

Let's Visit

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How Important Is Jesus?

How important is Jesus Christ in your life? How significant is the Lord to you, really? What does Jesus really mean to you? It seems that some people never grow too old nor too tired, nor do they live too far from the church building to be present when the Saints of God assemble for Bible Study or worship. The weather never gets too hot, it never gets too cold, as long as travel is possible there are some people who will be at the services of the Church. It is never too dry and it is never too wet. Some people will make arrangements to be present for worship. Do you think it strange that some people would act this way? Not at all. You see, they are able to be present when the saints of God assemble because it is a priority with them. These people attend church services because of their relationship to Jesus Christ. Jesus is important to them. To them, Jesus is more than life or death, joys or earthly pleasures and recreation. Jesus is more than earthly comforts, entertainment or worldly gain. Jesus is more important than family or friends. Jesus Christ is their all in all. Individuals who feel this way about Jesus do not have to tell their neighbors all the time how much they love the Lord, everyone knows that they love the Lord by the way that they live their lives.

Yet, there is something wrong, something terribly wrong when we can't have members of the church and their families present when the saints of God assemble.

If an individual is too sick to attend worship, something is wrong with their health. If an individual thinks they do not need the help that comes from assembling with the saints of God, something is wrong with their education because

they do not know enough to know just how much they need fellowship with other Christians. If someone sleeps too late, they are lazy. If they do not have the interest to be present, something is dangerously wrong with their attitude. Indifference causes people to lose their souls for all eternity. If they are too busy to go, something is wrong with their schedule. The individual who is too busy to serve the Lord is too busy to go to heaven. If they let company keep them away from the assembly, there is something wrong with their courage. The child of God should have the courage to serve the Lord even if the company is missed.

Please tell me why every Christian would not want to be in worship on the Lord's Day? Tell me why every Christian would not want their family and friends to be there. Beloved, if we have no desire to be in the worship and if we have no desire to have our families in the worship, something is wrong. It would be wise to check up on our attitude before it is too late.

Back to our original question. How important is Jesus Christ to you – really? If Jesus Christ is not Lord of all of your life, He is not Lord at all in your life. Let's make sure that service to Jesus is the number one priority in our lives.

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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

"Ashamed Of The Gospel?"

Our text comes from Romans 1:14-16. Paul was not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and we should not be either. We will talk about reasons we are not ashamed.

FOR THE PANTRY....

Sugar

I Wholly Followed The Lord

In Joshua 14:8 we have these words, "I wholly followed the Lord my God." These are the words of Caleb, and he was speaking of himself, but we can rest assured his words were true, for in Numbers 14:24 we have the words of Jehovah God saying, "My servant Caleb hath followed me fully".

Full surrender is one of the great needs of our modern Christian life which seems to be so largely lost. Men are content to know Christ as Savior in a general sort of way, and live a life which has a kind of drift Christward, but nothing compelling or strenuous about it. They may be, in a sense following Christ. But they follow afar in comparison to Caleb, or the law of full surrender.

There is a great difference between following Christ in a general sort of way, and fully surrendering our lives to Him. It is only the man that wholly follows him who makes any impression for Him upon the world in which we live.

There are multitude of people who are His in the sense that they trust Him for salvation, receive His gifts, and are numbered among His followers, who are in no wise wholly his. Other Lords successfully claim a portion of their devotion and dominate a portion of their lives. Compare such half-hearted lives with the testimony of the text, "I have wholly

followed the Lord my God" and I believe you will find the reason for the slow progress of the church in most communities today.

When Jesus is un-contested King in our lives, He will make of us un-questioned conquerors in any community. But if we give a portion of our lives to another, we show a lack of faith in our king, and lost all the power to influence the lives of others for good.

What could we do with an entire congregation composed of Caleb's?

-E. E. Highers

On The Lighter Side....



"GREAT SERMON! NOW, AREN'T YOU GLAD MOM MADE YOU COME TO CHURCH, DAD?"

*So, your efforts are criticized? Congratulations!
You have either done something good, or
abstained from doing something foolish*

*Happiness is that peculiar sensation you acquire
when you are too busy to be miserable.*

Miscellaneous



Those To Remember In Prayer

Friends & Family Day



We are glad you
are here and
hope you are
planning to stay
for lunch!

