

News and Notes

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our Gospel Meeting - Pray also for brother Lee's safety in travel to and from Elk City.

Robert Corley - In Mercy Hospital in OKC with blood clots in his lungs

Pam Patrick - Health problems and spiritual and emotional issues.

David Brown - Spring, Texas preacher, blood clots in leg.

Sandy Craig - Kidney problems, new tests.

Jo Ann McLerran - Confined to home but doing better and able to be in worship both times last week.

Glenda Marble - Faithful Christian at Lexington, Okla. Heart problems.

Debbie Post - Wife of Doug Post, preacher in Salisbury, Maryland - Cancer.

Sissy Craig - For spiritual and emotional strength.

Charles and Linda Pogue - Congestive heart failure.

Nancy Verkist - Ellensburg, Washington. Suffering from Von Hippel Lindau disease.

Don Smith - Faithful brother in Christ persecuted for teaching fellow inmates in an Ohio prison.

HEALTH REPORT - Sandy Craig's son, Robert Corley, was admitted to the hospital Monday evening with blood clots in his lungs, then transferred to the ICU at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City. Tuesday night, Sandy said he was doing better. The source of the clots are his legs and he has one large one and some small ones in his lungs. He is receiving shots to thin his blood. Sandy says the doctor believes this is a family thing. "We all have that factor in our blood that causes clots."

GOSPEL MEETING AUG. 6-10 - Our meeting with brother Lee Moses begins next week. Please invite others, and support it with your presence. Use the flyers on the foyer table.

FALL MEETINGS - Jerry will preach in gospel meetings, September 10-13 for the Parkview church in Odessa, Texas, and October 13-15 for the Fish Hatchery Road church in Huntsville, Texas.

KENYA REPORT - Contributing this week to the Kenya Fund were Ron Skinner, Lexington, Okla.; and Glenda Marble, Lexington, Okla. Forty copies of this year's Bellview Lectureship books have arrived in Kenya. The material in this book will greatly aid the preachers and preacher students in that country.

GONE VISITING - Patrick and Sarah King and children are visiting in Eastern Oklahoma this week.

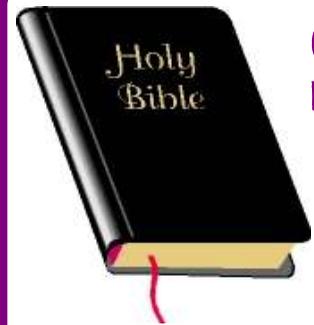
Our building is located at East Avenue C and North Locust in Elk City, Oklahoma, one block east of Van Buren on Avenue C. You are invited to visit with us at any of our meeting times.

Weekly Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes.....	9:30
Sunday Morning Worship.....	10:30
Sunday Afternoon Worship.....	5:00

Visit Us on The Web

You Tube - www.youtube.com/channel/UCjd5rSEV1vXCNx52ouOrXoQ
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Sound Doctrine

“But speak thou the things that become sound doctrine” (Titus 2:1)

Published Weekly By The Northeast church of Christ
 P. O. Box 267, Elk City, Oklahoma 73648

Volume 12, No. 21

July 30, 2017

Don't Follow Me!

Lee Moses

Much could be said for the power of example. Many faithful Christian parents have by their example led their children, and their children's children, to live faithful Christian lives. Many have left lives of debauchery because they were each influenced by the example of a Christian co-worker whose distinctively pure conduct pointed the way to something better. As long as there have been faithful Christians, there have been human examples to follow. To the Thessalonian church Paul could say, "So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia" (1 Thess. 1:7). The Holy Spirit compelled Paul to instruct the Corinthians, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (1 Cor. 11:1; compare with Phil. 3:17). Of course, Christ Himself gave the perfect example—as He said, "Follow me" (John 21:19).

But the power of example goes both ways. As many have been encouraged to the path of righteousness by a faithful Christian's example, an innumerable host have fallen from that path because they followed the wrong example. Many continue to do so, failing to realize the danger. Some refuse to obey the Gospel because their parents were not Christians (compare with Matt. 10:37). Some refuse to be restored to the Lord because their close friends are no longer faithful (cf. 2 Tim. 4:16-18). Some follow false doctrine because a preacher they admire has embraced a particular false doctrine (cf. 1 Cor. 3:4-7; 7:23). Some think the wrong way must be right because larger numbers follow that way (cf. Exo. 23:2; Prov. 11:21; Matt. 7:13-14).

