

NEWS

Clayton Bellamy has been moved to the 4th floor of the local hospital to receive therapy following the installation of the pacemaker recently—Judy Hinson continues in the Harris Hospital in Ft. worth. She has been having nausea problems and not doing very well. She may possibly be released from the hospital tomorrow to go to her brother's (Doug's) home—Betty Rust has been suffering from an upper respiratory infection—Remember Relda Marshall, Michele Williams, Maurine Lee, Pat Brown, Dorothy Kyle, Deborah (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 563-2977
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:

Jared Rogers 682-300-3602
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

March 30, 2014

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Ron Traugher
Zach Willeford Bob Arnold
Colton Fulmer Stephen Hall

Sunday Evening

Zach Willeford Bob Arnold

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Luke Arnold (Opening)

—Alec Capel (Closing)

PM—Leon Goff (Opening)

—Charles Davis (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Ken Ferguson

P.M.—Paul Chapman

(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
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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“Today’s Scripture Reading Will Be...”

By Todd Banning

“So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month.” (Neh. 8:2)

I struggle to appreciate *public* bible reading. I read at home. I read alone. *My iPhone reads to me!* So during worship, when a man leads me in reading the Bible, I don’t appreciate that time like I should. I need to consider my role in that aspect of worship. I need to participate just like Israel...

When Ezra read the law...

They were attentive, (v.3). When scripture is read publicly, my role is to listen. The Israelites understood their role. “*And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the law, (3).*” For Israel, scripture reading wasn’t a time to get settled, check cell phones, or take a break between songs. In fact, their desire to hear God’s word was so strong that they listened for hours. What does it say about the value I place on God’s word when I won’t simply pay attention for even a few minutes? If that’s hard, open our Bible and read along. When God’s word is read, I need to listen up!

They examined themselves, v.9. As Ezra read, the Israelites participated by seeking personal application...and they found it. “*...For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law, (9).*” Ezra’s reading exposed their sin. That’s not to say that every time someone reads the Bible in worship we’ll be confronted with sin. But when God’s word is read, my role

is to determine how that text interacts with my life. Does verse eight highlight my sin? Does that reading strengthen my faith? Will that verse bolster my evangelism? God's word is profitable for "doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness..." (II Tim. 3:16). When God's word is read, we need to examine ourselves!

hear that." But their evaluation of the law was measured in their response. "*So the people went out and brought them and made booths for themselves,*" (16). When challenged by God's word, they changed their behavior. If we're attentive, God's word will challenge us. The question is, will we change?

While these principles apply to any Bible reading, public reading poses a unique challenge to us. It is not just a time filler or an easy job for young men. Like Israel, we're participants in public Bible reading. We need to pay attention, examine ourselves, and change.

They changed, (v.16). Ezra's reading revealed that an important feast had been forsaken. It would have been easy for the Israelites to leave that assembly and simply say, "That was so encouraging," or "You know I really needed to

Anxious Care

By Rickie Jenkins

"But God composed the body having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another" (1 Corinthians 12:24-25).

you will put on" (Matthew 6:25). Here Jesus exhorts us to not worry. Instead of anxious care, God wants us to pray and place our burdens on Him (Philippians 4:6; 1 Peter 5:6,7). Jesus says, "*Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith"* (Matthew 6:30)? In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus warns of how such "cares" can choke out the word and destroy the desired fruit (Luke 8:14).

The key word is "care." This word is most often used in the negative sense. It means to be anxious, or to be filled with anxiety or worry.

We often think of this word in the context of Jesus' personal ministry. "*Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what*

But in our passage we are commanded to have that anxious care for others. Here, God says don't be divided, but

be totally focused upon the needs and cares of your brother. If he has occasion to rejoice, don't envy him, but rejoice with him. If he suffers, don't belittle, but cry with him. The word "care" also carries with it the idea of being torn away or distracted. The Corinthians were exhorted to get their minds detracted from their selfish ambitions and have diligent concern for one another.

Corinth was not the only place where anxious care for others is needed. Local churches, communities, even the world needs people with this trait. Such folks are hard to find. The few that have such devotion are precious indeed! "*For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 2:20-21).

—*The Bible Way*, Campbell Road church, Garland, TX, 3/9/14.

The Way of The Cross Leads Home

We are fortunate in our country to have good road signs on our highways. We get on the road and a sign tells us we are headed for Dallas or Little Rock. We have signs that display landmarks, points of interest and sights we may want to visit. And we have reliable maps and maybe even use a GPS that helps us successfully reach our destination. Our trip to heaven is also very well marked. But we

must consult our map, the Bible, frequently lest we turn down the wrong path. We must compare our personal location with God's directions and diligently follow His course. The way of the cross does lead home. Pray hard and work hard that we all reach our coal!

—Bill Brittenham, *TOTT*, Franklin Dr., church, Texarkana, AR,

One Confession

Kristin Craig recently made confession of unfaithfulness and asked to be accepted as a member of the Southside church. We welcome Kristin and look forward to working with her for many years. Make it a point to introduce yourself to Kristin if you have not already done so. We rejoice with her in her determination to renew her service to the Lord. Her information is 746 CR 1123, Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455 and telephone is 903-466-2666.

Gospel Meeting!

Reagan McClenny is the speaker in a meeting at the Hubbard Street church in **Lindale, TX, March 23-28, 7:30** Weeknights.

NEWS (continued from back page) **Brown, Tammy Willeford, Shirley Ferguson, Howard Shelby, and Ronald Stringer**—Remember our **Shut-ins:** *Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Maurine Lee, Irma May, Lelda Thompson.*