

Let's Visit

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Look What You Made Me Do!

Being human, we have a bad habit of blaming our failures and mistakes on someone else. When Adam was found in sin, his first reaction was to blame his wife. Actually he placed the blame on God, for he said, *"The woman thou gavest me..."* When Saul was disobedient to God and failed to destroy the Amalekites, he tried to say he did it because of his desire to use what he brought back for worship. Then he said the people made him do it. The history books are full of men's failures and also full of examples of blaming others for these failures.

We have all know someone who wanted something that others have or wanted to become what someone else was. We have known folks who could do so much better at (you name it) than the person doing it, except the world was against them and they just did not get the kind of breaks someone else did. They know good and well they would have things going their way if someone was not keeping it from happening. You see, someone must be blamed and it is easy to pick someone out and say, "he won't let me". It is another way of saying, "see what you made me do". Such people are unwilling to pay the price of success, but not willing to own their own inability. The easy way out is to blame someone else for their failure.

Then there is the one who develops the "sour" disposition. These kind of things grow on people. They nurse their "sourness" along until they hardly realize how far they have allowed things to develop. They begin to lose friends. The ability they one time had becomes a question mark with some folks. Their friends don't know what to do so they do nothing. Finally, they find themselves rebelling against what they believe to be mistreatment. Suddenly, they

decide others have changed. It may be that they will ultimately sour on the entire church or the world, and die without realizing that they needed to do a little work within themselves.

All of us have met the person that others don't like. At least this is their conclusion. Somehow they feel others should be coming to them instead of their going to others. They are usually found standing off by themselves. If they have any interaction with others, they must make the first move. This feeling that others do not like them continues to grow, until they decide that they do not like others. If they don't like me, I will not like them is the attitude. So, they spend their life alone. The joys that could be shared with others never belong to them. They cannot hide their desire for the friendship of others from self. The more they are prodded by the knowledge of this desire the more they dislike those they believe are keeping them from this joy. They will die believing others have made them what they are. Had they actually been a little friendly it might have been different.

Any way you look at it, we are responsible for most of our misery. Although we may refuse to admit our own weakness, still there is a reason for our every failure. People who live right and do what they should toward their fellowman will receive more than their share of blessings. Others, who believe they can run over the rest of the world in order to have their own way, will find life becoming more difficult as their days lengthen and they will go to an untimely grave believing others were responsible for their unhappiness. Don't be one of those.

tp

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

"Where Is God?"

Our text comes from
Job 23:3. Job wanted to
know where to find God.
That is a universal longing
of humanity.

FOR THE PANTRY....

Rice

Our Work Goes On.

This past Lord's Day was a Great Day for the Lord in the Life of the Center Church of Christ. This past Sunday was our quarterly covered dish luncheon and our attendance was higher for this Sunday than in over 3 years for our quarterly dinner in March. We praise God, we give Him the glory, and we press the battle in Jesus' name. The biggest, best, brightest and greatest days for the Center Church of Christ are still in the future. The Lord's Church in Center will do great things because of the effort some are willing to put forth and in spite of what others might do to thwart the work of the church.

To all who had a part in the great success we enjoyed last Sunday, we thank you. As always, ladies, you outdid yourselves with the food. It was an enjoyable meal and an abundance of food and you are to be commended.

I would be remiss if I did not express special gratitude to the "Hospitality Committee" for last Sunday. Those ladies, (Martha Bradshaw, Betty Miller, Debra Pate and Alda Yarbrough) did an outstanding job of decorating the fellowship hall. I heard several people remark on how pretty it was

and your hard work in decorating and cleaning up after the dinner is appreciated. Thank you so very much.

All in all, it was a wonderful day and be assured that better days are in the future. We look now to the last weekend in April when we will have our area-wide singing and Gospel Meeting with Austin Wiggins. Make your plans to be here and bring others with you and we will have an even better singing and meeting than we had last year. Let's pray for the growth and success of the church as if everything depended on God and let's work as if everything depended on us and we will accomplish great things for the Lord.

tp

On The Lighter Side.....



YEAH ... WHATD'YA WANT?

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 discinction between big
and little when talking about snakes."
They are all alike – snakes.*

*Poor memory is a great blessing. We couldn't lift
our heads if we hadn't forgotten the times
when we acted foolishly.*

*Tolerance is sometimes onlhy a suspicion
that the other person might be right.*

Miscellaneous

Area Wide Singing Cushing Church of Christ

*Friday
March 27th
7:00 p.m.*



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

PERSISTENCE!

When you feel that being persistent is a difficult task, think of the bee. A red clover blossom contains less than one-eighth of a grain of sugar. Yet, 7,000 grains are required to make a pound of honey. A bee, flitting here and there for sweetness, must visit 56,000 clover heads for a pound of honey; and there are about sixty-flower tubes to each clover head. When a bee performs that operation 60 times 56,000 or 3,360,000 it secures enough sweetness for only one pound of honey. My, what could the church accomplish if we had the persistence and the faithfulness of the bee!

-selected



Those To Remember In Prayer

Kathy Parker (**Julie Fletcher's** mother) is scheduled for heart surgery on Monday, March 9th.

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) **Juston 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 Mettaufer**, **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

A laugh may be the sweetest or the most bitter sound that comes from the human voice, according to the sentiment it expresses.

Laughter is not an unimportant incident in a happy life, but a gift of God to serve a definite purpose, and is even more useful in less happy lives.

Laughter is one of life's greatest shock absorbers. Many of the things at which we laugh would be very annoying if we did not think them funny, and laughter is nature's device for taking up the jolt.

Laughter is a better response than anger to a horde of petty annoyances that dog our heels.

Laughter is also a source of strength. Men endure and achieve as they learn to break the monotony of routine work with laughter. The burdens of many lives are beyond the normal power and endurance of human beings. There are various sources of strength for such and one of them is laughter. It is a familiar fact that Lincoln said that laughter, relieving the strain of care, was what kept him from breaking beneath the load he had to bear.

Laughter is the magnet that draws. It may be a very quiet, unostentatious laugh, perhaps not more than a twinkle of the eye, but it is the key that unlocks the hearts of people.

Laughter is a fine art when it covers a heart that may be heavy but is undaunted, unafraid. Such laughter is a principle of life. It is an expression of a noble courage, a genuine love, and a deep and abiding faith in God.

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

**Great Churches are built with
Commitment!**