

Let's Visit

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If You Can't Say Something Nice...

Grandmother always had a lot of "sayings". She always was telling me, "willful waste makes woeful want". I didn't really understand when I was younger and used to ask her who woeful was. Another of her favorites was, "one man's meat is another man's poison." She also said, "if you can't say something nice about someone, then don't say anything at all". In fact, I am certain that all of you have heard that during your life. It reminds me of the story of the old woman who always had something good to say about anything and anybody. One day, someone said to her, "You know, I believe you would find something good to say about the devil." The dear old saint replied, "Well, he is always busy." Tragically, the truth of that statement cannot be denied. He is always busy and he has always fought against the peace of God's people. He started in the early morning of time with the first family and has been busy ever since. He brought jealousy and envy into that family and finally murder. When we study the history of man on the earth, we see this work of the devil in almost every generation. He is not interested in peace but in division. If he can sow discord he knows that finally a good work will be destroyed. Of course, all of the work the devil does is done through men and women. "United we stand, divided we fall" is a truth that has always existed. Whether we face this problem as a community, nation, family, or church, the truth is always the same. Unity always brings about prosperity. Discord brings failure. God realized the evil of sowing discord when He inspired Solomon to write these words in Proverbs 6:16-19, "*These six things doth the Lord hate; yea, seven are an abomination unto him; A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood. An*

heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief. A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren."

In his plans for sowing discord, the devil has always been very subtle. He is the master deceiver and makes believe that they are only fighting for what is right. Guess what, Hitler believed that. Saddam Hussein believed that. You see, men fight for what they believe to be right. So all the old devil needs to do is convince people that it is their duty to thus fight and discord will come. In his work through men and women, he is clever enough to hide the real cause, and often the person in back of the act stays hidden also. So it usually begins as a "whisper". Someone says, "I really shouldn't say this, but I am just concerned about things at church, and I know you are..." You see, there are always people who are gullible enough to be used. If they are worked up to a certain point you can be sure they will carry out the purpose of the person who so worked them up! Such a person always knows to whom he or she should go in order to get their work done and spread their poison. They will always select someone who does not know enough to know that they are being used. To the person bent on sowing discord and creating mischief among the people of God, it does not matter if the person being

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In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSLA 12 – Shreveport -7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 -6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

"Kicking The Underdog!"

Our text comes from Job 12:5. Often, there is a temptation to "kick someone when they are down". Yet, that was not the attitude of Jesus toward the downtrodden.

FOR THE PANTRY....

Manwich Sauce

If You Can't Say Something – continued from page 1

Is sacrificed or not. The devil will sacrifice anyone and anything to gain his point and destroy the unity of the people of God. Since he works through men and women, you can easily see that this same attitude will often exist in the hearts of folks. This is why often good churches are destroyed from within by people who are crying about their loyalty to God. Those who think can see the real issue, but not all people think for themselves and that is why the old devil often has his way.

May the Lord help us to be always on our guard, and not allow any man to do that which the Lord hates – sow discord among the brethren.

tp

Our Work Goes On.

We have written here the past two weeks about the support we provide for 3 different Children's Homes and a fourth we are considering helping also. We have also written about our work in evangelism as we attempt to spread the word of the Gospel to our community and those we come in contact with.

However, there is another aspect of our work and that is involvement in the lives of our community. There are several ways that we as a congregation attempt to have a positive impact on the community that we are a part of.

Our building is used as a voting place in the election process. In fact, this coming Tuesday (March 3rd) both the Republican Party and the Democratic Party will be voting in our Fellowship Hall. In November, we will be a voting place for the general election.

The local chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous meets in our fellowship hall 4 nights a week on Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

The local Weight Watchers group holds their meeting in our Fellowship Hall on Thursday nights.

Also, this year we are providing a place for Life Line Screening to provide health screenings for those in our community. These will be conducted on June 15, 2020 and December 4, 2020. These are always well attended and provide another way for us to be involved in helping our community.

Remember, what we have said about the "State of the Church". The Center Church of Christ is alive and well and working for the Lord. Our prayer is that the Lord will bless our efforts as we do His work in our community.

tp

On The Lighter Side.....



DON'T GET TOO EXCITED FELLA, I'M THE
MEDIocre SAMARITAN ... I ONLY GIVE
YOU A BANDAID AND THEN I'M OFF

Miscellaneous

Covered Dish Luncheon

TODAY!

March 1, 2020

*We hope you are planning
to stay for lunch!*



The ladies serving on the Hospitality Committee for this dinner are: Martha Bradshaw, Betty Miller, Alda Yarbrough and Debra Pate. Thank you ladies for your willingness to serve, you are appreciated more than you know.

