

LET'S VISIT

A Publication of the Center Church of Christ 110 Hurst Street Center, Texas 75935

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SEED SOWING

While our Lord was upon the earth, he spoke four parables on seed sowing. These are the lakeside parables recorded in Matthew chapter 13, Mark chapter 4 and Luke chapter 8. These parables were intended to encourage His people for the great trials ahead of them.

In the parable of the sower, Jesus taught His disciples that some of their preaching would be in vain. Some of the seed would fall into wayside hearts and never produce at all. If we are inclined to be discouraged when we see our efforts at teaching go for naught, the Lord is saying in this parable that He knew such would be the case.

Then, there are a great many people in the church who live far below their possibilities. They could do a great deal more than they are doing. It is discouraging sometimes to see people live so far below their potential. So Jesus told us about the people who would do only a small portion of the good they were capable of doing. Later when some Christians denied the Lord and blasphemed His name, they were to remember that the Lord had foreseen the weaknesses and failures of men and to take heart and press on. Then there parable of the tares which also belongs in this list. Somehow, when we look and expect encouragement and strength from our brethren and find only discouragement and weakness, we are inclined to lose heart. But when actual tares grow among the wheat and we find people wearing the name of Christ but acting like the devil, we needn't be surprised. Jesus had such people in His company. He spoke these words to teach us that this would be a continuing situation.

The Lord must have known that His disciples, being few in number, would be inclined to look at the enormous task of preaching to the whole world and give up and say we simply can't do it. So He spoke the parable of the mustard seed, giving us assurance of how the church would grow, how from a very small beginning it could become the greatest force on earth. He wanted us to have the courage to work and attempt what seemed to us impossible.

In Mark 4:26 Jesus tells the story of the man's planting and how in the process of time he slept. Yet, while he was working and while he was sleeping the forces of nature worked away and slowly produced a plant. He has taught us to know that our labor is not in vain in the Lord. Remember what Paul would write in I Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." Then again, "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9)We can do those good things that the Lord has told us to do and while we sleep and while we wake the good seed of God's kingdom will germinate and bear fruit. Suddenly there will be the fruit of righteousness wherever the word fell into good soil. But the sower must wait with patience for the working of God's law.

Let us do today's duties in all the confidence that God will use us to His glory.

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In Search of the Lord's Wav



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSHV 45 –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



Myths,
Misconceptions &
Misinformation

(Lesson 6 and the last in a Series)

For The Pantry. . . October 12 – Sugar

Offering – October 5, 2025 . . \$ 2,833.00 The Lord's plan of giving ..."as ye have prospered"

Men's Business Meeting

Today, October 12, 2025, immediately following the morning worship in the church offices. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

The Work Of The Preacher

Somewhere between the call of God and in the heart of the hospital, there exists a specialist in everything and variously called, a preacher or a minister. He is a hero to his wife, a stranger to his children, a fine boy to his mother and an easy touch to the down and outer. He is a name on the mailing list of hundreds of agencies and organizations and an example to the flock.

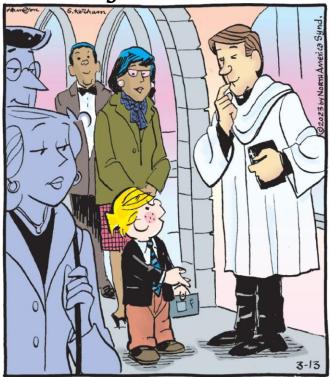
To some he is a fuddy-duddy, to some he is a stuffed shirt, to some he is a character who never enjoys life by "living it up". To some he is a guy who has nothing to do but preach a thirty minute sermon once a week and teach a couple of Bible classes. To others he is a person in whose presence you must not cuss, drink or smoke. To some he is a dear friend.

When death hovers near, he is the one whose ministry continues when the medics have done all they can do. He is the one who marries young loves, prays with the sick and buries the dead and yet, can't find time to fix his wife's broken chair. He is a promoter, a public relations director, a public orator, an errand boy, typist, file clerk, a writer, business executive, prophet, counselor, bookworm, diplomat, human being (believe it or not) singer, planner, pusher and puller.

Many nights are spent visiting and doing "little" things that need attention. He is concerned about the church and its progress, its failures, its faults and how he, a preacher can do a better work in the task he is undertaking. The preacher has many headaches and heartaches and problems that do not concern the average member and which they never know. He wrestles many times for solutions to the problems of many who have come to him for help and advice and counsel. So, the preacher is many in one. He is supposed to know what to do, what to say, when to say it and how to say it on all occasions. To understand the work of a preacher is to appreciate him. He wants no pity. However, please be patient, understanding and helpful. Remember, he doesn't have a minister!

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On The Lighter Side. . .



"DOES THAT 'DAILY BREAD' COME WITH PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY?"





No Excuse Sunday December 7, 2025

Make Your Plans To Be Here Sunday, December 7, 2025 Our Annual

"NO EXCUSE SUNDAY"

Put this date on your calendar, make sure you plan to be here, invite your friends and neighbors to come and worship with us and stay for our covered dish luncheon. We will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries for the months of December, January and February and enjoy a great time of fellowship together.

Hospitality group 1 is in charge of the luncheon that day. The members of that group are Marsha Bounds, LaResa Livingston, Betty Miller, Lisa Miller and Melonia Molloy.

Communion Preparation - October

Larry & Melonia Molloy



Plan to join us on October 29th for the last Wednesday night fellowship meal in 2025.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!Save this Date. . .

December 21, 2025 – Annual Christmas Party



OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos. LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) Leslie Adams (friend of Diedra Hughes) being treated for brain caner; Richard Barbee (Gene Bradshaw's nephew) Peggy Baylor (Tim Bradshaw's mother) **David Bissett** (Mike O'Brien's brother in law-cancer) Dwayne Brister (Cissy Amos' cousin) Debra Clifton (friend of LaResa Livingston) Coleen Dickerson (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Dot Grant (Friend of Debra Pate) Suzi Hogan (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) Ted Holt (former member of this congregation) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) Albert Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's father) Norma Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's mother) Karen McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle); Heather Simmons Stewart (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; J. C. Tate & Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's father and mother) Max Windham (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

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

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Reserve these dates for important events in the life of our Church for 2026

March 1, 2026 – "Pack-A-Pew Sunday"

April 24, 2026 – Area Wide Singing & Fellowship
June 7, 2026 – "Friends and Family Day"

September 13, 2026 – "Back To Church Sunday"

December 6, 2026 – "No Excuse Sunday"

December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party



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 There was the woman who one night? touched the hem of Jesus' garment and was Then there were the two tax healed. 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....tbp

The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
55 in '25!