

Let's Visit

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Yes. . . But. . .

Do you want to ruin a reputation, backbite with the tongue or slow the progress of the church? If so, here is a choice word to add to your vocabulary. This little word "but" has done much evil in its day, and is destined to do much more. In the mouth of the person who desires to harm others or harm the church, this little word is a choice weapon. Let's see some ways it is used. Then perhaps that will help us to know, in order to keep from being hurt by its subtle use.

Let's say that the conversation is about a certain congregation of the Lord's people. The conversation may have come to this by accident, or it may have been directed to this subject. Nothing can be said that is actually wrong. The work of the group speaks for itself. However, if someone wants to start some thinking in the wrong direction, they might say, "I know they seem to be doing well, the offering is good, and the attendance is holding up, **but** there is something wrong there. You mark my word, it will come out sooner or later. I can't say what it is but I know there is something wrong." My friends, anyone ought to be able to see the design of this kind of low down talk. Unfortunately there are souls that are so trusting that they fail to understand that there are many who have the disease that calls forth such statements. If they happen to be god people it only bothers them for a short while until they learn better. If they happen to know the weakness of the person, they mark it down as another sign of a growing insanity. If they are like the person making the statement, then they join in with this kind of destructive conversation. Sadly, there are always those who are secretly "rooting" for the church to fail.

Yet, conversations are not always about congregations when such methods are used. They may turn in the direction of some individual in the Lord's family. It may be the preacher, one of the bible class teachers, or one of the leaders in the congregation. Whoever it is, this person is out to do them harm. The words might sound something like this: "I know he (she) seems to be a god person, **but** he (she) has you fooled. He (she) has you under his (her) thumb. Some day you will get your eyes open." Such statements are designed to cause a person to believe that he is not being treated right; to think that they are being used. Of course the one wanting to use them is now on the job, but this is concealed for the moment to a few unsuspecting souls. Also, if you get a person thinking that someone thinks they have them under their thumb, they will assert their independence. A great deal of grief will be the result, often there is a breaking of the ties of friendship, but the troublemaker will have done his or her job.

Sadly, people do not always work alone in matters of this kind. They may have several that they use in such situations. Sometimes we find a husband and wife team. I have known men who had their wives do most of the dirty work in this kind of thing while they tried to make a very humble and
(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



Today's Sermon

The Tragedy of Judas

He wasn't always a monster.
He once was a trusted friend.
What happened?

FOR THE PANTRY....

Dried Pasta

Yes. . . But. . . – continued from page 1

soft-hearted approach. Such people must always be watched.

The Lord said, “evil men would wax worse and worse.” The church has always had to be on guard against this kind of people. Each time the church failed it has suffered. It is often those who are attempting to be very humble and “love everybody” that have done the most harm to the church. When you hear someone who is always saying, “yes...but...” be careful what you say around them!

tp

Judas Had...

*The Best Preacher
The Best Leader
The Best Adviser
The Best Counselor*

Yet, he failed...

The problem is not the leadership of the church you go to.

*If your attitude or character does not change, or your heart doesn't transform
You will always be the same.*

He understood....

An old schoolmaster said one day to a minister who had come to visit the school, “I believe the children know the Bible lesson word for word.”

“But do they understand it? That is the question,” said the minister. The schoolmaster only bowed respectfully, and the examination began.

A little boy had repeated the fifth commandment, “honor thy father and thy mother,” and he was requested to explain it. Instead of trying to do so, the little fellow, with a blushing face, said, almost in a whisper: “Yesterday sir, I showed some strange gentlemen over the mountain. The sharp stones cut my feet, and the gentlemen saw them bleeding, and they gave me some money to buy me some shoes. I gave it to my mother, for she had no shoes either, and I thought I could go barefooted better than she could.”

There were tears in the minister's eyes as the boy finished his commandment, but there were also shoes on the boy's feet before many days were past.

-borrowed

On The Lighter Side.....



WE'VE ALREADY HEARD THIS ONE

Something to think about...

You and I are apt to talk about “big” and “little” sins. There is an Indian proverb which says, “There is no distinction between big and little when talking about snakes.” They are all alike – snakes.

Miscellaneous



Those To Remember In Prayer

Singing & Dessert Fellowship!

Wednesday
January 29, 2020



Make your plans to be here!

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AREA WIDE SINGING!



Friday Night
January 31, 2020
7:00 P.M.

Angelina
Church of Christ
Lufkin, Texas

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Covered Dish Luncheon

Sunday

March 1, 2020

Make your plans to be here and bring a friend



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
Make your plans to be here!

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) Justin 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

There was a little boy whose mother made him sit down, and he said, "I may be sitting down, but I am standing up inside." How many of us are like that? We hide our inner rebellion underneath external religion and go about pretending to do the will of our Heavenly Father.

Did you know that God classifies the sin of stubbornness with that of idolatry? Samuel told King Saul after his rebellion against God, "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." (1 Samuel 15:23) We are warned against this sin in Psalms 32:9, "Be ye not as the horse or as the mule, which have no understanding; whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near thee."

Stubbornness is responsible for many of the heartaches and headaches that folks have today. It has broken more hearts, divided more churches, and wrecked more lives than perhaps any other sin. It is no wonder God classifies it with idolatry, for it is the worship of self.

Don't let stubbornness keep you from serving the Lord and living the kind of life He wants you to live.

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

**Great Churches are built with
Commitment!**