts. Learning to “cast our cares upon the Lord” is needful if the inner person is to acquire the full benefit of Bible study (1 Pet 5:7). Meditation is the silent record of one learning to do all things through Christ who strengthens us (Phil 4:13). Take time to pray frequently about what you have studied and create a focus on maintaining the spotlight on what you seek to accomplish. A healthy sense of yearning to abide with God in prayerful fellowship will eventually remove the weight of sin which so easily besets us (Heb 12:1-4).

Guiding our study and meditation will structure our lives to deliberately reflect upon the revelation of God. Christian meditation is unlike Eastern meditations. There is no counting of “beads or reciting catch phrases” which paralyze the mind into saying ritualized phrases and “vain repetitions”. Christian meditation does not use “mantras” but intends to deepen understanding and progressively attune life to the word of God. Heightening a personal relationship with the Father through the Son will take delving into in the Holy Spirit's inspired word. Amplifying the love of God marks the communion of a believer with the Godhead (2 Cor 6:14-18; 7:1). When study, prayer and contemplation are focused, the mind, will and heart will absorb God's word and His principles for the greatest effectiveness. Taking ownership of thoughts and practices measures behavior, transforming a Christian's life into an effective tabernacle of worship and praise (1 Cor 3:16, 17; 6:12-20).

Danger is found in a use the any Eastern form of meditation. Attempting to mix Christianity with other religions destroys it. Much of “**New Age**” religion uses such things as “yoga, **meditation**, feng shui [**Chinese** system of **geomancy**] and healing crystals. The New Age religion aims to create spirituality without borders or confining teachings. They use both Western spiritualist movements and Eastern traditions calling it the “Age of Aquarius”.

Making God's word a vital part of daily thought patterns enhances our spiritual life and character. Creating a stronger bond with God is vital. Pondering the relevancy of God's word for our personal life offers guidance and changes us by making each day a time of growth and fulfillment by creating balance in our life.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

HOW WE SPEND OUR TIME WHILE HERE ON EARTH IS VERY IMPORTANT.....Tomorrow, today, yesterday, are all expressions of time. We are running a race with death (Heb. 9:27). Tragedies happen many times each day, and our prayers go up for the families affected. For many though, they were just minutes away from being safe, but for precious lives time has run out. Time is that fleeting commodity which God lives outside of, but man measures it in days, weeks, months and years. Read (Eccl. 3:1-15).

In the spring time when rains come in abundance, water is not as much appreciated, but in the late summer and fall, when little rain has fallen and the earth is brown and life is dying, then, how we would like to see rain. So it is this way in life. While we are young and happy and the rains of life overflow and our souls are constantly refreshed, time seems to be little appreciated (Eccl. 12:1). But later, the sad day when our doctor walks away from our bedside and says, "I can't do anymore," then a proper value is placed on time (Eph. 5:16).

But it is not how long we live, but how well we live. It is not the quantity of time, but the quality of life. In our youth we can hardly wait to have the time pass in order that we might be adults and begin on our own. But when we awake to our new time, we find that we have overslept. It is not morning, but late afternoon or middle or old age. Like snow that has fallen during the night, so age has come upon us unexpectedly, time has passed more quickly than we anticipated. We long for the days of the past. We want again the spring time of life. But it is gone; we can't go back! We find ourselves on a road we cannot return. We must go on. We cannot look back and wish for the yesterdays.

Time is very valuable because during this period of human existence the destiny of all mankind is sealed. This life is man's probationary period; to neglect God's will for our lives will result in eternal loss of our souls (2 Thes. 1:7-9). Our future destiny depends upon the decisions we make and the actions we take now.

Read (2 Thes 2:13-17). Today is the day of Salvation!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR CARDS, CALLS, PRAYERS AND CONCERNS FOR MY FAMILY AND ME! MAY GOD BLESS EACH OF YOU!

Have a great week serving our Father who is in Heaven! Hope to see you each time the saints meet when possible. Please remember in all your prayers our sick, shut-ins and those that are bereaved!

Dean Webb

"Now we that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each one of us please his neighbor for that which is good, unto edifying. For Christ also pleased not himself; but, as it is written, the reproaches of them that reproached thee fell upon me. For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that through patience and through comfort of the scriptures we might have hope. Now the God of patience and of comfort grant you to be of the same mind one with another according to Christ Jesus..." (Rom 15:1-5).

