

**NEWS**

**Relda Marshall** began her chemotherapy treatments last week. She will have 3 treatments a month for 4-6 months—**Kenneth Amerson** was released from the hospital last Wednesday after suffering with double pneumonia. The doctors are also concerned about his heart and he will have further tests—**James Williams** is beginning to take pills that will remove fluid from his liver. This will keep him from being able to attend services for a while—**Buford Guthrie** has found out that he has an early stage of prostate cancer. He will begin radiation treatments in the near future—**Melita Rivers** had some skin cancers (cont. p. 3)

**ELDERS:**  
**Bob Arnold** 572-1219  
**Leon Goff** 572-6809  
**Kendall Johnson** 572-9306

**DEACONS:**  
**Ron Burns** 577-9978  
**Ricky Davis** 572-9428  
**Ken Ferguson** 572-4135  
**Pat Marshall** 572-9347

**SERVICES:**  
**Sunday**  
**Bible Study** 9:45 AM  
**Worship** 10:30 AM  
**Worship** 6:00 PM

**Wednesday**  
**Ladies class** 10:00 AM  
**Bible Study** 7:00 PM

**PREACHERS:**  
**Ronald Stringer** 717-8603  
**Leon Goff** 572-6809

**ASSIGNMENTS FOR:  
May 27, 2012**

**Serving The Lord's Supper**  
**Sunday Morning**  
**Scripture: Willie Don Davis**  
**Andrew Arnold Luke Arnold**  
**Ricky Davis Tom Davis**  
**Sunday Evening**  
**Andrew Arnold Luke Arnold**  
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**PRAYERS**  
**Sun. AM—Buford Guthrie (Opening)**  
**—Ron Traughber (Closing)**  
**PM—James Johnson (Opening)**  
**—James Williams (Closing)**  
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**A.M.—Leon Goff**  
**P.M.—Ken Johnson**  
**(call Pat Marshall if unable to serve)**

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

**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

## Bulletin

815 S. Jefferson St. Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455  
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Website: [www.thesouthsidechurch.com](http://www.thesouthsidechurch.com)

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### The Turkey Vultures

By John R. Gibson

The other day I stood and watched with enjoyment as several turkey vultures (a.k.a. buzzards) flew overhead. It amazes me to see the way these large birds can glide so long without ever flapping their wings. And their ability to catch a thermal and soar so high that they are almost completely out of sight, again with hardly a flap of their great wings, is fascinating. Indeed, when you observe turkey vultures from a distance they are fun to watch and creatures possessing a certain beauty and attractiveness.

However, get them on the ground where you can more closely examine them and you will find that they are somewhat clumsy creatures with featherless heads feeding on decaying, putrid animals. Up close the gracefulness completely disappears and we see birds that are somewhat repulsive.

Isn't sin often the same way? As we observe it from a distance we may see something attractive, but upon further examination its ugliness appears. When we look more closely at the most attractive of sins, we see something capable of separating us from God and leading us to eternal death (Isaiah 59:1, 2; Romans 6:23). These eternal consequences should be enough, but even in this life the ugliness is often seen if we take the time to look.

### *Immodest Dress*

Certainly the fashionable, stylish clothes are pretty and will win you compliments from many, but if they are not worthy of one professing godliness (1 Timothy 2:9, 10), there is an ugly side to the apparel. Dress that is sensual in its nature may end up attracting the wrong kind of attention. You may destroy or at least damage your good name if your clothing doesn't match your profession of faith (Proverbs 22:1). Not only may you cause someone to sin (Matthew 5:27, 28), you may light a fire that is not easily put out, and that leads us to the next point.

### *Sexual Sin*

Despite God's condemnation (Hebrews 13:4; 1 Corinthians 6:9, 10), few things are portrayed as more appealing than sex outside a lawful marriage. Yet, think of what it often leaves behind: shame, embarrassment for both the participants and their parents, pregnancy, disease, emotional baggage to be carried into marriage, etc. Hollywood can make an adulterous affair look so nice, so romantic, so right, but in reality families are often wrecked by this selfish sin. Don't be fooled by the way this sin is portrayed on the screen.

### *Alcohol*

If you believe the commercials that run during most sporting events, and if you

accept the way it is portrayed in most television shows, alcohol is the key to having a good time. No doubt there is some pleasure to be had, but before you are "led astray by it" (Proverbs 20:1), take a closer look at this "turkey vulture." Read the description of woe and sorrow found in Proverbs 23:29-35. See the domestic violence caused by drinking. Think about the consequences of a DUI. Take a close look at the vomiting of drunkenness and observe the pounding headache caused by a hangover. Do you see the vulture feasting on carrion?

### *Vengeance*

While Jesus says, "Turn the other cheek" (Matthew 5:38, 39), and Paul writes, "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves" (Romans 12:19), we are told that vengeance is sweet and so many novels and movies have portrayed it that way. And truthfully, it is usually sweet—for a moment. But all too often, the ugly side comes out as our vengeance prompts further retaliation, and friendships, even marriages, are irreparably damaged. Rather than being sweet, vengeance is capable of producing some very bitter fruits.

Don't be fooled by observations made from a distance. The wages of sin is death (Romans 3:23) and the way of the unfaithful is hard (Proverbs 13:15).

-via Pepper Road church bulletin

### **Warnings!**

The average consumer should feel insulted over the silly warning labels that accompany many products.

· On a blanket from Taiwan: Not to be used as protection from a tornado. This is good to know.

· On a fireplace log: Caution — Risk of Fire. Who would have thought it?

· On a string of Chinese-made Christmas lights: For indoor or outdoor use only. This narrows our options.

Warning on a cartridge for a laser printer: Do not eat toner.

Perhaps these warnings should come with a warning: Do not take this warning seriously.

Unfortunately, frivolous warnings disarm us. They tend to make us suspicious of all warnings. This is tragic. We must take God's warnings seriously.

In the Old Testament, the Lord warned Israel, "You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you" (Deuteronomy 4:2).

Embedded within this warning is the revelation that adding to or taking from His words results in keeping something other than the word of God.

Agur adds a similar warning in Proverbs 30:6: Do not add to His words, lest He reprove you, and you be

found a liar." We could be guilty of adding to His word by writing additional chapters or books. But we can violate this passage without going to that much trouble. Any time we substitute human wisdom for divine truth, we add to His word.

If someone objects that these are Old Testament passages, the New Testament offers the same warning. "As I urged you when I went into Macedonia — remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine" (1 Timothy 1:3).

Those who fail to abide in the teaching of Christ do not have God (2 John 9). This means that if something is unauthorized by the Scriptures, we must leave it alone. Otherwise, we are no different from rebels who practice lawlessness — and that's not a frivolous warning!

-Rick Duggan, via Anderson bulletin

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**NEWS** (continued from back page) removed from her face and has been recovering from those surgeries—**Betty Rust** has been down in her back lately which has prevented her from being able to attend services—**Peggy Journey**, a former member of Southside, has pancreatic cancer. She is at MD Anderson and will have surgery in the near future—Let's remember **Pat Brown**, **Deborah Brown** and **Tammy Willeford** as they have ongoing health issues —**Remember** our **Shut-ins: Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Irma May, Lelda Thompson, & Joan Tosh.**