

Let's Visit

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Peace of Mind

A young man once made a list of the things he would like to possess in life. He listed health, love, beauty, talent, power, riches and fame. He showed his list to a wise man, a man much older in years. The older and wiser man read the list and replied, "An excellent list, well digested in content and set down in an order that is not unreasonable. But it appears, my young friend, that you have omitted the most important element of all. You have forgotten the one ingredient, lacking which, each possession becomes a hideous torment, and your list, as a whole, an intolerable burden." The young man asked what the missing ingredient was. The old man took a pencil and crossed out the young man's entire list. Then underneath he wrote down just three words - peace of mind. The young man was Joshua Liebman. He became a Rabbi who wrote the book, "Peace of Mind". The book stayed on the New York Times best seller list for over a year. It sold more than a million copies.

Over the years, numerous books have appeared on this subject. They are a part of a category of books known as self-help books. All of them have had large sales. You see, more than any other thing. . . more than health, more than power, more than riches. . . mankind wants to have peace of mind.

But, you do not have to read a "self-help book" to find peace of mind. Jesus summed up the entire subject in just eleven verses. It is a part of His Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapter 6:24-34. In that passage, the basic principle that Jesus sets forth is that no man can serve two masters. We cannot serve God and the world.

A divided mind is fighting against itself and cannot be at peace. Our inner war must be ended by our complete wholehearted decision. Life you see demands many decisions. Jesus wants us to realize there is basically one decision. Settle that one

decision and we settle them all. That decision is choosing between God and mammon. That word mammon represents the desires of our body. God represents the longings of our soul, our spirit. We must make up our mind which is the most important. Then we give ourselves wholly to it. Then we will have peace of mind.

Do you remember when Jesus said to remember Lot's wife? That reference is in Luke 17:32. She is the perfect example of indecision. The example of one who could not make up her mind. She was a part of a family that gave us our greatest prophets. She had within her the faith of her family. She knew God. From childhood she had known the meaning of prayer. Yet, along with her husband she moved into Sodom. Sodom was "mammon", it was the world. More importantly, Sodom moved into her. She wanted God but she also wanted Sodom. Finally the day of final choice came. She made a start toward God, but looked back to Sodom. She was reaching for the stars with one hand yet she was fingering the mud with the other. Her heart was a divided heart. She ended with misery and destruction. We must make the choice for ourselves. We cannot serve God and the world.

Jesus said that we cannot serve two masters. Until we choose our master, we will not have peace of mind. Within each of us there are two forces. Both of these are struggling to be the master. One of these is the call of God. His ideals, the desire to be

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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

"If Only. . . ."

How many of us live our life among the "If Only's..."
Wondering how things might have worked out if only. . . ?
Like Paul, we must learned to be contented wherever we are.

commit my life into His hands. I can believe he can and will carry me through. Believing in God, being committed to God, I find courage and calmness. Jesus said we cannot serve two masters. So, we need to make our commitment.

As you read the passage in the Sermon on the Mount, notice that Jesus tells us not to be anxious over the things of this life. Jesus tells us to seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. He doesn't say we will be denied the things we want in life. He says they shall be added unto us. The Psalmist said, "I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. . . ." (Psalm 37:25). Come to think of it, never have I.

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On The Lighter Side. . .



"GREAT SERMON! YOU DIDN'T GO ON AND ON AND ON THIS TIME."

For The Pantry. . . Cup Noodles

Peace of Mind - continued from page 1

good and godly. The other is selfish desires, the worldly. We may choose the low life, but even then we will not have peace because God will never leave us alone.

There are three elements that make up this decision. The first of these is commitment. Remember when Jesus steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem in Luke 9:51? He heard the voice of inclination, the voice of God. There was no wavering, he steadfastly set his face. With that commitment there was no question. The issue was settled. We must realize most of our troubles grow out of indecision.

\ Out of commitment comes the second element, courage. If you had looked into Jesus' face, had you seen his eyes, you would have seen no fear as he headed toward Jerusalem. We must make the commitment

and with the commitment comes the courage to see it through. We are afraid only until we decide.

As a result of commitment and courage comes calmness. As Jesus hung on the cross, he spoke calmly. He said, "Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit." When I believe in God, I can

Each One Bring One!
52 in '22
Invite Someone Each Week!

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 will be here the week of November 15th – 17th. They have requested Pancake Mix, Cup Noodles, Crackers and Orange Juice. These will be our pantry items for the next several weeks and will be listed on the back of the calendar.



Those To Remember In Prayer

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) Ana Blair (friend of Debra Pate) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher’s brother and sister-in-law) Roy Garcia (friend of Tim and Norma Perkins) Suzie Hogan (Roxie Bostick’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

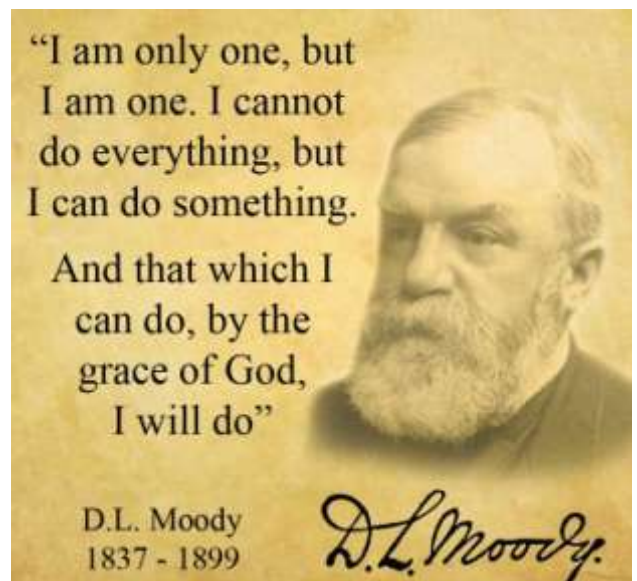
“INTERNET FRIENDS”

(These are people who have become acquainted with the Center Church of Christ either through Facebook or our Website and have requested to be put on our prayer list)

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.





Across The Preacher's Desk

One of the things there is too little of in our world today is praise. People have become so filled with critical ideas and harsh words that a little genuine praise and appreciation is often mistaken for flattery. Yet, every heart yearns for appreciation. All of us want to know that our efforts, however small they might be, are appreciated and noticed.

The Apostle Paul was noted for his compliments, whenever praise was due. Once he wrote to the Thessalonians and said, "We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, remembering without ceasing your work of faith and labor of love and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Thessalonians 1:2-3) Neither Paul nor the church would have been better off had he withheld his words of praise and commendation.

Our world is filled with wickedness, it is true. But there is also much goodness, patience, sacrifice, loyal work and kindness that needs to receive credit. Solomon said, "Take away the dross from the silver, and there cometh forth a vessel for the refiner." (Proverbs 25:4)

Look for something to praise in someone you meet this week. If you are sincere in your praise, you will lift a person's courage and determination every time you open your lips. Remember that someone's circumstances of life may be molded by your words today.

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

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