Creation!

Is teaching creation a distraction? Some say that teaching Genesis is a distraction. They have decided that the creation account is nothing more than a **myth**. Does it "turn off" those who are seeking God? Is evolution winning the day? Teaching the beginning of all things by an Almighty God is being short circuited by more than evolution. Morals are having an ironic over-striding because the Genesis Account proclaims the standard for what marriage should be. Genesis cannot express truth unless it is correct. Genesis serves a means of conveying historical truth about creation. Creationism is recognized as a serious threat to evolution. Christianity should be steadfast in opposition to evolution. The Restoration Movement has been unwavering in its response to evolution. After the Scopes trial evolution was made an issue as early as 1927 G.C. Brewer [a preacher] challenged the outcome of the trial [**The Threat of Evolution to Christian Education**, Brad Bromling-Apologetic Press]. Over the years many have noted that making Genesis a myth destroys Christian Education. If left unchallenged it will ultimately undermine the faith of many.

Jesus Christ believed that the Genesis Account was literal history. He was a descendent from Adam and Eve (Lk 3:23-38). Jesus taught about Adam and Eve when He was questioned about marriage (Mat 19:1-6). He demonstrated that this first couple was married and joined by God. He used Adam's statement from Genesis 2 about leaving father and mother to be joined with a wife. Moreover, He stated that God created male and female in the beginning (Mk 10:1-9). The Old Testament and New Testament affirm that the first man was Adam (Gen 1; 1Cor 15:30-49). Jesus was God with us (Mat 1:18-20). As God he was there in creation (Jn 1:1-17). He did not disavow the Genesis Account. He died to save Adam's race. Adam and Eve are the individuals who introduced sin into the world. If Jesus died to bring forgiveness of sin the Genesis Account must be true (Col 1:9-19; 1 Jn 2:1-15). If teaching the Creation Account distracts from evangelizing then the entire story of Jesus is a distraction! Salvation is about saving Adam's race from the fall and their personal sins (2 Pet 3:1-13). The New Testament confirms that the world was compacted out of water and in the midst of water, by which it was later overflowed with water destroying all but those in the ark that Noah built. Jesus believed in Noah as an actual historical account which destroyed mankind, animals and non-aquatic things (Lk 17:26, 27). He gave no room for millions of years for creation. He believed that only 8 souls were saved by the Ark and that it was a worldwide flood (Heb 11:7).

Jesus used Noah to confirm that He was going to come a second time when mankind was disinterested in godliness. They would give and be given in marriage knowing nothing of the things which would come to pass (Mat 24:37-39; Lk 17:26, 27). This referred to the Genesis Account. Noah entered into the Ark with Shem, Ham, Japheth, along with their three wives and his own. Thus, eight souls were saved by water (1 Pet 3:20, 21). Shem was the origin of the Israelites through Abraham. Historically it is appropriate to spend the time teaching Creation as taught in the Genesis Account. It is basic to evangelizing the world. Without Adam there would be no need for Jesus Christ. Jesus died to save Adam's race. The story of Adam is in the Genesis Account.

Don Hatch

Family News:

News at Belt Line.
Call in your information to the office at:
972-790-8606 by Sunday evening.

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

August 11, 2013

Front foyer: Thomas Rathbun & Carol Swinney

Back foyer: Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

August 18, 2013

Front foyer: Steven & Sara Grosshuesch

Back foyer: Don & Anne Herriage

Sermon Titles

August 11, 2013

a.m: "Only Begotten Son"

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-13

p.m: "Pride Of Heart"

Scripture: Obadiah 1:1-7

August 18, 2013

a.m: "Children Walk In Truth"

Scripture: 2 John 4-11

p.m: "Jonah's Prayer"

Scripture: Jonah 2:1-10

Contribution Counters For

August

Glen Kelly & Steven Grosshuesch

Communion Preparation For

August

Robert & Cathy Taylor

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate booklets.

SUMMER YOUTH SERIES

The summer series will be on **Tuesday, August 6th** at 7 p. m. It will be held at **Keller church of Christ**.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Frances LaFerney, Jan Smithson, Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney, Roy & Helen Thomas, Tim Fowler, Marietta Houser, Mary Walker, Billie Myers, Shelia Martin, Jane Easter, Serena Jacobs

Those In Need Of Prayer

·**Chelsea Story** granddaughter of **Mike & Elizabeth Garrison** had surgery last Tuesday. All went well.

