

Let's Visit

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They Sat Down To Rest. . .

Adlai E Stevenson II served as Governor of Illinois, United States Ambassador to the United Nations, and unsuccessfully ran for president in 1952 and 1956. He made the statement, "on the plains of hesitation lie the blackened bones of countless millions who at the dawn of victory lay down to rest, and in resting died."

Sadly, is that not too often the story of men and women who begin their Christian life and with all their past sins forgiven and victory in sight, they sit down to rest, and resting die? In the Christian life there is never a time to rest on our past laurels. Paul said, "*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.*" With all his hardships and trials, he kept the fight going and yet he said, "*Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*" There was no time to rest, even though victory was in sight.

What about the Bible school teacher who says, "I've been teaching the Bible for many years, and I'm tired of teaching. I want to sit in a class awhile." Does she intend to stop her Bible study as she sits in a class and lets the teacher lecture? Would it make her any more tired to keep alert, enthusiastic and on the march teaching the Bible to children or adults who can profit from her years of experience? The Bible says, "in due season we shall reap, if we faint not". The reaping comes after a life of service and loyalty to duty, even though we have to struggle to keep from fainting sometimes in the effort.

People often hesitate to do their duty for several reasons. Sometimes the hesitation comes from not having studied something enough to know how to attain success. Sometimes hesitation is brought about because we lack sufficient interest in a cause

to press on to victory. Then at other times, we hesitate because we are afraid of public opinion or we feel that someone else can do a better job than we can do.

We must understand that none of these reasons for hesitation relieve us of our responsibility. The world is the field, there are souls to be saved, and there is work to be done in the Lord's vineyard. If we don't feel we have the knowledge to do God's work, the Bible is the textbook that points the way and it is our responsibility to learn it thoroughly. If we are hesitating because of lack of interest, we need to open our eyes to the value of the souls of our friends and neighbors and allow that to awaken us to our responsibilities.

If we hesitate to do our duty as a Christian because we are afraid of what other people might say, we are trying to please men instead of God and we need to rid our hearts of this kind of attitude. If we hesitate because others have more talents than we do, we are evading our personal responsibility.

As Christians, we must be alert and awake to our opportunities. It is our duty to seek out the best way that we personally can glorify God and advance the cause of Christ on this earth. Let's make sure that we do not "sit down to rest and resting...die.

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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

Big men become big by doing what they don't want to do when they don't want to do it.

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

“Life Can Be the Pits!”

Our text comes from Jeremiah chapter 38. God's prophet, Jeremiah found himself in the bottom of a pit, just like we do sometimes. It is in the pits of life we learn to look up to God.

It's wonderful to see a man or woman who is working for a company they are not ashamed of. They can say with pride that they are a part of a honorable organization.

We joke about grandparents talking about their wonderful grandchildren, but isn't it nice.

We must put Christ at the center of our heart and all we do, but remember the congregation is loved by Him and sustained by Him. When Israel fought the Midianites, their cry was, “For Gideon and the Lord:”. Let us build, love, support and be proud of our own congregation, the Center Church of Christ. It is, after all a part of Christ.

tp

Each One Bring One!

53 in '23

Invite Someone Each Week!

For The Pantry. . .

March 19 – Chili (No Beans)

Congregational Pride. . .

Do we have it?

I heard about a young lady talking about the congregation where she worshiped. She loved the elders, enjoyed hearing the preacher and bragged on the Bible Classes. She closed her “testimonial” by saying “There's just no place like it anywhere.”

At first blush, I felt she was too much in love with her home congregation and that she ought to realize there were good congregations of the saints in many places. And the, I had some second thoughts.

What's wrong with a Christian loving the congregation where they live and worship? What is wrong with our being a little proud of our program of work and the joy we have in the worship there? There are all too many Christians that never say a good word about their home congregation, never feel any close attachment to the church. It is referred to as “they” and not “we”.

When a student goes to college and is proud of the school, they usually do better work. It's their school, they support it, they fight for it and they talk it up.

On The Lighter Side. . .



“First let me ask preacher, are you under a lot of stress?”

Miscellaneous



REMEMBER!
April 21st-23rd
Save Those Dates!

Area Wide Singing
Friday April 21st
Refreshments served
following the singing



Phil Sanders

Guest speaker Saturday night and Sunday Morning
Covered Dish Luncheon following the worship on
Sunday Morning.

Make your plans to be here and invite
others to come and be our guest!

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ANNUAL GOSPEL SINGING **Cushing Church of Christ**

March 31, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Refreshments served afterward

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL – Our next
Wednesday night meal at 6:00 p.m. prior to our
evening services will be March 29, 2023

Make your plans now to be here!



Those To Remember **In Prayer**

Gene Bradshaw Is waiting on test results from Monday.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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

“EXTENDED FAMILY” AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother),
Minion Bean-(Mike O'Brien's mother) recovering from a fall and hip surgery), **Ana Blair** (friend of Debra Pate) **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) **Sandra Fuller** (friend of Betty Miller) **Margaret Goings** (recovering from a bad fall) **Suzie Hogan** (Roxie Bostick's sister) **John Henry Holloway** ((Martha Jean Golden's son) has been hospitalized in Shreveport, **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) **Johnny Miller** (Betty Miller's son) recovering from heart surgery; **Stephanie Richard** (friend of Norma Perkins) facing cancer surgery; **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. , **J. C. and Pat Tate** (Jana O'Brien's mother and father) **Clark Paul Williams** (LaResa Livingston's cousin)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, **Leland Bradshaw**, **Michele Bradshaw**
Jeremiah Soape, **Rosie Tate** and **Lucas Tate**

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

You Never Have More Time Than Now!

It is remarkable that all men and women, rich or poor, great or small, have 24 hours every day. And it is equally remarkable that you cannot draw on the future. You cannot waste tomorrow, thou you may utterly throw away today.



Across The Preacher's Desk

Sometimes, if we are not careful, our life becomes like the file drawer in our desk. We make a mental file folder for this drawer and in there we put everything that pertains to special subjects. We place God, religion and prayer in one file and we mark that file; "Use on Sunday only" or perhaps "Use in case of emergency". We might add the caveat, "to be used in relation to special things".

In reality, God, religion and prayer should never be filed away at all. They should absolutely never be marked for use on Sunday only, in emergency or to be used for special things. We are constantly to love and consult with the God of Heaven. Our Christianity is to be lived every day. We are to live so that others will see Jesus living in us and our prayers are to be as the breath of life.

Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica and said, "pray without ceasing" (I Thessalonians 5:17). When we use God, religion and prayer without ceasing, we bring order right into our lives and affairs. We also rid ourselves of any mental reservations we have made on the use of God, religion and prayer. Then, there will be no place in our life where the effect of this practical application of Christianity will not be felt.

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

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