



LET'S VISIT

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WHY DON'T YOU GROW UP?

All of us at some time or another in our lives have either been asked the question or asked it of someone else, "Why don't you grow up"? No doubt, this expression can be traced to the beginning of man. Merely the fact that the question is asked suggests that an individual who has grown up should somehow be different from those who have not grown up. Theoretically it is something that separates between childhood and manhood.

Guess what. The older I get, and the longer I live and the more I associate with other "grown" people, the more inclined I am to believe that we would be wise to stop asking that question. I have almost reached the conclusion that people do not grow up. We are still children and yet we do not like to admit that we are.

Take a look at this in natural life. At the age of fifty, sixty or seventy, people are very little different from what they were when they were children. Of course, they have slowed down a little (or sometimes a lot!) Time has made many changes. In many instances the hair has either turned loose or turned gray and cleaning the teeth before bedtime involves putting them in a glass. But I am not talking about the physical changes that the ravages of time take on our bodies. We are talking about the attitude and disposition people have toward life and their reaction to various things. The problems and difficulties we hear about today among "grown ups" are not much different from those of younger people. It is just about as easy to find a man or woman pouting when they are 60 or 70 as to find one pouting at 20. You can find just as many older people (grown ups) saying "catty things about others as young people. Actually, I think we can find more. There are just as many older people who go around with a chip on

their shoulder, and who resent most everything others say and do as there are younger people. Emotionally, I wonder if people ever grow up. The body decays but the emotions seem to have a way of never changing.

There is a religious side to this question. In fact, it is the most important side. The writer of Hebrews found some people who had not grown up religiously. He said, *"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God: and are become such as have need of milk and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."* (Hebrews 5:12-14) Surely if there were people in that day who needed to grow up religiously, there are many in our own day and time. The only way we can do this is to feed on the "sincere milk of the word" until we are able to understand the deeper thoughts and teach them to others. It would not be difficult to find many who know no more about the word of God today than they did 40 years ago when they were baptized. Because of this, there is often more nursing going on in the church than feeding. Let's grow up in Christ.

tp

In Search of the Lord's Way



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



The Cross Proves That God Loves Us

For The Pantry. . .
October 19 – Dried Pasta

Offering – October 12, 2025 . . \$ 2,326.00

The Lord's plan of giving ... "as ye have prospered"

Preach The Gospel!

Paul urged Timothy to preach the word because *"the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine"* (II Timothy 4:3) "Sound Doctrine" is literally, "healthful teaching".

A soul may be healthy as well as a body (II John 2). It is made and kept healthy by healthful teaching. But, there seems to be a tendency too often to equate sound doctrine with attacks on other religious groups, sermons on baptism etc.

G. C. Brewer, a giant among preachers in another day related an incident early in his career that illustrates this point. He began a meeting with a series of sermons on the love and mercy of God, the sacrifice of Christ, and followed these lessons with one on baptism for the remission of sins. After that sermon, a brother said to him, "Well, I knew if we waited long enough you would finally get around to preaching the gospel." After lessons on God's love and mercy, and the saving blood of Christ, he finally got around to the gospel!

And so it is. A sermon on why we baptize for the remission of sins is a "good, old fashioned gospel sermon." A lesson on selfishness or kindness is endured but little appreciated. At times a lesson on baptism or instrumental music is needed. But so is one that shows we may be baptized for the remission of sins and sing without the instrument and still not worship acceptably. A sermon about

observing the Lord's Supper each Sunday is a gospel sermon, and so is one that shows that we may partake of it each Sunday, every Sunday, and never really commune with Christ because of the condition of our heart.

There will always be the danger among churches of Christ that some might desire to use the instrument in worship or take the Lord's Supper on some day of the week other than the Lord's day. However, this is not the real danger. The real danger is that we will do all of the right things in the wrong way or for the wrong purpose. Beloved, we need "healthful teaching" in every field.

tp

On The Lighter Side. . .

The Stewardship Committee's latest idea for helping to raise the annual church budget.



"IT IS SCARCELY POSSIBLE
IN MOST PLACES TO GET
ANYONE TO ATTEND A
MEETING WHERE THE ONLY
ATTRACTION
IS GOD."

- A.W. TOZER





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



Wednesday
FELLOWSHIP MEAL

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 cancer; **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

We live in a changing world, and nothing emphasizes that more than recent events on the world stage. Yet, many of us have seen great changes in our life in transportation, the performance of household tasks, medicine, and communications. To some of us who remember rotary dial phones and party lines, the internet and cell phones are things we never imagined when we were younger.

Yet, with all the changes in our world, human nature has not changed. Sin has not changed. Men and women still have the same greed that characterized Lot. The same love of power is still evident that showed itself in Diotrefes. There is the same love of money, the same lusts of the flesh. Because men and women still do not have the ability to guide themselves, we still need guidance.

However, with all the changes we have seen in our world we can take courage from the fact that Jesus Christ never changes. The writer of Hebrews would tell us, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8). Jesus is still the King of Kings who has all authority. Jesus Christ is still the Savior of the World. He is the one who came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. However, we must live his kind of life. He must be the Lord and Master of our life – all of our life. Is Jesus the Master of your life?

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

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