·**Elizabeth Garrison** had a root canal done on Tuesday, July 30th. It went well.

·**Nancy Pond** had a procedure done on Thursday. It went well.

·**Donna Davis** has asked for prayers for her co-worker's 18 year old son **Dusty**. He has problems with his white-blood cells and is in Baylor – Grapevine.

·**Darrell Phillips** (visitor) is now home from the hospital. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.

·**Debra Alonzo** has strep throat.

·**Joe Mack Dwyer**, son of **Elizabeth Garrison** is having health issues. Please keep him in your prayers.

·**John Mayer** has been suffering with headaches and digestive issues for over a month. Please keep him in your prayers.

·There are many others who are suffering with various illnesses. Please keep them in your daily prayers.

SUMMER SERIES

Our speaker on **August 7th**, will be **Kevin Rhodes**. His Topic will be **"The Scriptures Are**

Indestructible", Hebrews 4:12-13.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our **Vacation Bible School** is less than 2 weeks away on Saturday, **August 17th**. The **theme** is: **Circus of Faith**.

There are cards in both foyers that you can pick up and send out to your family and friends inviting them to our **Vacation Bible School**.

BEAR MINISTRY

We need at least **3** additional people to help stitch bears. If you would like to volunteer, please contact **Beverly McKey**.

THANK YOU

Thanks for all the cards and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery.

Thomas Rathbun

Thank you for the prayers, cards, calls and concerns on our behalf this past week.

Dean Webb

There is a thank you note on the bulletin board from Charlene and Gaylen.

A very special Thank You to all who participated last Saturday in passing out information for our upcoming VBS on **August 17th**. We especially want to thank the teens who came and helped put out 600 door hangers on doors in this area. A job well done.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

8/7/13 – Kevin Rhodes – speaker

8/14/13 – Kenny Gardner – speaker

8/17/13 – VBS – 8:30 a.m.

8/19/13 – 39'ers – 6:30 p.m.

AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S

Francis Tipton – 8/2
 Elsie Nanney – 8/2
 Dorothy Smith – 8/3
 Amber Vaughan – 8/5
 Marjorie Bennett – 8/8
 David Odom – 8/11
 Kaitlyn Howard – 8/17
 Delores Ramsey – 8/18
 Stacey Cook – 8/22
 Tiffany Garrett – 8/22
 Charlotte Nigh – 8/22
 Donna Davis – 8/25
 Ann Smith – 8/26
 Melody Lundquist – 8/31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Dorris & Janie Walker – 8/5
 Brent & Samantha Howard – 8/14
 Derrol & Kelly Allen – 8/20
 Leo & Carol Townsend – 8/21
 Bill & Linda Matthews – 8/22
 Dale & Katherine Cox – 8/30
 Jerry & Laquita Baker – 8/31

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
 Please contact Mike Batot at:
 (972)741-2397*

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)

Front Table

·Glen Kelly
 ·Bill Matthews
 ·Brandon Howard
 ·Nathan Allan
 ·Henry Seidmeyer
 ·Bobby England

Rear Table

·Robert Taylor
 ·Brent Howard
 ·Roy Martin
 ·Derrol Allen

8/11/13

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

· Dean Webb
 · Jerry Baker
 · Mike Garrison

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Thomas Rathbun
 1 John 4:7-13

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

· John Mayer
 · Glen Kelly

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Alex Mayer
 Obadiah 1:1-7

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

· Jerry Baker

LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)

·Dale Cox
 ·Jerry McKey

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

·Bill Paschall

A.M. SONG LEADER

·Darrell Allen

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

| | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>This Week</u> | <u>YTD Avg.</u> | <u>Goal</u> |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Sun. Class | 65 | 52 | 75 | 100 |
| A.M. Worship | 120 | 95 | 133 | 150 |
| P.M. Worship | 59 | 62 | 67 | 80 |
| Wed. Class | 74 | 66 | 70 | 85 |
| Contribution | \$4822 | \$6413 | \$5290 | \$5470 |

MISSIONS

Glen Tattersall – Australia
 Roland & Rose Moshen – France
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
 Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
 Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
 Roy Conner – Brown Trail Preaching Student
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
 Christ's Haven Children's Home – Keller, TX
 Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, TX
 Ted Lingren – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
 Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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PERIODICALS POSTAGE
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 AT IRVING, TEXAS