

Teen News

The teens have prepared fruit baskets for the widows and widowers. If you would, stop by the table and the teens will help you find your basket.

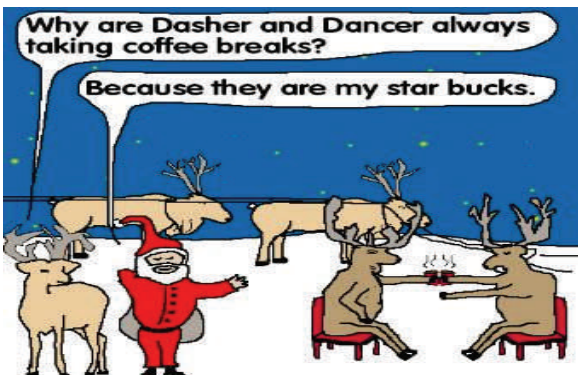
Tonight the youth group is planning on going to the Land of Lights in Athens. We will leave right after this evening's worship service.

The teens Christmas party will be held next Sunday night after the evening service. If you are planning on going let me know, because I need names for the gift exchange.

If you see a fat man ... who's jolly and cute, wearing a beard and a red flannel suit, and if he is chuckling and laughing away, while flying around in a miniature sleigh with eight tiny reindeer to pull him along, then lets face it...



Your eggnog's too strong!



ARE YOU A "GOOD PERSON"??

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is for their salvation. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Romans 10:1-4

Are you a good person? What a hard question! As compared to whom? The popular comparison is to someone we regard to be extremely wicked, selfish, and greedy. In that comparison, we usually say, "I like to think I am a good person," or, "I never do these things ..." or, "I always try to do these things ..." When "good" humans are compared to "bad" humans, we look pretty good.

What if the comparison is to God? That is the comparison we never like! Why? No matter what acts or attitudes are compared, none of us look good. We are talking about the One who gave us Jesus, who gave us forgiveness, who gave us mercy, and who provides us salvation in our unworthiness. How do you compare yourself to that?

Understand one thing, an impossible despair is replaced with the hope of expectation. What one thing? This realization: God does not compare! He gives us Jesus for two objectives: (a) to eliminate comparisons and (b) to provide us goals for transformation. God looks at you, your personal potential for godliness, and your commitment to growth in Christ-likeness. How much do you believe in what God did for you in Jesus' death and resurrection? Is your confidence in your deeds or in God's achievements in Jesus Christ? Do you obey God to place God in debt to you, or do you obey God to express your gratitude? Do you serve God because you fear divine punishment, or because you genuinely desire to be like Jesus? Do you do good to honor yourself or to honor the Lord? God knows your background, weaknesses, struggles, and failures, and it is okay—if you place your confidence in Jesus. Some of the most religious people Paul knew made a huge mistake: they placed their confidence in their deeds instead of what God did in Jesus Christ.

DOOR GREETERS— December 12, 2010

Dale & Ann Sparks

COMMUNION PREPARATION

December 12
David Sparks

Gospel Worker

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Pulpit Minister
Joshua Shellenbarger
Youth Minister
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ELDERS

Dan D. Manuel
Dale Sparks

DEACONS

Henry Baker
Sam Ellis
Dwight Franklin
Adam Harding
Kyle Lock

SECRETARY

Lorelee Reeder

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Brown Trail School of Preaching, Bedford, TX
Jose Cuadras—Mexico
School of Preaching
Hershel Bearden
India Mission
Ken Upchurch
Tanzania Africa Work
Central TX Children's Home Buda, TX
Tipton Children's Home Tipton, OK
Gospel Broadcast Network

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sun: 9:30 AM Class
10:30 AM Worship
6:00 PM Evening

SILENT SPEECH

Influence has been a vital part of our most fundamental lessons. Our first effort at writing words involved a written example of the A-B-C's. Math problems—from the most fundamental arithmetic to the most complex calculus—was made clear to us by the use of examples; it is the same with biology, chemistry, football, or computer science. We can just do it better after we've seen it done.

Could I suggest some sermons you could preach without ever having to enter the pulpit?

Say something to others by how you speak. If you speak with a clean tongue in this world of filthy language, you are saying something about how you feel about taking God's name in vain, about using terminology, about speaking derogatorily all the time. What do you think people "see" when they "hear" you?