Perhaps those providing the poor examples enjoy having others follow them. But consider that no person who provides a wrong example is in his right mind. The only right example is a Christ-like example, and a Christ-like example comes from a Christ-patterned mind. Why could the Thessalonian Christians be the example they were? They were enabled to be exemplary because they first "became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word" (1 Thess. 1:6). When Christ spoke of "the blind leading the blind," He was not speaking of

visual blindness but of minds that were spiritually clouded. Blind leaders may love playing the pied piper for the time being. A person fallen into the miserable pit of dis fellowship with God may want others with them—as it is said, “Misery loves company.” However, what would those bad examples say if they were in their right minds?

Jesus spoke of a rich man who, as the world would see it, “lived life to the fullest”—he “was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day” (Luke 16:19). He probably enjoyed the companionship of many friends, and wanted his family to live as he did. He probably looked with contempt on Lazarus, the beggar at this gate who “put first things first.” The rich man was not in his right mind—he was not putting first things first. However, he was given a double dose of reality upon his death, when in Hades,

...he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame (16:23-24).

The rich man was reaping what he had sown; he had reached the destination of the path he had walked.

By their thinking, many would be forced to conclude that the rich man would have wanted those closest to him to follow him to this destination. After all, those people say, “My mom, dad, grandma, and grandpa were members of (insert manmade religion of our choice), and if that condemned them to an eternity in Hell, then I’m going with them.” Their parents and grandparents apparently wanted them to follow them while they were alive.

Does anyone really want those he cares about to follow him to eternal misery? As self-consumed as the rich man appeared to be, he no longer wanted those he loved to follow him when he was in his right mind. As he pled with Abraham: “Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father’s house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment” (16:27-28).

The rich man did not want to see those he loved ever again, if it meant their joining him in torment. Misery may love company as a general rule, but no person experiencing that misery wants to see those for whom he cares ever again.

I have three children, and am striving to do all that I can to rear them to become faithful Christians throughout their lives. But if, God forbid, I should ever fall from the path of righteousness, my plea is to them—and to anybody else—“Don’t follow me!”

Israel’s Pilgrimage Under Moses And Ours Under Christ (Heb. 3:7-19)

Jerry C. Brewer

According to Moses, about 600 thousand (603,550) Israelites, besides Levites and women left Egypt with the most encouraging prospects of entering Canaan. But few of those original 600,000 ever reached the promised land. They provoked God in the wilderness, until He finally swore in His wrath that they should never enter into his rest (Num. 14:22-30).

From this, then, the writer solemnly warns his Hebrew brethren, and all of us, of their many dangers, and of the necessity of giving all diligence to make our calling and election sure during our earthly pilgrimage (verses 12-18).

It is true that our advantages and privileges are now in many respects greater than those ancient Israelites. But human nature is still the same; our greatest enemies are still the same; the deceitfulness of sin is still the same; our trials and temptations are still the same; and, therefore, what was “written aforetime was written for our learning...” Therefore, we Christians ought to exhort and admonish one another daily (v. 13) and take heed lest we fall (1 Cor. 10:12).

Gospel Meeting - August 6-10 - Northeast church of Christ Meeting At East Ave. C & N. Locust, Elk City, Oklahoma



Lee Moses

Lee Moses, Union City, Tenn. will preach the gospel in our meeting, Sunday through Thursday, Aug. 6-10. Brother Moses and his late wife, Kelley Jo, have three children, Luke, Travis, and Laina Ruth. Lee was baptized into Christ by Gary Summers in 1999 in Denton, Texas, and graduated from the Memphis School of Preaching in 2002. He received a Bachelor of Music degree (B.M.) in music education from the University of North Texas in 1998, and also attended Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. Lee has done local preaching work in Texas, Arkansas, and Tennessee, as well as speaking on numerous lectureships and in gospel meetings, and now serves with the Berea church of Christ in Rives, Tennessee.

1. *Pray* for this meeting and for lost souls to hear the gospel.
2. *Work* for this meeting by inviting others. Take the flyers and mail them to family and friends.
3. *Support* this meeting at every assembly with your presence.
4. *Share the news* of this meeting with neighbors and Face Book friends.
5. *Post* this meeting on your Face Book Page. Go to Northeast’s page and share the notice from there. (Have You Done This This week?!!)