



LET'S VISIT

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YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN

Thomas Wolfe was an American novelist and short story writer during the early part of the 20th century. He was one of the pioneers of autobiographical fiction and along with William Faulkner, he is considered one of the most important authors of the Southern Renaissance within the American literary canon. He is known largely for his first novel, "Look Homeward, Angel" and for the short fiction that appeared during the last years of his life. His last novel entitled "You Can't Go Home Again" was published posthumously. It is the story of a writer named George Webber who grew up in a little town called Libya Hill. The premise of the story is that the places of our childhood change and no matter how hard we might try, we can't go back because we will find them different, changed. George Weber goes back to the small town of Libya Hill for the funeral of the aunt who had raised him. While there he learned that he could never really go home again, for home was no longer the quiet town of his boyhood but a growing city of money-crazy speculators who were concerned only with making huge paper fortunes out of real estate.

It is often the case that the places of our childhood change so much that once we leave them, we truly can't go home again. The old familiar restaurants have disappeared, the merchant owned stores are no longer there, and we find out that things just aren't the same.

However, there is one place where we can go home again. When we have left the Lord and left our home in the church, we can go return. That is one lesson brought to us quite plainly by Jesus Himself.

The story of the prodigal son as recorded in Luke 15 is the story of a boy who went home again. The young man came to his father and demanded his

share of the inheritance that he had coming to him. The father gave him his portion and scripture tells us that he went to the far country and "wasted his substance in riotous living." Exactly what that "riotous living" was is left to our imagination, but I am quite certain we all have a pretty good idea of what was going on. We can be certain that he was not living God's kind of life in God's way. The story continues that there was a famine in that strange land and this young man who had wasted his monetary capital found himself to be in want. We can only assume that while the money lasted and the party continued, he had plenty of new found friends. Yet, now that the money was gone, so were his new friends. He was estranged from his father's house and he was hungry. So he went to work for a local pig farmer feeding the swine. For a young Jewish boy, you could hardly get lower than having to slop the hogs. Yet, we see this young man so hungry that the slop he was feeding the hogs was looking good to him. In his hour of need and want, he determined to go home to his father, confess that he had sinned, and ask that he be made as a servant.

Well, you know the story. His father saw him coming down the lane and ran to meet him and kissed him. He gave instructions to the servants to bring the best robe and put it on him, put a ring on his hand and shoes on his feet. He further instructed them to

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In Search of the Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSHV 45 - 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



*An
Unknown
Hero*

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Reserve these dates for important events in the life of our Church for 2026

June 7, 2026 – “Friends and Family Day”
September 13, 2026 – “Back To Church Sunday”
December 6, 2026 – “No Excuse Sunday”
December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party

For The Pantry. . .

March 29 – Oatmeal



**March 22, 2026
\$ 2,233.00**

The Lord’s plan of giving ...”as ye have prospered”

**Communion Preparation - March
Manny & Brittany Ortiz**

On The Lighter Side. . .



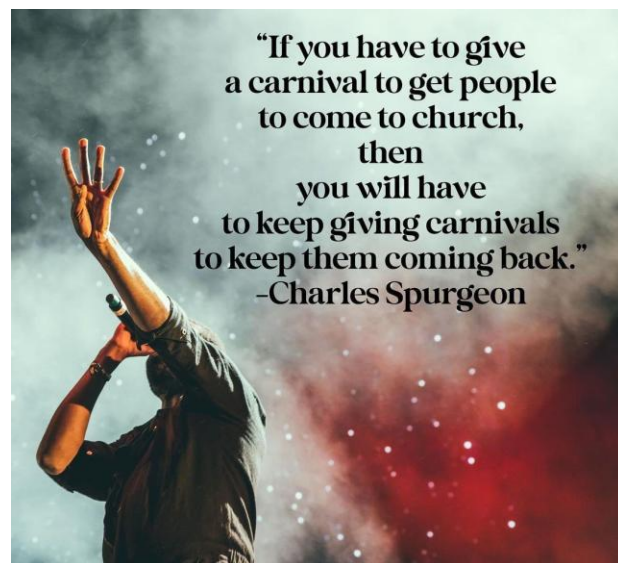
“Our family is trying one of those old-fashioned churches, with preaching, the Bible, and all that stuff.”

