

# Let's Visit

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## The Filling Station

Do you remember driving into the “filling station” and hearing that familiar ding of the driveway bell when you drove across it? Almost immediately someone would be at the car window asking that familiar question, “fill er’ up?”. One thing was certain, getting gas and oil for the car was and is something that is constant and demanding.

In that same way, our needs are constant and demanding. Yet, God has promised to supply our needs. The problem we have is that we often confuse wants and needs. You see, God did not promise to supply our wants. Tragically, often we are not content with what we have.

It sometimes reminds me of a story I read about a woman who lived with her husband and two children in a very small hut. Her in-laws lost their home and she had to take them in. Truly, the situation seemed unbearable to her. In desperation, she went to see the village wise man. She knew he had solved many, many problems. She begged him to tell her what she should do.

The wise man asked her if she had a cow and she said that she did. He told her to bring the cow into the hut and come back in a week. A week later she was back and said it was utterly unbearable. The wise man then asked her if she had any chickens. She said yes and he told her to bring them into the hut. He then told her to come back in another week. She thought he was utterly out of his mind.

However, she was still awed by his reputation. She went back a week later saying this is absolutely impossible. She said, our home is a mess. The wise man said, alright, take out the chickens.

A week later she came back to say without the chickens it was better, however it still was a miserable situation. The wise man agreed and said

she could take out the cow. He told her that would settle the problem. He was right, it did.

Without the chickens and the cow, the woman, her husband, the children and his two parents got along quite peacefully. You see, everything is relative. Sometimes we don’t know how well off we are.

One of the greatest causes of Christians not having joy is discontent. To be sure, contentment is an elusive commodity today. Tragically, Christians and non-Christians fall for the world’s lies about the secret of contentment.

Never have so many wanted so much and found so little contentment. We live in one of the most prosperous nations on earth. Yet, we struggle with contentment.

Are you a contented person? Are you contented with your body? What happens when you look in the mirror in the morning? Do you say, “I am fearfully and wonderfully made”? Thank you Lord. Or, do you say, “I look scary, help me Lord”.

We hear Paul saying in the letter to the Philippians that he has learned the secret of being content (Philippians 4:11). With all he has been through in his life, it seems we should listen to what he has to say. He is getting old and he doesn’t have any money. Once he was strong, now his health is beginning to decline. Once he was free, now he is in

(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



## Today's Sermon

### **“What Is Christianity?”**

**Our text comes from Mark 4:30-32. In this short parable, Jesus compares the kingdom of God with a mustard seed. Come and join us as we explore what this means for us.**

## **FOR THE PANTRY....**

### **Pork n' Beans**

#### **The Filling Station – continued from page 1**

prison. Yet, he says he has learned the secret of being content.

Contentment is not something that just comes naturally. This contentment the Apostle enjoyed did not come instantaneously. It was the fruit of many years of faithful fellowship with the Lord. If was learning from experience he could trust the Lord to provide what he needed.

Our society teaches us to look for contentment in the wrong things. We do not understand contentment or where it comes from. Contentment does not come from people we know nor does it come from our station in life. However, discontent comes from unrealistic expectations. If you are a Cowboy fan you understand and realize this. You see, contentment is being at peace with who we are in Christ.

Contentment is not found in possessions or circumstances. Too often, we do not notice our blessings. We live in the most affluent nation in the world. We have more possessions, freedom (at least until this past year) and opportunities. Yet, overall, we are among the most unhappy people in the world. We don't consider our blessings we take them for granted. Is air conditioning a necessity or a luxury? What about an automobile, is that a

necessity or luxury? Television? We need several of those.

What then is the secret of contentment? It is having an “attitude of gratitude” We must be grateful for everything that God has given us. If we do this, we will find contentment.

We make the choice how we start out each new day. We could say, “God, this is going to be a tough day.” I hate my life, my work and my family. I don't know how I am going to make it. I promise if you do that you will have a terrible day.

Then, we could say, “God, thank you for this new day you have given me.” Thank you for the opportunities before me this day. Help me to do something today that will last for eternity. Use me to your glory today God. We need to seek to please Jesus and not people.

In Christ, God will meet all of our needs. It is a promise extending only to those who are in Christ. God supplies all of our needs and He supplies them abundantly. When we live in the will of God, he becomes our “Filling Station” and will fill us up with blessings. We must make sure we are living God's kind of life, God's way.

*tp*

## ***On The Lighter Side....***



**MARKET RESEARCH CLEARLY SHOWS THAT OUR CORE AUDIENCE IS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH SERMONS THAT HAVE TO DO WITH SIN, JUDGEMENT, AND THAT WHOLE HELL THING**

# Miscellaneous



## Those To Remember In Prayer

### COVERED DISH LUNCHEON!

Sunday June 6<sup>th</sup>



Invite Your Friends!

Let's plan to have a  
wonderful time of  
worship and  
fellowship!

**Our Goal – 53 In Attendance!**

\* \* \* \* \*

*"Pure Religion, and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 1:27*

#### CHILDREN'S HOME OF LUBBOCK. . .

Erick Dickey from the Children's Home of Lubbock was here on Thursday to pick up the toilet paper we had collected for our part in their "Big Heart Campaign" We had 685 rolls of toilet paper, quite a bit more than our original objective of 500 rolls. He was most appreciative and as a congregation you are to be congratulated for your unselfishness and generosity.

I ♥  
MY  
CHURCH

#### 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

Donna Boullion (Ted and Joyce Holt's niece)  
Cody Butler (Debra Pate's grandson) Paul Cocklin (co-worker of Norma Perkins) Sharon Connot (friend of the Perkins') Peyton Cook (Betty Miller's great-granddaughter) B. B. Cox (recovering from Heart Surgery) Gracie Elam (6 month old baby recovering from heart surgery) Keeth Fontenot (Debra Pate's son) undergoing tests for s suspicious know on his neck Dalton Hendrix (Joyce Holt's great-great nephew) 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)

##### THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Amanda Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Lucas Tate

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

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### SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

9:45 a.m.

"Paul's Prison Epistles - Colossians"

Mid-Week Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening

"The One Word Bible Study"

Please come and join us in these  
weekly activities.



## Across The Preacher's Desk

To my mind, "Sonnets From The Portuguese" is one of the most beautiful works to come from the pen of Elizabeth Barrett Browning. The most familiar passage from that great work reads, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways." My favorite is a bit more obscure.

Hidden among the lines of the poem are these words, "The face of all the world is changed, I think, since first I heard the footsteps of thy soul". Of course, this poem was a love poem. It was written by a woman to the man of her choice. My friends, those words have a spiritual application to those who are followers of Jesus Christ.

You see, Jesus has the power to transform lives. There are many examples in the New Testament of those whose lives were never the same since they first heard the footsteps of Jesus in their soul. Think of the sinful woman dragged before Jesus early one morning, caught in adultery. What about the Jewish ruler, Nicodemus who came to see Jesus late one night? There was the woman who touched the hem of Jesus' garment and was healed. Then there were the two tax collectors, Matthew and Zacchaeus along with those nameless souls who were healed of their various infirmities.

When we truly come to know Jesus Christ, our lives will never be the same either. If our lives have not been transformed by Jesus, then maybe we have never made Him the Lord and Master of our lives. Perhaps it's time for us to fully surrender our stubborn will to His.

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

**Invite Your Friends...**

***To join us for Worship  
and Pot Luck  
June 6<sup>th</sup>!***