



LET'S VISIT

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IN THE SWEET BY AND BY

I suppose all of us at some time or another get depressed and discouraged. Sometimes we just want to give up and quit. In the heat of a moment we'll say, "I'll just leave this job," "I'll quit this church, they'll miss me." "They'll wish they had treated me differently."

Often we have some of these feelings; "There's no use, the harder I try the worse things get." "There's no reason to go to church, I don't get anything out of it." "Life is just mundane and repetitive, it's like Chinese water torture!"

I know this is true for two reasons. I talk to many people who are struggling with those kind of emotions. I have struggled with some of them myself. Yet, some of God's greatest servants have experienced discouragement.

Moses was the man chosen by God, handpicked, to lead the children of Israel from Egypt. He was a man who had the power of God on his life. Yet, sometimes Israel was more than he could bear. There was one occasion they were complaining about the manna and Moses said to God (Numbers 11:15) "if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee!"

Joshua was God's great military leader, handpicked to be the successor to Moses and lead Israel into the Promised Land. There came a time when a man by the name of Achan kept something he shouldn't have after a battle. He said in Joshua 7:7, "would to God we had been content and dwelt on the other side of Jordan." After a great defeat he felt like quitting. Thankfully, he got over it.

The greatest prophet of the Old Testament was probably Elijah. He was willing to challenge the idolatry of his day. He called fire down from heaven and won a face off with the prophets of Baal. Yet, after it was all over, we find him in I Kings 19

requesting for himself that he might die and he asked the Lord to take away his life.

When we think of Job we think of his patience and his faith. He was a truly great man. He had a great beginning and a great ending. Yet, in-between, when he lost everything, he wished he had not been born, he became suicidal and extremely depressed for a period of time. In Job 3:3 he said let the day perish in which I was born!

The year was 1868 and Sanford Fillmore Bennett owned a drugstore in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. He had a friend named Joseph Webster who was a local musician, vocalist and violinist. He was also an amateur composer and suffered from periods of depression. The two friends had occasionally collaborated on hymns and songs.

One day, Joseph Webster entered the drugstore and was unusually blue. He had a long face and his friend Sanford asked him what was wrong. Joseph said, "It's no matter, it will be all right by and by". Immediately, an idea for a hymn hit Sanford. He sat down and began writing and the words came almost instantly. When he finished writing he handed the paper to Joseph Webster and told him he hoped the prescription worked. A tune instantly suggested itself and Joseph jotted down some notes and then picked up his fiddle and played his melody over a time or two. He then said to others present, "Let's try
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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
DISH channel 239 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Can We Expect God To Bless America?

For The Pantry. . .

July 5 – Peanut Butter



**June 28, 2026
\$ 2,127.00**

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

In The Sweet By and By – Continued from page 1

this song and see how it sounds." For over 150 years we have been singing a hymn written in less than 30 minutes in a drugstore in Elkhorn, Wisconsin.

*"There's a land that is fairer than day.
And by faith we can see it afar;
For the Father waits over the way,
To prepare us a dwelling place there.
In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore,
In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore."*

Can you see John 14:1-3 in that song? Can you see the imagery of Revelation? It will be all right, by and by.

tp

"We shall never see much change for the better in our churches in general till the prayer meeting occupies a higher place in the esteem of Christians."

CHARLES SPURGEON



Being Sustained Through Trials

"Yea, and all that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (II Timothy 3:12)

We tend to panic when we fear we may miss something we have anxiously awaited. The Thessalonians, having been assured they had not missed the second coming and that the dead would not miss it are told two things will happen before that notable event; there will be an apostasy and the man of sin will be revealed. Terrible things will try the saints –not a pretty picture, but a needed one.

The path to glory passes through many beautiful and quiet places, but not all is beside still waters. Raging torrents rush below shaky bridges and sharp rocks bear stains of blood from many feet. Those who reach the portal of glory will have been sorely tried; the host of iniquity will have fought every advance; all the elements of blasphemy will have combined to cause Christians to forfeit their crowns. But thanks be unto the Lord, the curtain on the stage of life does not drop here. Instead, although not saved from trials, saints are sustained through them and in faithfulness to Jesus Christ will be given victory.

L. L. Gieger

On The Lighter Side. . .



