



# LET'S VISIT

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## SORRY. . BUT TOO LATE

In the long ago, Esau sold his birthright in a weak moment. He failed to appreciate values. At that particular moment, something to eat meant more to him than all the fame and riches that might be had with his birthright. However, his sin was even greater than this. He actually turned his back on God when he sold out. Later he was genuinely sorry that he had committed this rash act in a moment of weakness. Yet, it was too late to be sorry. *"We know that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected; for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears."* (Hebrews 12:17). He tried to persuade his father to change his mind, but it was too late. He must forever pay for his folly.

Do you remember a man named Judas? Judas would have given anything to change what he had done. He kissed the Master, but it was a kiss of betrayal. Every kiss does not suggest affection. He deliberately sold out when the going was hard. The world has never known a more despicable character. But, he was sorry. *"Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that. And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself."* (Matthew 27:3-5) It is interesting to note that he was sorry "when he saw that he was condemned". However, we will not question his motives. Whether his sorrow was genuine or not, it does not matter. You see, it was too late to be sorry. No doubt he would have given

his life to make things right. Yet, he gave his life and still could not do it. Things had gone too far and gotten out of hand.

If we are not careful, it is possible for us to find ourselves in the same condition as Esau and Judas. We should be very careful in all matters so that does not happen to us. There have been those who have abused their friends and loved ones until it was too late to apologize. There have been parents who were overbearing with their children until their sorrow gained them nothing though that sorrow might be great. Many people have failed the Lord until it seems impossible to "renew them again unto repentance". It has been said, "there is nothing more completely dead than a dead love". Perhaps that is the reason it is so difficult to renew interest in spiritual matters in the heart of one who has once "tasted the good word of God" and fallen away.

It is too late to be sorry with others when we have caused them to completely lose trust in us. If we treat others in such a way that they believe we are not to be trusted, our sorrow may be great, but it does not cause faith to return. Forgiveness may be obtained, but faith is gone. It is too late to be sorry with God

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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  
KSLA 12 - Shreveport - 11:00 a.m. Sunday  
DISH channel 373 - 7:00 a.m. Sunday  
DIRECT TV channel 83 - 7:00 a.m. Sunday

# Gathered Here and There



## *When Death Is Gain*

**For The Pantry. . .  
April 14 – Spam**

**Offering – April 7, 2024. . . . . \$1,473.00**

**The Lord's plan of giving ... "as ye have prospered"**

**Sorry...But Too Late – continued from page 1**

when we have used our lives in the things of this world and face him to be judged for the deeds done in the body. Our weeping may be bitter. Our sorrow may be deep, but our doom will be sealed. There are many people in our world today who are well aware of their duty to God. They seem to almost dare Him. He has granted opportunity after opportunity but to no avail. They live by His blessings but refuse to worship in return. They have spurned so many invitations that it has become a habit. Some day they will long for an opportunity to obey God, but it will not come. A heart that once yearned for God has lost its feeling. Nothing can help then. That person will face God. They will be sorry, but sorry to late. How important it is that we use every opportunity to keep ourselves right with our fellow man and with God, so the time will not come when it is too late to be sorry.

tp

## **They'll Do It Every Time!**

The preacher had just concluded a hot and scathing sermon on the sin of swearing. He had stated several times that he knew that one of his hearers was guilty.

The service ended. The worshippers one by one filed out the door. The first to go was a woman never suspected of using foul language. With a read and angry face she exclaimed, "I'll never darken this door again."

Before the astonished preacher could recover from this blast, another said, "Well, brother, if I had known you were near last week, I would have been more careful of my language."

A third said, "I think you might at least have come to me privately about it, rather than telling it to the whole church." A fourth remarked angrily, "I was never so embarrassed in all my life."

Then came the real culprit – the one at whom the preacher had aimed all his remarks. With a bland and innocent smile he grasped the hand of the preacher and said, "Brother, that was what I call real preaching. You certainly did pour it on them today!"

*-The Reminder*

## **On The Lighter Side. . .**



**"...and jumping up and down when you preach doesn't count as aerobic exercise!"**

## **X Marks The Spot. . .**

Gus and Ole were vacationing at a northern fishing resort. They rented a boat from the hotel and found some great fishing at a certain spot in a nearby lake. It was so great that they decided to mark the place and come back for more fishing the next day. At the dock, Gus said, "Ole, did you mark the spot?"

"Yes," replied Ole. "I put a chalk mark on this side of the boat."

"Boy, are you dumb!" exclaimed Gus. "What if we don't get the same boat?"

*-copied*



### AREA WIDE SINGING!



Mark your calendar for Friday, April 26, 2024. We will be hosting an Area Wide Singing. Make your plans to be here, invite your friends and neighbors to

come and plan to stay for a time of fellowship after the singing.

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### There Will Be No Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal in April



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### Upcoming Events

**Men's Business Meeting** – Today, immediately following the morning worship in the church offices. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

**LADIES' DAY** – April 27, 2024 at the Tenaha Church of Christ 9:30 a.m. til 12:30 a.m. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

- April 26, 2024 – Area Wide Singing
- June 2, 2024 – Covered Dish Luncheon
- September 8, 2024 – Friends & Family Day
- December 8, 2024 – No Excuse Sunday
- December 15, 2024 – Christmas Party

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

Roxie Bostick is at M. D. Anderson undergoing cancer treatment.

#### OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Roxie Bostick, Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

#### "EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Cody Anthony (LaResa Livingston's nephew) Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother), Alton Bradshaw (Gene Bradshaw's cousin – cancer) Michele Bradshaw (Gene & Martha Bradshaw's daughter in law) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Gail Foster (Cancer) Bobbie Gray (Jerry Pate's Aunt) Geneva Harrison (Mike Bostick's mother) Glynn Hartt (friend of Cissy Amos) Joe Hughes (Cissy Amos' father); Sonya Hughes (friend of Gene and Martha Bradshaw) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Vervan Pate (Jerry Pate's brother) is being treated for stomach cancer. Stephanie Richard (Friend of Norma Perkins) cancer; Traci Roden (friend of Norma Perkins) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; Michael Smith (Debra Pate's cousin) is being treated for lung cancer in Green Acres; Buddy Sowell (friend of Debra Pate) J. C. Tate (Jana O'Brien's father) Clark Paul Williams (LaResa Livingston's cousin)

#### THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

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

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**54 in 24**  
**Invite Someone Each Week!**



## **Across The Preacher's Desk**

Most, if not all of us are familiar with the first miracle Jesus performed. It was at a wedding in Cana and Jesus and His disciples were there. Jesus' mother, Mary, was there too. They ran out of wine and Jesus changed six pots of water into wine. It was not just any wine, it was better wine than what had already been served.

Hidden in that story is a statement made by Mary that is often overlooked. She was speaking to the servants and recorded in John chapter 4 and verse 5 are these words, "whatsoever He saith unto you, do it." You know, that is good advice for us to take to heart in our own day and time.

You see, the commandments of Jesus, the things Jesus tells us to do, the way Jesus instructs us to live are more than just suggestions, they are imperatives. Too often in our world today we fail to take Jesus seriously and obey what He tells us to do.

Jesus had a lot to say about obedience. In the sermon on the mount in Matthew 7:21, He says, "not everyone that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of Heaven, but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven". Then again, in John 14:15, speaking to His disciples, Jesus says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

You know, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it" seems like sound advice.

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

**The Lord's Plan  
For Evangelism –  
Each one Bring one!  
54 in '24!**