Say something to others by what you wear. Sloppy dress says something without saying a word. Provocative dress—low neck lines, short-short skirts, tight clothing—is a speech that should not be in your vocabulary. Conversely, proper attire, modest apparel, appropriate dress all make a strong statement without a word.

Say something to others by how you act. Everyone wants to have fun, it is part of the good life. But when fun goes ballistic, when restraint goes out the window, when loudness and silliness takes over, you are saying, and loudly enough for all to hear, that you don't give much consideration to control, much concern for orderliness. It's fine to have fun, but you don't have to amplify it to a ridiculous extreme. Conduct speaks volumes.

Say something to others by your choice of associates. Stay long enough in an atmosphere and you become like those with whom you share it. If you choose to associate with people who have no concern for God, who are constantly deriding those who do, then it won't be long until you join their chorus. On the other hand, if you associate with godly people, people who have Christ in their hearts and love on their minds, you will likely adopt their views and endorse their good example.

Say something to others by your attendance at worship services. If you are the only one on your block who gets up on Sunday and makes his way to the services of the saints, you are making a loud, discernable statement to your neighbors. You are telling them what you consider to be important, what takes precedence in your life, and by that you are recommending the same high life to them. But if you only attend sporadically they hear your voice clearly; it says that you are satisfied with spiritual mediocrity and will attend when it's not too much trouble or when there's nothing more exciting to do. What are you saying on Sunday morning?

Now, I've not used a host of scriptures to prove these assertions. Why? Because, I needed only on. "Let your light so shine before men that others may see our good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5: 16)

Need I say more?



Church Christmas Party this Tuesday Night 6:30 P.M.



FROM DAN'S DESK..

We hope you will plan to be with us for the Annual Christmas dinner and fellowship in the activity building this coming Tuesday night. It is going to be a wonderful evening. The food will be good as usual and the fellowship will be equal to it. This is always a special time when we can get together with our brothers and sister in Christ for a great night of memories. Christmas time is special and we would enjoy being with each of you Tuesday night. We hope you can come to this special gathering. We will all have a wonderful time together. We need to let the caterer know how many are coming, so please sign up today. Even though we do not recognize Dec. 25th as the date of Christ' birth, we can celebrate the event. Had Jesus not come into the world, you and I would be lost forever. Last Sunday NANCY MILLER AND DENISE CARROLL both responded to the invitation to acknowledge a desire to be more faithful and ask for the prayers of the Lord's Church here. We commend them both and know that God is a forgiving Lord when we truly seek Him and His Will. Thanks for being here this morning and we look forward to seeing you tonight at 6 P.M.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES OR PUT THEM ON VIBRATE.



TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS:

MARY ANN CHAPMAN was hospitalized at Palestine Regional hospital.
MANDY SEALE was hospitalized last week.
JAMES BIRDOW, son of Annie Lee Birdow, is in Northwest Memorial hospital in Houston.
ALLEN BRUMLEY brother of Beth Freeman suffered a heart attack, but is doing better and has been released.
BEVERLY NORWOOD, former member here, will be undergoing tests and requests our prayers.
MARETA ALFORD, sister of Mary Stech, was taken to ER on Wednesday with congestive heart failure.

RESPONSES

For prayer & rededication:
NANCY MILLER
DENISE CARROLL



SYMPATHY

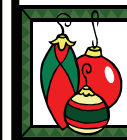
Memorial services were held this last Wednesday for **BRETT NASH** brother of Marty and Billy Nash. We extend our sympathy.

LLOYD WILKINSON, former member died this last week also. Our sympathy is extended to the family.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of **LYDIA HERREN** who passed away last week. Private family services were held last Saturday near Oakwood.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY TUES.

Remember you must sign up by **tonight** if you are planning to attend the Church Christmas party on Tuesday night at 6:30 PM. The event is catered, and cost is \$7.50 per adult and \$5.00 for children under 10. Please pay Lorelee, Audrey, or Mary Stech today, if you are planning to attend. Don't miss it, you will enjoy the festivities.



ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

Ladies, remember today from 2 to 4PM the Ornament Exchange will take place at the home of Ann Watson, 929 N. Sycamore. Please bring an ornament

WIDOWS & WIDOWERS

The youth group has prepared fruit baskets for each of you. Please stop in the foyer after services and give them a chance to give you one.



SERMON CD

If you ordered a sermon CD for November 21st, we are sorry but due to a malfunction, the CD did not record. Hopefully, this is a isolated incident.