

Let's Visit

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“For Christ’s Sake”

I remember as a small boy, often hearing people close their prayers with the phrase, “in Christ’s name and for his sake we pray”. Have you ever thought about that phrase? Have you ever wondered what we are saying with that expression? We are asking God to look upon the face of His Son and to deal with us on the merit of our suffering substitute.

However, this is only one side of the equation. God wants us to look upon the face of His Son and for Christ’s sake suffer, serve and glorify the Father. We do a great many things for the sake of others. We hear parents say they will do many things “for the sake of my child”. We ask people for favors, often on behalf of others and request, “would you do it for my sake”. When we turn to the pages of the Bible, we see there things being done for the sake of others. In the long ago, God “for the sake of 10 righteous” would not destroy Sodom. David showed Mephibosheth kindness “for the sake of Jonathan”. (II Samuel 9:7) God did not take the kingdom from Solomon during his lifetime “for the sake of David his father” (I Kings 11:12) Peter tells us in I Peter 2 that we are to obey the civil government “for the sake of the Lord”. Paul entreated Philemon in behalf of Onesimus “for love’s sake”. Then, the Bible instructs us to do certain things for “Christ’s sake”.

Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:31-32 that we are to forgive one another as God for Christ’s sake has forgiven us. If we are to be forgiven, it is imperative that we be willing to forgive others. Someone hurt your feelings, forgive them for Christ’s sake. Someone loved your soul enough to warn you that forsaking the assembly was putting your soul in jeopardy and that made you mad and you quit the church. For Christ’s sake be willing to forgive. Our

own forgiveness before God is preconditioned on our willingness to forgive others. Jesus tells us plainly in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5,6 and 7) that if we are not willing to forgive others, God will not forgive us. Peter writes later that we should follow in the steps of Jesus. It is so Christlike to have compassion and exercise forgiveness. Do you remember, on the cross he prayed and said, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do”.

For the sake of Christ, we are to strive together in prayer. (Romans 15:30) If we would strive together in prayer more, we could bring more honor and glory to the Lord. In Acts 12, we see the church striving together in prayer. James has been put to death, and Peter is in prison awaiting the same fate. The church came together to unite and strive together in prayer. We should follow their example.

For the sake of Christ, we are to serve one another (II Corinthians 4:5). Paul tells us they did not preach for the purpose of bringing glory to themselves. Jesus did not come to be ministered unto but to minister. He came to give his life a ransom for many. Would you resolve to be more faithful in your service to the Lord? For Christ’s sake.

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Success is a matter of luck – ask any failure!

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

“Jesus Example of Humility”

Our text comes from John 13:12. While His Apostles argued about who was most important, Jesus taught them humility by His example.

FOR THE PANTRY....

Jelly or Preserves

Someone Else!

Our church was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, Someone Else. Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for many years, and for every one of those years, Someone did far more than a normal person's share of the work.

Whenever there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone's list, “Let Someone Else do it”. Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results; “Someone Else can work with that group”.

It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most liberal givers in our church. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone just assumed Someone Else would make up the difference.

Someone Else was a wonderful person; sometimes appearing superhuman. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now, Someone Else is gone and we are left to wonder what we are going to do.

Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things that Someone Else did?

When you are asked to help in the church, remember, we can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

-copied

Jesus Is Still The Great Physician

Jesus is the “Great Physician”, the “world's teacher”, and the climax is reached in His being a “friend of sinners”.

Jesus was not the “friend of sinners” in that He encouraged them in their sins, but in the fact that he was willing to save them from their sins.

A humble, penitent, contrite heart always appeals to Jesus. Such a condition of heart and life will receive a blessing from the “Great Physician”.

-selected

On The Lighter Side.....



Sunday, 10:45 a.m. and the Elite Visitor Awareness Commandos go into action!

Miscellaneous



Covered Dish Lunch TODAY!

Today is our annual "Friends and Family Day" and we are having a Covered Dish Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall, immediately following our Worship Services this morning. We hope you will plan to stay and join us.



Those To Remember In Prayer

We extend our sympathy to the family of LaMerle Cox, a former member of this congregation. LaMerle passed away on Thursday (September 10th). Services will be held at a later date at the San Augustine Church of Christ.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE :

Amanda Bradshaw, Andrew Bradshaw,
Leland Bradshaw

Special Announcement

Remember, that even though we are not requiring the wearing of masks in our assembly, we do still want to do everything we can to be safe both for ourselves and for others. We would therefore ask that we all remain aware of social distancing and being respectful of other's personal space.

-thank you



The Painting on the exterior is finished, the new carpet is ordered for the Fellowship Hall, and the roofers are scheduled to replace the flat roof portion of the building at their earliest opportunity. Exciting things are happening.

Praise

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.

Sometimes, however, we keep things in our hearts that we ought not allow to be there. Often when someone utters a cruel, harsh and unkind remark, he or she later apologizes and says, "I spoke before I thought!". They didn't do it. The thought had to be in their heart before their lips gave expression to the thought. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7)

Therefore, when a person's lips speak good, his heart is good.

The world is filled with wickedness, it is true. But there is 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.



Across The Preacher's Desk

When God asked Adam, "Where art thou?" it was embarrassing to him, because he was in the wrong place and had done the wrong thing. He had disobeyed God. When God asked Cain, "Where is thy brother?" it was embarrassing because of his sin. In the parable of the marriage feast, when the king asked the men who did not have on a wedding garment, "Friend, how camest thou in hither not having on a wedding garment?" the man was so embarrassed that he was speechless (Matthew 22:12)

We may have many excuses to offer now; but when we stand in the presence of the Great Judge and he asks us about our life, there will no longer be any excuses that we can offer.

Would it be embarrassing for others to know how often we read the Bible? Would it be embarrassing for others to know the level of concern we really have for the church? You know, there are many things we leave undone that we ought to do and there are many things we may do that would embarrass us among our friends. Yet, the real question is not what our friends and acquaintances think about the way we live, but how does Jesus feel about the way we live.

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

**Great Churches are built with
Commitment!**