



LET'S VISIT

**A Publication of the Center Church of Christ
110 Hurst Street Center, Texas 75935**

Volume 10

Number 34

August 20, 2023

THE LIFE OF TRUST

We live in a dangerous and precarious world, that is not a secret to any of us. In spite of our best efforts, our world is hazardous and uncertain. Accidents and calamities can suddenly, without warning take our lives or cause us to spend expensive and painful months in the hospital. Diseases of various nature are constantly at hand. Yet, in spite of all we can do to prevent accidents and in spite of all we can do to prevent illnesses, both are still very common.

We have built hospitals, we have developed drugs and there are all manner of preventative and curative aspects to modern medicine yet we are still plagued with disease.

Financial disaster is also very common and very real in our world. The loss of possessions, unemployment and inadequacy of income constitute a burden to the masses of mankind. Despite all we can do to save for old age, to insure against death, illness and disaster, we are still extremely vulnerable.

Nature itself also adds to the uncertainties of our world. Things such as storms, earthquakes, fire and the like. Ultimately, each of us faces death. When you consider all of these things, it is obvious that our world is an unstable world in spite of all that man has been able to do through the centuries to prevent disaster and to prepare for disaster.

Even with all our preparations, something more is needed. We must develop a trust in the Lord. This is a trust that will undergird our lives. It is not wrong to try and avoid accidents. It is not wrong to insure against economic loss. The Lord expects us to do all we can to protect and sustain our lives.

Yet, when we have made all the preparations we can make, our world is still a dangerous and precarious world. More than that, we need to

develop the attitude of yielding our lives to the Lord and leaving our affairs in His hands.

There are many situations that are beyond our control. It is only by yielding ourselves completely to the Lord and by trusting in his constant care that we can ever have the peace of mind that we desire. The life of trust is our only real security.

Yet, there is a critical point in the life of trust. There is a point which is difficult to pass. On one side are doubts, hesitation and uncertainty. On the other side are trust, unselfish service and peace. It is somewhat like what happens when we learn to swim. We hold on to the edge before we venture out. At some point we no longer stay in the shallow water.

Similarly, in our lives there is a tendency to hold on to the material things of life. Ultimately, we realize how transient these things are. We come to know how solid the promises of God are. It is then we launch out into the deep of life. We commit our lives to the Lord, trusting Him to care for us in every emergency.

The wisdom of trusting in the Lord is one of the dominant themes of the entire Bible. It is demonstrated in the lives of many people. Writers of scripture recommend it over and over again. We see it in the life of David, we read of it when Paul wrote

(Continued On Page 2)

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



The Great Salvation!

For The Pantry. . .
August 20 – Pancake Mix

The Life of Trust – continued from page 1

wrote to the church in Rome and Jesus tells of it in the Sermon on the Mount.

A concrete example of the great blessings that come to those that trust implicitly in the Lord is that of King Hezekiah. In that story we have a young, 25year old king beginning to reign in Judah. Judah was a tiny little buffer state between mighty Egypt and mighty Assyria.

Shalmaneser, king of Assyria came up against Samaria and carried the people into captivity. His armies then came to Judah. He died and Sennacherib took his place before Judah had felt the pressure of the siege. Sennacherib sent his spokesman Rabshekeh to convince Hezekiah and the people that it was futile to stand against mighty Assyria.

With this ultimatum before him, king Hezekiah turned to the Lord. He sent messengers to Isaiah. The story closes as Sennacherib brings his host and besieges Jerusalem. That night, the angel of the Lord went out and 185,000 of the Assyrian army were all dead corpses. II Kings 19 tells us that because of this, Sennacherib departed.

From the beginning of time, God has been concerned for the welfare of His children. Those who have followed his directions and have trusted in Him have been blessed. King Hezekiah is only one of the many examples of the protective care of God. God has throughout the ages lavished his care on those who are his.

