

Let's Visit

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Why Don't You Grow Up?

All of us at some time or another in our lives have either been asked the question or asked it of someone else, "Why don't you grow up"? No doubt, this expression can be traced to the beginning of man. Merely the fact that the question is asked suggests that an individual who has grown up should somehow be different from those who have not grown up. Theoretically it is something that separates between childhood and manhood.

Guess what. The older I get, and the longer I live and the more I associate with other "grown" people, the more inclined I am to believe that we would be wise to stop asking that question. I have almost reached the conclusion that people do not grow up. We are still children and yet we do not want to like to admit that we are.

Take a look at this in natural life. At the age of fifty, sixty or seventy, people are very little different from what they were when they were children. Of course, they have slowed down a little (or sometimes a lot!) Time has made many changes. In many instances the hair has either turned loose or turned gray and cleaning the teeth before bedtime involves putting them in a glass. But I am not talking about the physical changes that the ravages of time take on our bodies. We are talking about the attitude and disposition people have toward life and their reaction to various things. The problems and difficulties we hear about today among "grown ups" are not much different from those of younger people. It is just about as easy to find a man or woman pouting when they are 60 or 70 as to find one pouting at 20. You can find just as many older people (grown ups) saying "catty things about others as young people. Actually, I think we can find more. There are just as many older people who go around with a chip on

their shoulder, and who resent most everything others sway and do as there are younger people. Emotionally, I wonder if people ever grow up. The body decays but the emotions seem to have a way of never changing.

There is a religious side to this question. In fact, it is the most important side. The writer of Hebrews found some people who had not grown up religiously. He said, "*For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God: and are become such as have need of milk and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*" (Hebrews 5:12-14) Surely if there were people in that day who needed to grow up religiously, there are many in our own day and time. The only way we can do this is to feed on the "sincere milk of the word" until we are able to understand the deeper thoughts and teach them to others. It would not be difficult to find many who know no more about the word of God today than they did 40 years ago when they were baptized. Because of this, there is often more nursing going on in the church than feeding. Let's grow up in Christ.

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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

"Good Son Bad Son"

Our text comes from **Matthew 21:28-32**. A father asked his sons to go work in his vineyard. They both gave a different answer and then a different response. We will explore their response this morning.

FOR THE PANTRY....

Jelly

Mrs. Prayer Meeting Passes

Mrs. Prayer Meeting died recently at the First Neglected Church on Worldly Avenue. Born many years ago in the midst of great revivals, she was a strong, healthy child, fed largely on testimony and scriptural holiness, soon growing into world-wide prominence, and was one of the most influential members of the famous church family.

For the past several years Sister Prayer Meeting has been in failing health, gradually wasting away until rendered helpless by stiffness of knees, coldness of heart, inactivity, and weakness of purpose and will power. At the last she was but a shadow of her former happy self. Her last whispered words were inquiries concerning the strange absence of her loved ones, now absent from her presence, busy in the marts of trade and places of worldly amusement.

Experts, including Dr. Works, Dr. Reform and Dr. Joiner all disagreed as to the cause of her fatal illness, administering large doses of organization, socials, contests and drives but to no avail. A post-mortem showed that a deficiency of spiritual food, coupled with a lack of fasting, faith, heartfelt religion, shameless deserting and nonsupport were contributing causes. Only a few were present at her death, sobbing over memories of her past beauty

and power. Carefully selected pallbearers were urged to tenderly bear her remains away but failed to appear. There were no flowers. Her favorite hymns, "Amazing Grace" and "Rock of Ages" were not sung. Miss Ima Modern rendered "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" but no one had any idea where this fancied isle might be. The body rests in the beautiful cemetery of Bygone Glories awaiting the summons from above.

In honor of her going, the church doors will be closed on Wednesday nights, save on the third Wednesday of each month, when the Ladies Pink Lemonade Society serves refreshments to the members of the men's handball team.

-Southern Presbyterian Journal

Make your plans to be here on Wednesday night!

On The Lighter Side....



**"Ever had one of those days when you felt
you just had to rebuke someone?"**

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***If at first you don't succeed, try looking in the
wastebasket for the directions!***

The Devil is not afraid of a Bible with dust on it!

Miscellaneous

Friends & Family Day



Invite your family and friends and plan to be here!

September 12, 2021

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“The man who would truly know God must give time to Him.”

R. W. Tozer

Someone once said that if Moses had formed a committee, the Israelites would still be in Egypt.



Those To Remember In Prayer

Jerry Pate is scheduled for surgery July 21st.

Phillip Patton, the preacher at the Marshall Church of Christ is hospitalized with COVID 19.

Gayle Foster of the Wildwood Congregation in Carthage is scheduled for Cancer Surgery on Monday at Willis Knighton South.

Wayne Sims is having more Chemotherapy.

THOSE WITH ONGOING NEEDS:

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick , Gene Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Sue Hagler, Alice Hall, Ted and Joyce Holt, Betty Miller, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Melvin Williams

“EXTENDED FAMILY” AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston’s brother)
Donna Boullion (Ted and Joyce Holt’s niece) **Gil Boullion** (Ted and Joyce Holt’s nephew) back surgery **Cody Butler** (Debra Pate’s grandson) **Peytin Cook** (Betty Miller’s great-granddaughter)) **Gracie Elam** (6 month old baby recovering from heart surgery) **Keeth Fontenot** (Debra Pate’s son) undergoing tests for suspicious knot on his neck **Dalton Hendrix** (Joyce Holt’s great-great nephew) Laurie King (Co-worker of Mike O’Brien,) cancer **Liam Martinez** (11 months old) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate’s uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; **Jared and Natalie Tate** (Mike and Roxie’s son and daughter-in-law) **Pat Tate** (Jana O’Brien’s mother) **Jo Windham** (Betty Miller’s sister-in-law)cancer.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Amanda Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw and Lucas Tate

If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill out a card and put it in the offering plate.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS
9:45 a.m.

Mid-Week Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening

Please come and join us in these weekly activities.



Across The Preacher's Desk

This past Sunday was July 4th. A day that we celebrate as "Independence Day" All over America, in communities large and small, people were celebrating and observing this day in a variety of ways. Yet, as we pause and remember those who began this quest for freedom on July 4, 1776, and we celebrate our independence and freedom, how often do we pause to reflect and remember the one who gave us the ultimate freedom?

Every Lord's Day, in communities large and small, in churches large and small, Christians gather to remember the one who gives us freedom from the bondage of sin. It is something that is observed every Lord's day. We come to the table with a small piece of unleavened bread and a small cup of fruit of the vine. Things that have no value in themselves. Yet, because they are emblematic of the body and blood of my Lord, the one who bought our freedom from sin with his death on the cross, they have value to us.

The night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, blessed it and told his disciples that it was his body that was broken for them. He also took the cup and told them it represented the New Testament in his blood. He further told them as often as they ate the break and drank the cup they showed his death until he came again.

Jesus bought our freedom from sin with his blood shed on Calvary's hill. We celebrate that every Lord's day. Is that as important to us as the freedom we enjoy in America?

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

**Commitment
Builds
Great
Churches!**