



LET'S VISIT

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

Volume 12

Number 39

September 28, 2025

AT CALVARY

In John 12:32, we have these words of Jesus recorded for us, *"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."* The "if" in this passage is not to be taken as expressive of doubt. In the very next verse we read, *"this he said, signifying what death he should die."* At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus knew he would be crucified. The crucifixion was near when Jesus spoke those words. The shadow of the cross was already casting its gloom upon the life of Jesus.

The cross suggests for us the depths of sin. We have all seen the deep, ugly and ghastly wounds that sin has made. We have all seen lives and families ruined by sin. Through all the ages, sin has been the most cruel breaker of hearts.

Sin brought havoc into our world. It was sin that crucified Jesus. It was there, at the cross that sin struck its most treacherous blow. It was on the cross that the innocent died for the guilty, the perfect died for the imperfect and the pure agonized for the impure. At the cross, we see sin at its absolute worst. True enough, we sometimes look at sin and see its alluring nature. However, God points to the cross and says look at sin. Here is sin in its true light. Here is what sin will do.

Yet, while the cross suggests the depths of sin, it also pictures the breadth and mercy and height of God's love. *"God so loved"* is what the "Golden Text" says in John 3:16. At the cross, mercy became universal in its application. The law had been given only to a single race of people. The cross made God's mercy for all men. John would write, *"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent His son into the world to be a propitiation for our sin."*

The attraction of the cross was and is Jesus Christ. Jesus was attractive in his life. Men left their occupations for Jesus. Matthew and Zacchaeus both gave up a lucrative occupation as tax collectors to follow Jesus. Peter and Andrew left their father and their nets and followed Jesus. Men were willing to leave the strongest ties of nature to follow the Lord. Yet, there were some, though attracted to him, who refused to follow him. There was that wealthy young man who came running to Jesus asking what he must do to inherit eternal life. When Jesus told him to go and sell all that he had, give the money to the poor and come follow Jesus he went away sorrowful.

Just think of the things that made Jesus attractive. His manhood made him attractive. His sympathetic nature made Him attractive. People told him their troubles, he listened and helped. The woman caught in adultery found Jesus to be sympathetic. The multitude he had compassion on and fed in Matthew 15 found Jesus to be sympathetic.

We are told about the cross on the pages of the New Testament and we are also told about the cross in song. Dr. R. A. Torrey was a well known preacher of another era. He served as president of Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. One day he received a letter from a distressed father. The man had a prodigal son named Bill. The young man was always

(Continued on page 2)

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



Myths, Misconceptions & Misinformation

(Lesson 4 in a Series)

For The Pantry. . .

September 28 – Canned Fruit

Offering – September 21, 2025 . . \$ 2,211.00

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

At Calvary – continued from page 1

breaking his fathers' heart. Imagine that, an unruly "preacher's kid". The man wanted Dr. Torrey to let his son enroll at Moody.

Dr. Torrey told the man that he certainly sympathized with him. He could not however let the boy enroll at Moody. Moody was a Bible Institute, not a reformatory. The man wrote back doubling his entreaties. Finally Dr. Torrey agreed. However, the boy had to meet with him daily and he also had to abide by the rules.

At first, the arrangement did not go well. Actually, Dr. Torrey thought the experiment was hopeless. The boy had serious problems. He seemed torn apart by turbulence. But, the boy did keep the rules. Day by day he vented his frustrations to Dr. Torrey. It turned out he was attentive to Dr. Torrey's answers.

Later, William R. Newell was a beloved professor at Moody. In the late 1800's (1895) he began thinking about his life. He wanted to put what God meant into verse form. The idea rolled around in the back of his mind for several weeks. One day, on the way to lecture, the lines came to him. He quickly ducked into an empty classroom.

He jotted down the words on the back of an envelope. Hurrying to class he met Dr. Daniel Towner. Dr. Towner was director of music at the institute. He handed the lines he had written to Dr. Towner. He suggested they could use a good

melody. When Dr. Newell finished his lecture, the tune was ready.

Dr. Towner told him he was taken with the poem he had written. He felt it could be the best song either would ever write. Yet, Dr. William R. Newell felt had he not gone through his troubled years, he might never have fully understood the importance of Calvary.

You might find the lines of his poem familiar:

"Years I spent in vanity and pride,
Caring not my Lord was crucified,
Knowing not it was for me He died
On Calvary.

By God's word at last my sin I learned,
Then I trembled at the law I'd spurned
Till my guilty soul imploring turned
To Calvary.

Mercy there was great, and grace was free;
Pardon there was multiplied to me.
There my burdened soul found liberty
At Calvary."

tp

On The Lighter Side. . .



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



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

We had a great time of fellowship with our Wednesday night meal this past Wednesday. 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) 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) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) 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

Faith is a common denominator in all of our lives. We daily express faith in something. In fact, we cannot live a single day without exercising faith. To be sure, we have faith in the physical world.

When you woke up and went into the bathroom this morning, you flipped a switch and you had faith the light would come on. When you get in your car, you have faith that it will start. When you mail a letter, you have faith the postal system will get it to the right address. When you go to the pharmacy, you have faith that the pharmacist will give you the right drugs. When you get in an elevator in a high rise building, you have faith in the low bidder on the construction project.

In his first epistle, John writes of victory in overcoming the world. The world to which John refers are those things which are in the world. John writes in I John 5:4-5, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God."

Our faith must be a faith that leads us to live Jesus' kind of life, His way. Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21)

Faith in Jesus that leads to victory must come from the Word of God. We must spend time letting God speak to us through His word and speaking to God through prayer. There can be victory in overcoming the world. This victory is the victory of faith.

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

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