

## NEWS

**Carlos Barnes** has not been able to be in our services this past week, and **Carla** was not able to leave him alone. **Paul** is helping his brother in southeast Texas—**Randy Blackmon** had back surgery at ETMC in Tyler this past Friday, and he came through the surgery fine. When he is able to leave the hospital he will go to the Pleasant Spring Nursing Home for therapy on north Edwards here in Mt. Pleasant—**Nova Montgomery** was not able to be in our services last Sunday and Wednesday evenings due to having a cold—**Wanda Sikes** (continued on page 3)

### ELDERS:

**Bob Arnold** 563-2977  
**Leon Goff** 572-6809  
**Kendall Johnson** 717-0265

### DEACONS:

**Ricky Davis** 572-9428  
**Ken Ferguson** 572-4135  
**Pat Marshall** 572-9347

### SERVICES:

#### Sunday

**Bible Study** 9:45 AM  
**Worship** 10:30 AM  
**Worship** 5:00 PM

#### Wednesday

**Ladies Class** 10:00 AM  
**Bible Study** 7:00 PM

### PREACHERS:

**Drew Nelson** 254-541-3815  
**Leon Goff** 572-6809

### ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

**March 17, 2019**

#### Serving The Lord's Supper

##### Sunday Morning

Scripture: Pat Marshall

**Ken Ferguson** R. Montgomery  
**Terry Jordan** Duane McGough

##### Sunday Evening

**Ken Ferguson** R. Montgomery  
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### PRAYERS

Sun. AM—**Luke Arnold** (Opening)

—**Ricky Davis** (Closing)

PM—**Bob Arnold** (Opening)

—**Andrew Arnold** (Closing)  
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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—**Ken Johnson**

P.M.—**Thomas Hockaday**

(call Pat Marshall if unable to serve)

**Think It Over**—If you were to die today...Where would you spend eternity? To all who love God, and to those who do not, but should, to all who are weary and heavy laden; to all who are lonely and sad; to all who sin and need a Savior, and to whosoever will come a hearty welcome is extended.

Southside  
Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 242  
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

# Southside Church of Christ

## Bulletin

1220 E. Ferguson Rd. Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455

(903) 572-2148

Website: [www.thesouthsidechurch.com](http://www.thesouthsidechurch.com)

Volume XXVI

March 10, 2019

Number 10

## Rejection doesn't mean Failure

By Drew Nelson

*“As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 2:4-5)*

Rejection means failure. If a student gets rejection letters from every university he applies to, he will feel like a miserable failure. If the voters reject the ideas of the candidate running for office, he will lose the election. If a Coke machine rejects your bill, you fail to get your drink. If a young man's marriage proposal is rejected, he certainly won't feel like a success. We fear rejection because it almost always means failure.

Sometimes Christians get to thinking in these terms about discipleship. We think that if our efforts at sharing the gospel with someone are rejected, then we have utterly failed and have accomplished nothing. We think that if the culture makes fun of us, rejects us, or mistreats us for our faith, then we must be doing faith wrong. We equate numerical growth in the attendance log and the bank balance with success—and falling numbers with failure. The apostles fell into this *mindset too*—when Jesus foretold his rejection and crucifixion, they were scandalized (see Mark 8:31-32). Why? Because they thought rejected Messiahs were failed Messiahs!

Yet Peter shows disciples that rejection does not mean failure. Take Jesus, “a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious.” Jesus has a litany of rejections in his credits. His hometown

brethren in Nazareth tried to throw him off a cliff (Lk 4:29). Isaiah foretold that Jesus would be, “*despised and rejected by men*” (Isa 53:3). His rejection culminated in his torture and public execution on a cross. Yet, “*the stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone*” (1 Pet 2:8). Did Jesus’ rejection mean that he failed as a Messiah? Far from it! While men rejected Jesus, God used that rejection to advance his plan and glorify his name.

