

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 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

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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

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

"Quietly Quitting"

There has been a new phrase that has come into the workplace since COVID 19 known as "Quietly Quitting". Yet, over the years, how many people have "Quietly Quit" the church?

For The Pantry. . . Syrup

In The Sweet By and By - continued from page 1

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 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

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. . .



"...AND I'M THANKFUL WE DON'T HAVE BROCCOLI EVERY MEAL."

Miscellaneous

December 4, 2022



**Make Your Plans To Be Here!
Bring Someone as your Guest.**

We will be having our covered dish luncheon following the morning worship and will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries for December, January and February.

BIBLE STUDY – It is still our desire to have as many “Bodies in Benches” as possible for our Sunday Morning Bible Class at 9:45 and our mid-week Bible Study on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. If you can be here **PLEASE** make your plans to do so.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL – Our next Wednesday night meal at 6:00 p.m. prior to our evening services will be on November 30th. Please, make your plans to come and join us.

SUNNY GLEN TRUCK – The truck from Sunny Glen Children’s Home came this past Wednesday. They expressed their gratitude for the generosity of this congregation and were very appreciative of the pantry items they were able to take back to the children’s home.



Those To Remember In Prayer

Roy Garcia (friend of Tim and Norma Perkins) was released from the hospital on Wednesday and is at home.

Alice Hall had a bad fall on Thursday and was taken to the ER. She has a knot on her head but did not have a concussion.

Sandra Fuller (friend of Betty Miller) is having complications with her pregnancy.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, **Gene Bradshaw**, **Martha Bradshaw**, **Martha Jean Golden**, **Geneva Graves**, **Alice Hall**, **Thelma Hinton**, **Louise Johnson**, **Tiffanee Klein**, **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, **Ana Blair** (friend of Debra Pate) **Hugh and Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher’s brother and sister-in-law) **Suzie Hogan** (Roxie Bostick’s sister) **Suzanne Ihlo** (Martha Jean Golden’s sister) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins’ mother) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate’s uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; **Tina Vaughn** - cancer

“INTERNET FRIENDS”

Mason McConnell, **Frankie & Mandy McConnell**, **Wayne Minter**, **Courtney Workman**

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE
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.

**Holiness is not
the way to Christ;
Christ is the way
to holiness.**



C.H. Spurgeon



Across The Preacher's Desk

Dr. Luke records a story for us in Luke 17 that occurred one day when Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem and was passing through Samaria and Galilee. Jesus was approached by ten lepers, miserable creatures afflicted with a horrific disease. They cried out to Jesus for mercy and He told them to go and show themselves to the priests. While they were on their way, they were cleansed. We are told that only one of the ten returned to Jesus to say "thank you". Jesus asked the question, "were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?"

How much like those nine lepers are we? This is the season of the year that we refer to as the "Thanksgiving Season". November 24th has been set aside on our calendar as "Thanksgiving Day".

Yet, do we really take the time to show our gratitude to God for all that He has done for us or has "Thanksgiving Day" simply become a day when we gorge ourselves with copious amounts of food and watch football and spend time with family enjoying a day off from work? Let's show our gratitude to God for what He has done for us, not just on one day a year, but let's express our gratitude daily both in word and in deed.

We will be looking at that story in greater detail in our lesson this morning.

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

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
52 in '22!
53 in '23!**