You Can’t Go Home Again – Continued from page 1

bring forth the fatted calf and have a great celebration for his son that was lost has been found.

What we see in this story is a picture of God when his own children leave home and stop living His kind of life and return back home. You see, the Lord never leaves us, but we sometimes do leave the Lord. When that happens, we will find Him right where we left Him. Like the father in the story, the Lord will welcome us back with loving arms and rejoice at our return. If you know someone in the far country, speak an encouraging word to them. Invite them to come and be a part of our work and worship. Make sure that they know that God loves them and wants them to come home. If that is your personal situation, come back to the Lord, resolve to live for Jesus and make Him Lord and Master of your life.

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“If you have to give a carnival to get people to come to church, then you will have to keep giving carnivals to keep them coming back.”
-Charles Spurgeon



Annual Area Wide Singing



Friday – April 24, 2026

7:00 p.m. to 8:30p.m.

Refreshments served following the singing

GOSPEL MEETING – San Augustine Church of Christ, April 5th – 8th, 2026. Brant Stubblefield of Edmond Oklahoma will be doing the preaching with services at 7:00 p.m. each evening.

Sunday June 7, 2026

Make your plans to be here and invite your friends and family to come and join us!



We had a great time of fellowship this past Wednesday evening with our monthly fellowship meal. Our next Wednesday night meal is scheduled for April 29, 2026

We extend our sympathy to **Margaret Goings** and the rest of Alice Hall's family with her recent passing.

OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Stanley Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) **Leslie Adams** (friend of Diedra Hughes) being treated for brain cancer; **Krista Andrus** (Tim and Norma Perkins niece) **Peggy Baylor** (Tim Bradshaw's mother) **Debra Clifton** (friend of LaResa Livingston) **Coleen Dickerson** (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) **Hugh and Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) **Joyce Fontenot** (Debra Pate's mother) **Dot Grant** (Friend of Debra Pate) **Suzi Hogan** (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Albert Magby** (Melonie Bradshaw's father) **Karen McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher) **Gene Perkins** (Tim Perkins aunt) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle); **Heather Simmons Stewart** (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; **Stephen Wiggins** (preacher at San Augustine) **Max Windham** (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

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Remember Jesus said, "Love thy neighbor as thyself". Someone once commented that our neighbors probably couldn't stand that much affection.

It's amazing how the young are always ready to give those who are older than themselves the full benefit of their inexperience.

You can accomplish anything if you have patience. You can even carry water in a sieve if you wait until it freezes.

Our responsibility never can cease so long as we have a life to live for Christ and a whole world still waiting for the gospel.



Across The Preacher's Desk

There is an interesting incident in the life of Jesus recorded in Mark chapter 14. Jesus was the guest of honor in the house of Simon the leper. While having dinner, a woman came with a box of precious ointment and broke the box and poured the ointment on the head of Jesus.

Well, almost immediately, the “naysayers” and the “faultfinders” began to criticize this wasteful act. Mark tells us some said the ointment could have been sold and the money given to the poor. He also tells us they murmured against her. Yet, in the face of this biting criticism, Jesus commended her and told them to leave her alone because she had done what she could.

The story suggests to us that Christianity is a religion of doing things. It is not something one gets but something one does. Jesus went on to tell them that wherever the gospel would be preached, what she had done would be spoken of as a memorial to her.

From this story, we learn that each of us has a responsibility in the Lord's Kingdom to “do what we can”. God wants us to do what we can and our responsibility is equal to our ability. The greatest need in the church is not eloquence, education or wealth. The greatest need is the spirit that will cause each person to do what they can. Are you doing your part in the service of the Lord?

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

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
Will you?**