

NEWS

William White continues his recovery from back surgery at home. Even though he has been sore from the surgery he doesn't have the nerve pain he had before surgery—**Beverly Amerson** is scheduled to have cataract surgery the next two Wednesdays—**Dorothy Kyle** was not feeling well last Sunday but she was back with us Wednesday night—**Vivian Stroman** was not feeling well last Sunday morning and was not in the service but she was with us on Sunday evening—**Luke Arnold** was sick last Sunday and not in our services, but he (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 717-3788
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

March 22, 2015

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Andrew Arnold

Pat Marshall **Ken Ferguson**
Chris Hill **Enoch Waldrep**

Sunday Evening

Pat Marshall **Ken Ferguson**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—William White (Opening)

—**James Johnson (Closing)**

PM--Thomas Hockaday (Opening)

—**Willie Don Davis (Closing)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Leon Goff

P.M.—Bob Arnold

(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

Volume XXII

March 15, 2015

Number 11

God Is Concerned About "Little Things", Too

By Paul Earnhart

The order of Jesus' model prayer makes clear that the glory of God and the accomplishing of His will in the world must always be at the heart of the life and thinking of the Christian. His prayers, like his life, should begin and end there. It is on just such a note that the section of the sermon which contains this instructive prayer concludes (Matthew 6:33). Yet, this does not preclude the bringing of our own needs and burdens to God's throne. This is made evident by the three (some say four) concluding requests of the prayer (Matthew 6:11-13). These all center on basic human necessities.

"Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11). With these words the Lord makes a sudden shift from the exalted to the commonplace. The apparent discontinuity of it caused many of the ancient commentators to spiritualize the "bread," but there is nothing in the context to justify it. On the face of things it just seems that physical considerations should be left till last, after forgiveness and the strength to endure temptation. But that is not where Jesus put them (either here or in Luke 11:2-4). He certainly does not intend that physical necessities become life's overriding concern (Matthew 6:19-32) but He is also not discounting their importance. The "Word" who became flesh understood from experience the bodily needs of men (Hebrews 2:18; 4:15) and demonstrated how seriously He took them in His compassion for the sick and hungry (Mark 1:40-41; Matthew 15:32; 25:41-43). The inclusion of this brief petition demonstrates that there is no matter so small that we may not with confidence bring it to our Father. Paul urges this: "*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and sup-*

plication...let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6). Peter says the same: " *Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you*" (1 Peter 5:7). Once we have determined to do His will at all costs, we may speak freely to Him of all our needs from the least to the greatest.

This simple petition speaks not only of God's wide-ranging concern but of our own complete dependence on Him. "Bread" as here used likely stands for all of life's bodily needs—food, shelter, health, family, etc. In any case we cannot by our own unaided strength supply one of them. As Clovis Chappell once observed, we could no more create one loaf of bread than we could create the universe. "*The earth is the LORD'S, and all its fullness*" (Psalm 24:1). Hence, we have no real choice but to trust God even at the most elemental level.

The English translation "*daily bread*" is somewhat of an educated guess since the Greek word for "*daily*" occurs nowhere else for certain in Greek literature. It may suggest bread for the day ahead or bread sufficient to sustain us. In either case Jesus teaches us to ask for no more than a day's supply. This is a tough assignment for people like ourselves who are inclined to fall to pieces without a lifetime provision in hand and fully insured. If we follow the Lord's counsel we will quit trusting in bread (John 6:25) and learn to lean wholly on God and His promises. Learning to live trustingly with

what we have each day calls to mind God's manna experiment with Israel while they were in the wilderness. "*He humbled you,*" wrote Moses, "*allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna...that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD*" (Deuteronomy 8:3). Jesus had used this passage once to great advantage (Matthew 4:4). We can do the same.

However much, then, it might have seemed at first that this prayer for bread was prayer from a very low ground, it turns out to have a powerful spiritual benefit. It teaches us faith. And this is a prayer for the poor and the rich alike; for no matter how little or how much we have or how hard we struggle to obtain and keep it, God alone can secure it. If we will learn to trust Him, God's children can live serenely in the confidence once expressed by the aged David: "*I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken nor his descendants begging bread*" (Psalm 37:25). And if we learn this kind of trust about bread, it will free us to get about the things that are even more important.

—*Cyfair Family News and Notes*
3/8/15

What Does It Mean To "Believe"?

Have you ever heard something and said, "I don't believe that!" Has anyone ever said to you, "Believe me, I'm

telling you the truth!" People talk about believing a lot. In Bible class or in church services, we often hear teachers and preachers talk about what it means to believe in God, His Word and His Son.

To believe means we agree in our minds with what we have heard. When we hear God's Word, the Bible, we know we can believe it. Before people are baptized, they say to us they believe Jesus is God's Son. They are agreeing with what the Bible teaches us about Jesus. He is more than just a great teacher, He is the Son of God. In Acts 8:37, a man from Ethiopia was told by the preacher, Philip, that he could be baptized if he believed Jesus is God's Son. Jesus also once said, "Unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." (John 8:24) There is much proof that Jesus is God's Son. God does not ask us to believe in Jesus with no proof. His many miracles show that Jesus is God's Son, so we believe in Him.

—Mark White, *Cyfair Family News and Notes* 3/1/15

=====
"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

"For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty." (2 Peter 1:16).

Our Spring Meeting

Kris Emerson from Beaumont, TX will be the speaker in our spring meeting **April 19-24, 2015**. Kris is another

outstanding young preacher. He works with the Dowlen Road church of Christ in Beaumont along with Max Dawson and Benjamin Lee. Let's all be making our plans to be in every service and praying for the success of the meeting.

=====
Ladies Day CDs

If you would like CDs of the Ladies Day lessons sign up on the list on the table in the foyer.

=====
Gospel Meetings

Jared Roger will be the speaker in a meeting at the Church of Christ, 602 Henderson, in **Jacksonville, TX**, starting next Sunday, **March 22**, and continuing through Wednesday evening, **March 25**, 7:00 PM weeknights.

Russ Bowman will be the speaker in a meeting with the Hubbard St. church in **Lindale, TX**, Sunday through Friday, **March 22—27**, 7:00 PM weeknights.

=====
News (continued from back page) was back with us Wednesday night—Remember **Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Pat Brown, Dorothy** and **Charles Kyle, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford,** and **Judy Hinson**—Remember our **Shut-ins:** *Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Lenelle Latimer, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson.*