



# LET'S VISIT

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## SEARCHING. . . AND BEING!

I read a story about a marriage counselor who said that in her opinion, the thing wrong with most unhappy marriages was that too many people were searching for the right kind of companion instead of trying to be one. On the surface, that sounds quite plausible. However, the application of that statement can be much broader than just the marriage relationship.

I wonder if this principle is not also true in the realm of religion. Is it not true that we often expect others to be what we are unwilling to become? Listen to the “small talk” you hear about others and see if it is not the case. You hear someone who talks too much who talks about others who talk too much. You see one who has an outstanding weakness who speaks at length about the weaknesses of others. Then, there is that man or woman who has never done anything for the Lord who can always tell someone else how to do it and what they ought to do. All of this seems to indicate that we are searching for good people. In fact, I once heard someone say that they had searched throughout an entire congregation and failed to find one good man, so he moved his membership somewhere else. It never dawned on him that if he was a good man that the congregation needed at least one good man and he should stay. To be sure, those who knew him were well aware of the fact that the statement was false anyway. No doubt he needed to clean up his life as much as anyone, but he was searching and not being.

It is much easier to tell others how to live than to live right ourselves. It is much easier to find something to criticize in others than to set our own house in order. Also, there is a certain beastly

satisfaction that one enjoys in finding fault with others. It seems to increase their own virtue in their own eyes. At least they feel that they are not by themselves, if that means anything. So they spend their life telling and not doing.

Jesus said, “Not everyone that saith, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.” It will do no good to speak of my own loyalty, and the lack of it in others, while I am failing to be what God wants me to be. What I am is what will count with God and not how I compare with others. When we stand before God to be judged, it will be an individual affair. I will stand there alone as far as the rest of the world is concerned. What others do or fail to do will mean nothing to me. What others are or fail to be, will profit me nothing. I may be able to find fault with the entire world, but it will avail me nothing in the judgment.

People are prone to follow others. Most of us do things because others do them. Many people are waiting to follow us to do right. So, if we would help others in right living, instead of searching for the kind of people we ought to be, let us be that kind of people and others will follow us. Unfortunately, too

(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 Saving Grace of God*

**For The Pantry. . .  
March 3 – Jello Pudding**

**Searching...And Being – continued from page 1**

too often we expect everybody else to do right while we are allowed to do wrong. We think laws are made for others and not for us. But that is not the case. If there is one person in all the world who does right, God wants me to be that person. If others fail Him, why should I fail? If others are weak, why should I be weak? Let me stand before God as the one person, if there be only one, who will live right no matter what others might do. This attitude will bring us much happiness and will save our souls.

*tp*

**Offering – February 25, 2024. . . . . \$2,086.00**

**The Lord’s plan of giving ...”as ye have prospered”**



## *On The Lighter Side. . .*



***I miss the “good old days” when preachers wore suits and ties.***

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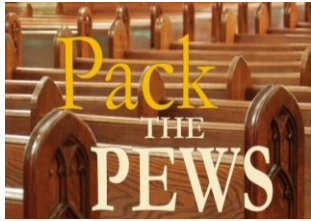
## ***God Forgives and Forgets***

For thousands of years, God remembered the sins of men every year. For that reason animal sacrifice had to be offered up every year. That continued until Jesus was offered up once for all. In the old covenant, God remembered their sins every year, but in the new covenant it is not so. Six hundred years before Christ, Jeremiah prophesied that there would be a new covenant in which there would be actual remission of sins; *“For I will forgive their iniquities, and will remember their sins no more.”* Paul, in referring to that prophecy, said, *“And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin,”*

Think of it-God will forgive our sins and forget them. When will he do that? When we obey him, he will save us.

Have you been forgiven of your sins? If not we urge you to learn of God and do his will. Man has all to gain and nothing to lose.

*-Just A Moment*



## Today Is The Day! Pack-A Pew Sunday

Make your plans to stay today and enjoy our time of fellowship and covered dish luncheon. We will be celebrating birthdays and anniversaries for March, April and May and we want everyone to be a part of it. Hospitality group 3 will be in charge of this luncheon. Those members are Dee Sims, LaJuan Baugh, Martha Bradshaw, Sheri Burgay and Trish Lout.

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## Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal March 27, 2024



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## AREA WIDE SINGING!

Mark your calendar for Friday, April 26, 2024. We will be hosting an Area Wide Singing. Make your plans to be here, invite your friends and neighbors to come and plan to stay for a time of fellowship after the singing.

**54 in 24**  
**Invite Someone Each Week!**

### OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

### "EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

**Cody Anthony** (LaResa Livingston's nephew) **Mitchell Anthony** (LaResa Livingston's brother), **Hugh and Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) **Joyce Fontenot** (Debra Pate's mother) **Gail Foster** (Cancer) **Bobbie Gray** (Jerry Pate's Aunt) **Geneva Harrison** (Mike Bostick's mother) **Glynn Hartt** (friend of Cissy Amos) **Joe Hughes** (Cissy Amos' father) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **Vervyn Pate** (Jerry Pate's brother) is being treated for stomach cancer. **Stephanie Richard** (Friend of Norma Perkins) cancer; **Traci Roden** (friend of Norma Perkins) **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; **Buddy Sowell** (friend of Debra Pate) **Suellen Swank** (friend of Norma Perkins) **J. C. Tate** (Jana O'Brien's father) **Clark Paul Williams** (LaResa Livingston's cousin)

### THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

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

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## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

April 26, 2024 – Area Wide Singing  
May 19, 2024 (tentative) – Covered Dish Luncheon  
September 8, 2024 – Friends & Family Day  
December 8, 2024 – No Excuse Sunday  
December 15, 2024 – Christmas Party

**PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!**



## Across The Preacher's Desk

According to the teachings of Jesus, every person is going through one of two gates. Either they are choosing to enter the narrow gate and the narrow way or they are choosing the broad way which leads through the broad gate.

Of course, these two ideas represent two ways of life. One represents the way of good while the other represents the way of evil. The thought taught by Jesus in Matthew 7 is that more people will follow the easy, popular way of life than the one prescribed in the scriptures.

This teaching is harmonious with another of the teachings of Jesus in Matthew 22:14. Here he says, "For many shall be called, but few chosen." That indicates that there will be only a few people comparatively speaking, interested in the Lord's way enough to follow it and be saved. Jesus puts it this way, "Enter ye in at the strait gate, for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction and many there be which go in thereat. Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Jesus is warning folks to be careful how they live. Many people, thinking they are on the narrow path, might be surprised to find themselves on the broad way. Jesus wants everyone to be saved, but He must have their cooperation in living His kind of life, and living it His way. Are you living for Jesus, and living life His way?

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

**The Lord's Plan  
For Evangelism –  
Each one Bring one!  
54 in '24!**