

Let's Visit



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Who Is On The Lord's Side?

Do you remember when Moses came down from the mountain with the tables of stone in his hand? He found the people had gone astray, and because of the shock, he dropped the tablets and broke them. He realized the necessity of destroying the chief transgressors, so he called for the help of those who had not been guilty. In Exodus chapter 32 and verse 26, Moses asked, "*Who is on the Lord's side?*" Those who refused to have a part in the downfall of the people were those who were considered to be on the Lord's side. They refused to be turned aside from the Lord's business.

Well might we ask that question even today. Who is on the Lord's side today? There are so many demands for our time, so many distractions, so many things we would like to do, that if we are not careful, we will neglect the Lord and His work. The Lord's work is a work that cannot be put off or turned aside without disastrous results. It is easy to get into the habit of saying, "I intend to do this or that for the church when I am through with what I am doing." Beloved, when we do that we are choosing the second best, and we are rapidly turning away from the Lord. The only way to cure ourselves of this habit is to remember that the Lord's business always comes first. Jesus told us in unmistakable language in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:33, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." He was trying to get his disciples to realize that the matter of living, as we view it is of secondary importance when compared to working for God. **GOD MUST BE FIRST!** His work must be first. No amount of reasoning can change that. This truth can be brought down to a very small point. If it is a matter of giving, let me put aside what should be given to God before I spend any of my salary for

anything else. If it is a matter of reading and studying the Bible, let me do that first. So often, if we do not set aside time to read and study God's word first, we will face numerous interruptions and we will neglect God's word. If it is a matter of some work for the Lord, like talking to someone about the welfare of their soul, let me do it first and then take care of the matters of lesser importance. We should all be able to take this line of thought from this point. Every successful person I this world has learned to prioritize their activities. Every person on the Lord's side has also learned the same lesson.

I am afraid that many of us have not fully realized how little time and attention the Lord gets from us. Can we afford to risk losing our souls for a mess of pottage? Our own souls must be saved. The souls of our friends and neighbors must be saved by our efforts. It is time that we showed the Lord that we are on his side by our total commitment to the Lord and His church.

We cannot afford to let other interests crowd out the interests of the Lord. We must find time to be in Bible Study and Worship on the Lord's day. Whether we do a great work for the Lord or a mediocre work for the Lord is dependent on the level of commitment we are willing to show the Lord and His church.

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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

The Importance of Baptism in Salvation

Another installment of
our sermon series:

The Misunderstood Church

FOR THE PANTRY....

Fruit Juice

Hopping on and Riding!

Every member of the church should be interested in every phase of the work of the church. In most congregations a few are interested only in some particular part of the church's activities. There are those who rush in and rush out of the assembly on Sunday morning. They never attend Sunday evening service, never attend mid-week classes. These miss much of the sweet fellowship of kindred spirits which God intended that his children should have. There are others who attend all services fairly regularly, but assume no responsibility in the work. Any announcement of special work for the congregation "goes over their heads". Their attitude is, "let them do it". These miss much of the joy that can come only from a sense of duty well done.

A working congregation is not one in which the few are doing what many should do – but one in which the many are seeking to do the things which the few usually have to do. Each member at the post of duty.

Many church members seem contented to be riders. One day a man boarded a train. The conductor came through the car calling for the tickets. This man had no ticket. When questioned

by the conductor as to why he failed to purchase a ticket, the man replied; "Well, you were making the trip anyway weren't you?" The conductor answered, "yes". Then the man responded, "Well, since you were making the trip anyway and since you have plenty of empty seats, I just thought I would hop on and ride.

Some members of the Lord's church impress us as feeling that since others are bearing the burden of the work of the congregation, they will just "hop on and ride". Beloved, genuine Christianity demands that each individual member of the church assume responsibility for the work commensurate with his or her abilities and opportunities.

On The Lighter Side.....



HAS IT ALREADY BEEN A YEAR SINCE WE
WERE THANKFUL?

Work For Christ !

Working for the Lord has never been easy. The early Christian never had it easy. He often fought in the Roman pits against lions and gladiators, for his life – and often lost.

Today, our service to Christ rarely calls for us to offer our lives, in a physical sense, yet to really work for Christ we must offer HIM our complete self as a living sacrifice.

My mind was ruffled with small cares today,
And I said pettish words, and did not keep
Long suffering patience well, and now how deep
My trouble for this sin! In fain I weep
For foolish words I never can unsay

H, S, Sutton

Miscellaneous

COVERED DISH LUNCHEON



**Sunday
December 8, 2019**

**Please plan to
come and bring
someone with
you!**

Are You Willing...?

To close your book of complaints and to open the book of praise/

To believe other men are quite as sincere as you and to treat them with respect?

To ignore what life owes you and to think about what you owe life?

To stop looking for friendship and to start being friendly?

To be content with such things as you have and to stop whining for the things you have not?

To enjoy the simple blessings of life and to cease striving for the artificial pleasures of the day?

To forget what you have accomplished and to meditate on what others have done for you?

To cease looking for some one to help you and to devote yourself to helping others?

To consecrate your life to the service of an imperfect church and to remember that Christ chose twelve imperfect men to be his disciples?

To accept Jesus Christ as your Savior, obey His commands and let your life be an outlet for His joy, love and peace?

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*The mind is like the stomach.
It is not how much you put into it that counts,
But rather how much it digests.*



Those To Remember In Prayer

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Ann Burson** who passed away on Wednesday. Her services will be this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. at Watson and Sons.

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 Williams, Melvin Williams, Betty Willis, Alda Yarbrough.

Our "extended family" to remember in prayer:

Joe Barr (Melvin Williams' son) **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) **Glynn McCleod** (brother-in-law to LaJuan Baugh, Sherry Burgay and Trish Lout) **Mitchell McLeod** (LaJuan Baugh, Sheri Burgay, Trish Lout's nephew), **Elsie Lee McDaniel** (Alice Hall's sister-in law) **Roger Scott** (LaJuan Baugh's son-in-law) **Robert Shull** (friend of Sue Hagler) **Winston Smith** (Themla Hinton's brother) **Margie Weaver** (friend of Debra Pate) **David Williams** (Melvin Williams son)

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) **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

A preacher one time was asked if a certain man and his wife belonged to the church where he preached. His reply was, "No, they do not belong to the church here. They are members, but they do not belong to the church."

"It's like this," the preacher explained. "neither their time, their affection, their energy, their money, nor their influence belong to the church."

Does that make you wonder what kind of membership these people had in the church? The preacher said, "they came to us, and we received them in good faith, and we thought they were looking for spiritual fellowship and service. Sadly, their attendance has been so infrequent they have no sense of belonging to the church family and the church has not been a spiritual home to them. Truthfully, there is not an ounce of this man and his wife that belongs to the church. All they have ever added to the church is a name on the roll."

The sad truth is, the rolls of local churches are loaded with names that are "members only". This is their only indication of love for Christ. Yet, Bible love is active and not passive. Jesus expressed His love by dying for us. Will we show our love by living for Him?

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

Great Churches are built with Commitment!