

NEWS

Terry Jordan continues in a rehabilitation in Longview and is doing well, but he can't be visited—**Vickie Brownlee** was sick the past two Sundays. She also said that her husband, Doyle, has not been feeling well—**Tonette Harrel** had to have additional surgery to remove more of the malignancy—**Ricky Davis** fell and injured his knee a couple of weeks ago, but he is doing better—**Debbie Johnson** was not feeling well last Sunday and was not in our service—**Genevive Robertson**, Marion Shurtleff's Niece, and Janie Burns' (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 717-0265
Richard Montgomery—
936-577-4819

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:

July 12, 2020

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture:

Sunday Evening

PRAYERS

Sun. AM— (Opening)

— (Closing)

PM— (Opening)

— (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—

P.M.—

(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
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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I Am No One

By Mark White

Christians make a mistake when they attempt to be someone they are not. Some are never comfortable with who they are, their place in life, nor their station in the Kingdom of God. It does us good to look carefully at who we are from time to time. Most of us are no one special. We must come to terms with the fact that we are not among the mighty, the noble, or the wise of this world (1 Cor. 1:26).

I am no one, but my Father is the creator of the Universe. I have no power of my own, but my Father certainly has it all! When I look at the greatness of my God I am humbled that He has any interest in the puny likes of me, at all. Like David, I ask, "What is man that you take thought of Him, And the son of man that You care for him?" (Psa. 8:4, NASU). I am no one, but just look at Who my Father is!

I am no one, but my older brother is Jesus Christ, "the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." (Jn. 1:27). God had one "only begotten Son", but he wanted many others besides Him. To obtain these sons, The Father adopted people like me to be His child (Rom. 8:29; 8:15-23; Heb. 2:10). I am no one, but because of His adoption I am a child of the King!

I am no one, but I preach the Gospel. I am not as gifted as most others who preach, but I am honored to count them as my colleagues in this noble work. I look up to these brothers and I value their opportunities and accomplishments in the Kingdom. I rejoice when the Lord needs me to serve His cause. I am no one, but I am an "earthen vessel" carrying the

most treasured message ever given to anyone (II Cor. 4:6-7).

I am no one, but my closest friends are followers of Christ. In spite of my weaknesses, foibles, and neglect they accept me, encourage me and give me their love. It brings me great joy to see them serve God. It pleases me to observe their interest in spiritual things. I am no one, but I have been privileged to have these men and women in my life—true friends in the Lord.

I am no one, but my brethren in God's family are people from every corner of the globe. I sometimes think of how blessed someone like me is to have spiritual family in so many places, from so many cultures, who love Jesus as I do. In fact, if it were not for Jesus, these relationships would not exist. Christ is the common denominator giving a no one like me a family with the same name in both heaven and earth (Eph. 3:15).

I am a no one, for I am unknown in socially-powerful circles and financial centers of the world. I am not consulted by politicians, financiers, or popular culture. As a no one, my opinion does not matter to most everyone else in the world. But I am forgiven of my sins. I have the hope of heaven when this life ends. My name is written in the "*Lamb's book of life*", by the grace and mercy of my Savior (Rev. 21:27). I may be a no one, but I am a Christian. I will therefore try to "*glorify*

God in this name" (1 Pet. 4:16).

Philippians 2:3 teaches, "*Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves*" (NASU) Jesus did this as He "*emptied Himself*" (v.5) and submitted to the cross. Had He proudly said, "I am Deity, I am God, I will not stoop to die on a cross", just think of where we would be! His example was to not think of Himself too highly. He was a Someone who acted like a no one so that others could have the benefit of His self-sacrifice. The Lord's directive to a no one is— "*Go and do the same.*" (Lk. 10:37)

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When Did Men Begin To Believe In The Inspiration Of The New Testament?

(By Greg Gwin)

Some skeptics claim that there was a gradual evolving of thought concerning the Scripture - that only after a long period did these writings come to be regarded as an authoritative source. That simply is not true.

When the inspired men of the first century wrote, the product of their work was immediately acknowledged and accepted by those in the church. They "*continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine*" (Acts 2:42) and they received those teachings "*not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God*" (1 Thessalonians 2:13). These writings were "Scripture" before the ink had dried. The

word "Scripture" is used about 50 times in the New Testament and always refers to the written record of the will of God. Thus, the word "Scripture" can be accurately applied to the things found in both the Old and New Testaments.

Certainly there was a gradual process of spreading and distributing these writings around the world (Colossians 4:16). Ultimately there was a compiling of these works into one book. There is some evidence that compilations of the various books that make up the New Testament began as early as 115 A.D. - perhaps only a few years after the death of the last apostle. But the actual writings were regarded as Scripture immediately. Paul (writing about 65 A.D.) quotes Luke's gospel and refers to it as Scripture (see 1 Timothy 5:18 and Luke 10:7). Peter (in 66 A.D.) mentions Paul's writings and calls them Scripture (2 Peter 3:16).

We know that the inspired writings of the first century were widely circulated among Christians of that time (see Col. 4:16 and 1 Thess. 5:27). It is clear that those earliest Christians held the sacred writing in highest esteem and regarded them as the basis of their religious authority.

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Paul Coffman and His Evangelism Trip to Kenya and Uganda

The elders of Southside have made a commitment to him for funds from the church, and other churches are being

given an opportunity to help. Some have already helped.

He is also asking for individual contributions because there are works and expenses that come up in these trips that do not classify as works of the church, but are worthy and necessary things to be done. Each of us as members of Southside are being given the opportunity to be a part of this. We don't want anyone to feel forced to give, but if you desire to have a part in this it will be appreciated. And any amount that you are comfortable with will be appreciated. And what any of us gives will together be of much help in Paul's work of preaching the gospel and establishing congregations.

Paul's plans are to leave August 3rd and he will be gone through most of September as well. If you have questions, ask Paul. He will be happy to answer.

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NEWS (continued from back page) and Carolyn Davis' cousin, passed away the beginning of this past week. We extend our sincere sympathy to them—Remember **Charles Davis, Rance Hockaday, Kenneth Amerson, Enoch Waldrep's brother, Kenny Ferguson, Marion Shurtleff, June Johnson, Randy Blackmon, Teresa Tate, Frank White, William and Yvonne White, Willie Don Davis, Judy Hinson, Catherine Moss, Deborah Brown**—Remember our **Shut-ins: James Johnson, Betty Rust and Wanda Sikes.**