SAVE THE DATE!

April 24th - 26th 2020

**Annual Area-Wide Singing &
Gospel Meeting**

**Austin Wiggins – Guest Speaker
Pulpit Minister – Vidor Church of Christ**

**Remember our Sunday Afternoon Class
5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Will NOT meet this afternoon**

Some Points to Ponder. . . .

*If a man stands with one foot on a hot stove
and the other on a block of ice, there are those who
would argue that, on the average,
he was comfortably situated.*

*The man who thinks he knows it all just simply
has not been listening.*



Those To Remember In Prayer

Our Church family to remember in prayer

LaJuan Baugh, Dale Fincher, Martha Jean Golden, Rodney Golden, Sonya Golden, Sue Hagler, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, Ted Holt, Dora Livingston, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Betty Permenter, Mike Permenter, Janice Willaims, Melvin Williams, Betty Willis, Alda Yarbrough.

Our “extended family” to remember in prayer:

Joe Barr (Melvin Williams’ son) **Tim Bartlett** (friend of Betty Miller) **Leyton Bell** (Ryan Perkins’ grandfather) **Edward Lee Bradshaw** (Gene Bradshaw’s Brother) **Leslie Bradshaw** (friend of Tim & Norma Perkins) **Pauline Bradshaw** (Gene Bradshaw’s sister-in-law), **Bethany Bridges** (Debra Pate’s friend), **Jennifer Britt** (friend of Thelma Hinton) **Kaden Butler** (Debra Pate’s great grandson) **Marcus Cruz Cranford** (Sue Hagler’s-great-great grandson) **Ronnie Emanis** (Sue Hagler’s nephew) **Mary Fleming** (Mike O’Brien’s aunt) **Hugh Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher’s brother) **Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher’s sister-in law) **Mike Fults**, **Jonica Glaze** (student from Tenaha injured in serious car accident) **Virginia Goodrum** (Debra Pate’s sister-in-law) **Buddy Hancock** (Martha Jean Golden’s brother) **Allison Harbison**, **George Holder**, **Larry Landry** (Glenna Noles Brother) **Vickie Lee** (friend of Sue Hagler) **Juston Lout** (Patricia Lout’s son) **Shirley Lout** (Mike Lout’s mother) **Mason Matchette** (3 year old injured in 4 wheeler accident) **Mitchell McLeod** (LaJuan Baugh, Sheri Burgay, Trish Lout’s nephew)), **Elsie Lee McDaniel** (Alice Hall’s sister-in law) **George McNatt** (Dale Findher’s neighbor) **Roger Scott** (LaJuan Baugh’s son-in-law) **Robert Shull** (friend of Sue Hagler) **Margie Weaver** (friend of Debra Pate)

Those being treated for cancer:

Guadalupe Beltran (friend of Sue Hagler), **Harold Dawkins** (friend of Thelma Hinton) **David Greer** (son of Gene Greer, former minister here) **Carla Holt** (Ted and Joyce Holt’s daughter-in-law) **Tanya Johnson** (Alda Yarbrough’s sister-in-law) **Dora Livingston**, **Connie Mettauer**, **Tem Morrison**, **Teresa Richard** (Friend of Norma Perkins) **Bobbie Smiley**, **Ronnie Stanfield** (friend of Tim & Norma Perkins) **Tina Vaughn** (Sue Hagler’s daughter) **Jo Windham** (Betty Miller’s sister-in-law)

Also remember **Leland Bradshaw**, **Amanda Bradshaw** and **Andrew Bradshaw** (Gene and Martha’s son and granddaughter and grandson) in Iraq.



Across The Preacher's Desk

One of the things folks sometimes have a hard time doing is being fair with the church. There are some Christians who are very active in finding fault with the church and its faithful members.

I read once of a congregation where a new minister had just moved to town. He busied himself in contacting inactive members and exhorting them to faithfulness. One man, in justifying himself, said, "There is very little Christianity among the members. I was sick for more than a month and not a member came to see me. The men with whom I work – men of the world – took more interest in me than the church did.

Well, that sounded really bad, so the preacher investigated. It was true, the man had been seriously ill for several weeks, and no member visited him. The preacher also learned that the man had not attended a service of the church for some six months before the illness, and no member had been notified of his illness.

When the man failed to show up for work, those with whom he worked knew something was wrong. Had he been regular in church attendance, the members would have known something was wrong when he was absent. Get the point? At least we can be fair in our criticisms of the church.

it's something to think about. . . .tlp

**Great Churches are built with
Commitment!**