

## NEWS

**Judy Hinson** is still with her brother, Doug, but Stephen says she would like to come home in another week or two—**Kenneth Amerson** had a problem last weekend with his blood pressure, went to Tyler on Sunday and saw a doctor, who adjusted his medication and gave him some medication that is working much better. He and Beverly were back in our service on Wednesday night—**Deborah Brown** went to the doctor Thursday and he saw no change. She goes back to him in two months—**Catherine Moss** is having (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:

**April 13, 2014**

#### Serving The Lord's Supper

##### Sunday Morning

Scripture: Andrew Arnold

**Ken Ferguson**                      **Pat Marshall**  
**Ricky Davis**                      **Kevin Kanaley**

##### Sunday Evening

**Ken Ferguson**                      **Pat Marshall**

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### PRAYERS

Sun. AM—**Luke Arnold (Opening)**

—**Ron Burns (Closing)**

PM—**Tom Davis (Opening)**

—**Richard Tapparo (Closing)**

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—**Leon Goff**

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  
P.O. Box 242  
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

# Southside Church of Christ

## Bulletin

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

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

Volume XXI

April 6, 2014

Number 14

## What Is God Looking For?

By Drew Jones

Sometimes it seems helpful to spend time dwelling on certain passages in the Scriptures where God's will for us is stated so obviously that it cannot possibly be misunderstood. The entire Bible can be understood by even the simplest, but there are times when the Lord inspired His chosen writers to ratchet that level of clarity even higher. Puzzling over difficult sayings or deciphering intensely figurative prophetic images can be worthwhile activities, and should be a part of our regular study habits; but in this space today I'd like to call your attention to one short hymn, a plain-as-day character sketch provided by a wise man of old—King David, author of the 15th Psalm.

*“O Lord, who shall sojourn in Your tent? Who shall dwell on Your holy hill? He who walks blamelessly and does what is right, and speaks truth in his heart; who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change; who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved” (Psalm 15:1-5).*

The initial question is still a pertinent one, one that should arrest our attention and make us eager to hear the answer. Who will abide with God? Who will be accepted by Him, invited into His presence, into the very warmth of His home? I certainly want to be one of those people, as I'm sure David did—and as I'm sure you do.

We have to start by having **personal integrity**—by walking blamelessly and working righteousness. You’ll notice a distinct lack of any of the sort of modifiers we attach to such goals to make them more easily attainable. The Lord isn’t so interested in people who do what is right...only when it is easy to do, or when it is advantageous to do, or when it is the only option available. Situational ethics don’t have any place in our lives if we are children of God; we must choose the right every time, regardless of who is or isn’t watching, regardless of the cost to ourselves, regardless of how easily we may justify or explain away the choice to do wrong. This is made clear in the final phrase of verse 2—this kind of righteousness demands that the servant of God “*speaks truth in his heart.*” He isn’t just honest with others, he is honest with himself. He knows what choices a godly person must make, and so he consistently makes them, rather than deceiving himself with a host of excuses. If you wish to dwell with the Lord, you do right—period.

A great deal of this righteousness will be manifested in our **fair treatment of others**. Is slanderous speech a part of your daily routine? Do you live by the motto, “Don’t get mad, get even?” Do you consider your friends to be cheap commodities, people you’re willing to sell out for the right price? If you maintain and hope of being welcomed into the presence of God, these behaviors need to be put away, cast off, abolished. Only a fool

thinks that he can serve the Lord while despising his fellow man; remember the words of Christ as He depicts the final judgment—“*Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me*” (Matthew 25:40). Blessing the Lord while cursing men is an act of evil (James 3:8-12), and should in no way describe one who seeks a home with God.

Additionally, we must **keep the right company**. While we are to still treat him with concern and respect, we must still hold a “*vile person*” (v. 4) in contempt—hating his deeds and shunning his influence. Children of God do not cozy up to wickedness; we are not entertained or amused by it; we do not behold it with an excited curiosity. Vileness, lawlessness, and sin are repugnant and repulsive, things from which we run away with all haste. On the other hand, we are to honor “*those who fear the Lord.*” Our brethren occupy a special place in our hearts, and we esteem them highly. We are never jealous of their successes or annoyed by their piety; instead, we encourage and exhort them, as they likewise build us up. Romans 12:9 echoes the sentiment found in Psalm 15—“*Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.*”

Finally, the righteous man or woman being described **understands the value of sacrifices**. If he promises to do something—even if it will be difficult or painful to do—he will see his promise

through to its completion. In other words, he sacrifices his own comfort for the sake of his integrity and honesty. When a brother falls on hard times, the faithful servant of God reaches into his own pockets, and gives without expectation of gain (perhaps without expectation of recovering what is loaned). A choice between profit or justice really isn’t a choice at all—again, even if it is to his detriment. He is rich in good works, so he doesn’t care if he is poor by the world’s standards.

Take a moment today to meditate on Psalm 15; let the word of God be a mirror, a way to look into your own life and see if changes must be made. Follow the clear, straight, and plain way the Lord has left for you, for “*he who does these things shall never be moved.*”

—*Cyfair Church Bulletin, 3/2/14*

### Gospel Meetings

**Lance Bowman** is the speaker in the meeting at **Franklin Dr. in Texarkana, AR**, starting today, **April 6** and going through Wednesday, **April 9, 7:00 weeknights**.

**Tony Mauck** is the speaker in the meeting at **Campbell Rd. in Garland, April 6—9, 7:00 weeknights**. **Tim Stevens** will lead the singing.

**Ronald and Johnny Stringer** will be the speakers in **our meeting, April 27**

— **30**. Let’s be making our preparations to be present and invite as many as we have the opportunity to attend. We will have weekday services Monday through Wednesday at 10:00 AM in addition to the Sunday services at the regular times and the evening services at 7:30 Monday through Wednesday. Ronald and Johnny will be alternating from service to service in their preaching. We have their topics and schedule which we will be publishing.

Let’s be praying for the meeting and looking forward to a good week.

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**NEWS** (continued from back page)

teeth problems. She had one pulled this past week, and there is more work to be done. She has been having much pain—**Clayton Bellamy** went home from the hospital Friday after spending some time in therapy—**Amanda Willeford** had a migraine headache Wednesday night and was not in our service, but she was better by Thursday night and taught the Ladies Bible class—**Howard Shelby** had the procedure done on his brain cancer Wednesday and he will go back in three months to see if the procedure was successful—Remember **Relda Marshall, Michele Williams, Maurine Lee, Pat Brown, Dorothy Kyle, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, Shirley Ferguson, Howard Shelby, Ronald Stringer, and Boots Walker**—Remember our **Shut-ins: Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson**.