As wise men, we need to protect our lives in whatever way we can. We need to insulate against foreseeable dangers. We need to avoid death and destruction when possible. However, we need to so commit our lives to the Lord that we will not be upset, no matter what may come. When we yield our wills to the Lord and obey His commands to the best of our ability, we have the assurance he will take care of us in this world and in the world which is to come. The life of trust is the answer to the problems of a dangerous and precarious world.

tp

Each One Bring One!
53 in '23
Invite Someone Each Week!

On The Lighter Side. . .



These beat Facebook friends anytime!



SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

**Make your plans to be here and
bring a guest (or 2)**

* * * * *

Hospitality Group 1 will be in charge of this luncheon. The members of that group are: Marsha Bounds, LaResa Livingston, Batty Miller, Lisa Miller and Melonia Molloy.

* * * * *



August 30, 2023

6:00 p.m.

**Please make your plans to
come and join us.**

We started the Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal last year, with the intent and hope that it would be an encouragement for those who were not coming on Wednesday night to join us for the mid-week service. We still need more "bodies in benches" on Wednesday night just like we do on Sunday Mornings. If you can join us, come and be a part of our Wednesday Night Services.

Make your plans to be in Bible Class

9:45 Sunday Morning

7:00 Wednesday Evening



Myrtle Turner (Norma Perkins Mother) is scheduled to see a surgeon in Tyler on Thursday.

LaResa Livingston is having some health issues and is in need of our prayers.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Leon Aldridge, Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, Louise Johnson, Mike O'Brien, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Cody Anthony (LaResa Livingston's nephew) **Mitchell Anthony** (LaResa Livingston's brother), **Minion Bean**-(Mike O'Brien's mother) recovering from a fall and hip surgery), **Aleshia Bradshaw** (Gene & Martha Bradshaw's granddaughter in law) **Brenda Bradshaw** (Gene Bradshaw's sister in law) recovering from knee surgery; **Curtis Bradshaw** (Gene Bradshaw's brother) recovering from pneumonia; **Ron Cone** (Laura Miller's dad), **Celina Danley** (Sister of Joyce Danley) multiple health issues, **Hugh and Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) **Gail Foster** (Cancer) **Bobbie Gray** (Jerry Pate's Aunt) **Geneva Harrison** (Mike Bostick's mother) **John Henry Holloway** (Martha Jean Golden's son) **Suzanne Ihlo** (Martha Jean Golden's sister recovering from a stroke) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **Reba Miley** (friend of Debra Pate) **Vervan Pate** (Jerry Pate's brother) is being treated for stomach cancer. **Al Reick** (Robbie Holt's brother-in-law) pancreatic cancer. **Stephanie Richard** (Friend of Norma Perkins) cancer; **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; **Suellen Swank** (friend of Norma Perkins) **J. C. and Pat Tate** (Jana O'Brien's mother and father) **Wes Wiesemer** (Gene Bradshaw's nephew) recovering from a stroke and also suffering with cancer: **Clark Paul Williams** (LaResa Livingston's cousin)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

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



Across The Preacher's Desk

Have you ever had some unexpected dinner guests appear at the last minute? That is what happens to Jesus and the disciples in Mark chapter 6. Herod had executed John the Baptist and Jesus and the disciple were doing their best to get to a secluded place to be alone. They were weary and tired from the teaching and healing being done. Their lives were busy and hectic and they needed a little time to relax.

Yet, it is on this occasion we find Jesus taking 5 loaves and 2 fish and feeding 5,000 men. But, I want us to notice the question Jesus asked them in Mark 6:38. He asked, "how many loaves have ye?". It was as much as to say, "are your resources sufficient?"

Rest assured that Jesus was not asking for information. He also was not asking because he couldn't feed the multitude without their loaves. What he was doing was trying to teach them and us a lesson. He wanted his disciples in that far off day and he wants us to know today that Jesus will bless others through us. He wanted those disciples to know they must be willing to use what they have. We also must be willing to use what we have.

You see, what we have must be given into His hands. We are to use our strength, our tongue and our heart. We are to use our material means. We are to be the earthen vessels in the service of Jesus. Jesus asks us today, "how many loaves have ye?" Are we using what we have, the talents He has given us, in His service?

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

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
53 in '23!**