Jesus promised similar rejection for his followers: “*A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you*” (Jn 15:20). But just as surely as God used a reject like Jesus as the chosen and precious cornerstone in his house, he will also use rejects like us. If we are following our Master, then Peter promises that we are a part of an incredible house God is building. We can be mocked, marginalized, and rejected by the world, and at the same time be loved by and precious to God. Rejection doesn’t mean failure!

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### Is God’s Marriage Law Out of Date?

By Dennis Abernathy

Those who really believe the Bible respect God’s marriage law. But those who advocate some-sex-marriage have voted God’s Word out. What God has to say about marriage in His Word, means little to them. Thus, Scriptures that speak

of “*husband*” and “*wife*” are either ignored or perverted (See Gen. 6:24 Matt. 19:4-6; Eph. 5:22-25, 28, 31, 33; Col. 3:18-19; 1 Pet. 3:1, etc.). Sadly, churches have fallen in line with such error. Ephesians 5:24, says the church is to be “*subject to Christ.*” And why not, since He is the “*Head of the church*” (v. 23)? But the “*same-sex-marriage*” folks have voted to reverse that and make Christ and the church subject to them!

Sadly, many honor the Lord with their lips but their hearts are far from Him, and consequently they “*teach as doctrines the commandments of men*” (Matt. 15:9). All such maintain a facade of religion, but deny its power and resist its influence (2 Tim. 3:5). These profess to acknowledge God, but by their actions they turn their backs on Him (Tit. 1:16). Think on these things.

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### Parents And Children

By Dennis Abernathy

Ephesians 6:1 says, “*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.*” Verse 4 says, “*And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord*” (See also Col. 3:20-21). This is a serious responsibility that parents have, especially fathers.

When a teenager says he never drinks anything stronger than pop, you better check to see what Pop drinks! Much

Of the drinking of young people can be traced back to the children’s parents. Parents, you cannot properly raise your children by telling them, “*Do as I say, not as I do.*” Children not only need to HEAR instruction and advice, they also need to SEE living examples of it in their parents. Thus, a parent with a can of beer in one hand makes a poor teacher of teenage temperance. It is difficult, for parents who lie, to teach their children to always be truthful. If children hear their parents use filthy language, they will have an uphill battle teaching their children to bridle their tongues (Jas. 1:26; Col. 3:8). Do you see the point? Most teenagers have a special talent for spotting inconsistencies and hypocrisy, especially in their parents!

Children tend to grow up to be like their parents. What kind of person do you want your children to grow up to be? Better think about what you are teaching them by word of mouth and by your example. Think on these things.

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### Two Place Membership

Matt and Charlyn Harrel have expressed their desire to be members of the church here at Southside. We warmly welcome them into our spiritual family and look forward to years of fellowship with them in the work of the Lord. Their address is **508 Kent Dr., Pittsburg, TX 75686. Matt’s phone number is (903) 918-8386, and Charlyn’s is (903) 767-0664.**

### “I Was Sick and You Visited Me”

Jesus, in **Matthew 25:36**, included this statement among several things that are necessary to enter into eternal life. (**Matthew 25:34-46**). The daily life of the Christian is a full time package deal, a life of self denial in service to God and to our fellowman, especially to our brothers and sisters in Christ. If you have the ability, do you ever visit the sick? If not, why not? Being a faithful Christian is more than being baptized and having our name on the list of members of a local church. We need to be even more concerned about having our name registered in the Book of Life in heaven. What we do for others, we do for Jesus. —Leon Goff

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**NEWS** (continued from back page) has been moved back to the Heritage Park Assisted Living on north Edwards (the white building)—**Frances Farish**, had a heart attack Sunday night and she has had stents put in and she was scheduled to go home Friday—**David Zamora**, Nephew to Toni and Ricky Davis’ daughter-in-law needs our prayers as he goes through personal troubles—Remember **June Johnson, Randy Blackmon, Teresa Tate, Carlos Barnes, Bob Arnold, Frank White, William and Yvonne White, Jace Hockaday, Willie Don Davis, Judy Hinson, Catherine Moss, Deborah Brown, and Tammy Willeford**—Remember our **Shut-ins: James Johnson, Betty Rust and Wanda Sikes.**