

# Let's Visit

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## Using What We Have

I once read a statement where it said, "The great buildings and the powerful machines are inanimate. They cannot think and they have no economic value until loyal and interested men and women give them value through efficient use."

You see, God has no use for material things without the person who makes use of them. What possible value could a building have for God? Alone it serves no purpose as far as God is concerned. But, when people erect a building and use it to worship and serve God it becomes of great value. The same is true with money. God has no use for our money as such. The whole world belongs to Him. "The cattle on a thousand hills" belong to God. Could he not take any part of the world that he needs and do with it as he would? Is he not the creator of the world? Surely the earth and the contents of it belong to God,. But money that is given to God by his children is of unlimited value to Him. By it his name is glorified on the earth and the giver is justified. The giver gets much more from giving than the Lord does, but by the gift the world is blessed. The gift without the giver is bare. When we take material things and use them properly for God they are of great value. Otherwise they have no value.

The word of God is of no value to the person who will not study it and follow its directions. What good is a Bible left alone? Those who study the word of God will learn something every day. Would you be ashamed to have the Lord come for you today with your record of Bible Study? I am afraid a great many of our people do not realize the value of Bible Study. There are many who will not attend the Bible Class on a regular basis. There is also a lack of knowledge we see demonstrated in our daily

conversations and conduct. It is tragic to see the lack of Bible knowledge among God's people many times. Some do not study at all. Others do it in too much of a hurry. God's word is of no value to us unless we use it.

To the person who refuses to use it, the church is of no value. By using it, I do not mean for personal gain, but as a blessing to the world. Being a member of the Lord's church does not assure an individual a home in heaven. It is essential, but an individual may become a member of the Lord's church and then refuse to continue faithful and lose his or her soul. Many people have not yet found the blessing in being a member of the Church because they have never used the church as a blessing. When we begin to think of the church as we should and act toward it as God expects us to, it will become a greater blessing than we ever imagined it could. The greatest honor God ever bestowed on any person is the honor of being a member of the church,. Such an honor cannot be realized, however, unless we become a part of a living, active body of Christ, one which blessed the community in which it worships and serves God. Sadly, there are many who never become actively involved in the life of the church except to consider what the church can do for them. When there is a death in their family, when they are

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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

### “Lovest Thou Me?”

Our text comes from John 21:15-17. Jesus asked Simon, “Lovest Thou Me?” If we love the Lord, we will love the things the Lord loved.

## FOR THE PANTRY....

### Hot Cereal

#### Using What We Have – Continued from page 1

are sick, when a loved one is at the point of death, they need the church. They always want to make sure the Church is there for them when they need it, and if the Church doesn't come through for them in their time of need, my how the whole world will know about it. However, these same people are never there for the Church. They seldom if ever attend, they contribute little if anything to the financial needs of the church, the church has no claim on their lives, but they always expect the church to be there to meet their needs.

The tragedy of tragedies is this attitude of neglect and unconcern which we so often see demonstrated toward the Bible and the Church. The Bible is the word of God, and the Church is the institution purchased with the blood of Christ. How would you feel if your son had given his life for something and people demonstrated the same cavalier attitude toward it that we so often see exhibited toward the church? We need to realize the value of the Bible and the Church.

God has given us nothing that is without value, if we will only use it properly,. But all that is in the world is of no value either to man or God unless we learn to use what he has given for our salvation and His Glory.

tp

## Ten Values Of Church Attendance . . . .

1. It keeps your heart in constant tune with God.
2. It keeps your mind on the great necessity for having God's word spread throughout the nations.
3. It improves your character by learning the great examples that Christ gave to us.
4. It improves your disposition by learning to be meek and humble like Christ.
5. It helps in your everyday life by learning to love one another, even as Christ loved you.
6. It teaches you to give and know the wonderful joy you receive by giving.
7. It teaches you to pray, for prayer is the answer to many of your problems.
8. It gives your soul great joy and comfort to worship and know that God is near.
9. It shows the world that you are working for Christ and His kingdom.
10. It is what Christ intended for you to do.

-selected

## On The Lighter Side....



“CAN WE GET A REFUND IF THE SERMON ISN'T THAT GOOD?”

# Miscellaneous

## Friends & Family Day



Invite your family and friends and plan to be here!

### September 12, 2021

## - REMEMBER -

There are postcards on the shelf in the foyer for you to pick up and mail to your friends and family to invite them to attend our "Friends and Family Day"

**PLEASE DO THIS!**

## Some Things To Remember

Visit our website...

[www.centerchurchofchrist.com](http://www.centerchurchofchrist.com)

Watch Sermon Videos on You Tube...

Visit Our Facebook Page

-Sunday Morning Bible Class-  
9:45 a.m.

"When The Church Was Young"  
(A Study of the Book of Acts)

-Wednesday Evening Bible Class-  
7:00 p.m.

"The One Word Bible Study"  
(This Week's Word is CHRISTIAN)



## Those To Remember In Prayer

**Kamryn and Korbyn Fontenot** (Debra Pate's grandsons) have both been diagnosed with COVID.

**Ana Blair** (friend of Debra Pate) is a new mother with COVID.

**Julia & Reno Mendza** (cousins of Jerry Pate) have been diagnosed with COVID

**Abbey Perkins** (Tim and Norma Perkins' daughter-in-law) has been diagnosed with COVID.

### 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) **Donna Bouillion** (Ted and Joyce Holt's niece) **Gil Bouillion** (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) **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 ) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **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.

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*Love never asks how much must I do  
or how much must I give, but  
how much can I do and how much can I give.*

*Hardening of the heart ages people more  
quickly than hardening of the arteries.*



## Across The Preacher's Desk

When Moses sent the twelve spies on their reconnaissance mission to the Promised Land, 10 came back with a negative report. They said that they saw giants in the land and they were in their own sight as “grasshoppers”. They viewed their ability to take the land only in their own human strength. It was Joshua and Caleb who realized that taking the land depended not on their human strength but the power of God.

How often are we in life defeated before we even start because we have the “Grasshopper Complex” alive and well in our hearts? You see, often we only see the problems of life. While we cannot ignore our problems, the things that trouble us, our “grasshoppers”, we also do not want to over-emphasize them.

Do you remember what Jesus said in John 10:10? He said he came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Jesus gave hope to people who had grasshoppers in their life. There was the woman at Jacob's well, the widow with two mites, The sinful woman brought to him caught in adultery and Saul of Tarsus. Daniel was thrown in the Lion's den and Abraham was asked to offer Isaac as a sacrifice.

Somehow, when you think about some of these people, our own grasshoppers don't seem so big after all. Following Jesus, living his kind of life, being obedient to his will guarantees us an abundant life. Jesus will help us overcome the grasshopper complex.

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

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

**Each one bring one!**