* * * * *

The Friend Who Stands By

When trouble comes your soul to try,
You love the friend who just stands by
Perhaps there's nothing he can do,
The thing is strictly up to you.
For there are troubles all your own,
And paths the soul must tread alone.
Times when love can't smooth the road,
Nor friendship lift the heavy load.
But just to feel you have a friend,
Who will stand by until the end,
Whose sympathy through all endures,
Whose warm handclasp is always yours.
It helps somehow to pull you through,
Although there's nothing he can do,
And so with fervent heart we cry,
"God bless the friend who just stands by."

-selected

Why Are People That Way?

Most of the trouble we have is the trouble we
will never have. We wear ourselves out crossing
bridges that have never been built.

I once read about a woman who could not enjoy
a nice day because she just knew it was a weather-
breeder for a bad day tomorrow. Another lady used
to call her maid on Monday saying, "Carolyn, get
up, this is Monday, tomorrow will be Tuesday, to-
morrow Wednesday, here it is the middle of the
week and nothing done.

Don't borrow trouble. You will have enough
without borrowing.

-selected.

THOSE WITH ONGOING NEEDS:

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden,
Sue Hagler, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, Ted and Joyce Holt,
Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Melvin Williams

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother) Leyton Bell
(friend of Tim and Norma Perkins) Ana Blair (friend of Debra
Pate) Donna Boullion (Ted and Joyce Holt's niece) Gil
Boullion (Ted and Joyce Holt's nephew) back surgery Cody
Butler (Debra Pate's grandson) Krisi, Shane and Nicholas
Clark (Norma Perkins' cousin and her family) Gracie Elam (6
month old baby recovering from heart surgery) John Fincher
(Dale Fincher's uncle) Kamryn and Korbyn Fontenot (Debra
Pate's grandsons) Gayle Foster (Cancer) Emily Heflin (Roxie
Bostick's niece) Dalton Hendrix (Joyce Holt's great-great
nephew) Sandra Hogan (friend of Roxie Bostick) Melanie
Hutzler (friend of Tim and Norma Perkins) Julia Keffer (Bobbi
Holder's mother) Laurie King (Co-worker of Mike O'Brien,
cancer) Liam Martinez (11 months old) Julia & Reno Mendza
(cousins of Jerry Pate) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah
Fletcher, multiple health issues) Abbey Perkins (Tim and
Norma Perkins' daughter-in-law) Stephanie Richard (friend of
Norma Perkins) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and
blood pressure issues; Katilyn Tate (Roxie Bostick's
daughter-in-law) Jared and Natalie Tate (Mike and Roxie's
son and daughter-in-law) Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's mother)
Pat Wallace (Norma Perkins aunt)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Amanda Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw
and Lucas Tate

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

* * * * *

Recipe for a terrible day. . .

Take a pint of ill humor –add one or more
unfortunate incidents –set over a good fire.

When at the boiling point, add a tablespoon of
temper. Baste from time to time with sarcasm.

Cook until the edges curl – add a handful of
haughty words.

As the mixture curdles, stir furiously and then
serve while sizzling.

-selected



Across The Preacher's Desk

One of the most elusive things in our lives are friends. We might have some we consider to be our friends, yet, they later prove themselves to be what are known as "fair weather friends". When the going gets tough, often they are nowhere to be found. There is one friend who will never let us down and that is God.

When we turn to the word of God, we find a man who was known as a "friend of God". That is what James tells us about Abraham in James 2:23, he was "called the Friend of God". Have you ever thought about that? Have you ever considered what a high honor that was for Abraham?

Abraham believed God. Faith is something that must be present for us to be pleasing to God. The writer of Hebrews tells us in Hebrews 11:6 that without faith it is impossible to please God. Yet, Abraham did more than this. He obeyed God, he feared God and he had a deep concern for the lost.

With God there is no such thing as being a partial friend. There is no such thing as being an acquaintance. James also tells us in James 4:4 that the friendship of the world is enmity with God. That whosoever is a friend of the world is the enemy of God. The question we must ask ourselves is could it be said of us that we are the friend of God? Are we living our lives as friends of God or friends of the world?

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

**God's Plan of
Evangelism....**

Each one bring one!