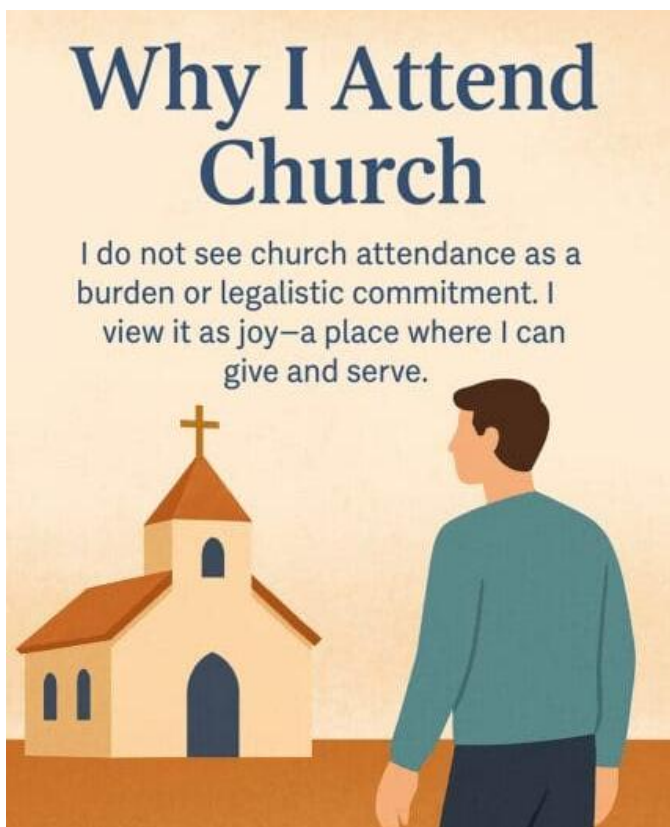
"According to the tests, it's not water you are retaining. You're holding a grudge."



September 13, 2026



Our next Wednesday night meal together will be on July 29, 2026. Make your plans to be here and enjoy a time of fellowship.



Mike Lout is continuing rehab at Cecil Bomar rehab unit in Nacogdoches
Stanley Amos is having some serious health issues.
LaResa Livingston is scheduled for an MRI to try and determine the cause of her persistent headaches.
Norma Cortez (Manny Ortiz mother) is scheduled for shoulder surgery and in need of our prayers.

OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Stanley Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) **Leslie Adams** (friend of Diedra Hughes) being treated for brain cancer; **Peggy Baylor** (Tim Bradshaw's mother) **Debra Clifton** (friend of LaResa Livingston) **Coleen Dickerson** (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) **Hugh and Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) **Joyce Fontenot** (Debra Pate's mother) **Pat & William Ford** (cousins to Martha Bradshaw) **Dot Grant** (Friend of Debra Pate) **Suzi Hogan** (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Albert Magby** (Melonie Bradshaw's father) **Karen McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher) **Doug "Goob" Milford** (cousin of Amanda Molloy) **Gene Perkins** (Tim Perkins aunt) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle); **Heather Simmons Stewart** (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; **Stephen Wiggins** (preacher at San Augustine) **Max Windham** (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Reserve these dates for important events in the life of our Church for 2026

December 6, 2026 – "No Excuse Sunday"
December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party

Communion Preparation - July
Manny & Brittany Ortiz



Across The Preacher's Desk

Have you ever walked through a cemetery and taken the time to look, really look at the tombstones there? It is often quite interesting to walk among the old tombstones and see the epitaphs that have been written by men.

Often, in older cemeteries you will find some very ornate tombstones and monuments. Perhaps it has been erected in honor of a child taken far too soon from his or her parents. It might be a man or woman taken in the springtime of life. Then again, it might be an aged father or mother, respected and honored. You see a name and you find some verse of hope on that tombstone or monument.

Today, you usually find only the name and the dates. You see the year they were born and the year they died and there is a small dash in between. The dash is what we do between the time we are born and the time we die. That's what is most important. You see the dash is critical because it is your identity. It is who you are, husband, wife, mom, dad, teacher. The dash is your influence, how you touch the lives of others.

The dash is your legacy. It is what you leave behind to future generations. When your life is over, when the pale horse and his rider cross your threshold, when your love ones erect a monument to you in some cemetery, what will your dash represent?

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

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
Will you?**