

NEWS

Kenneth Amerson had his heart shocked back into rhythm in Tyler last Monday and by Wednesday it was out of rhythm again and he is to go back to Tyler December 10 to try to solve the problem again—**William White** is scheduled to have carpal tunnel surgery in Paris Tuesday. He has been having much pain in both of his hands. He will have the surgery Tuesday on one of his hands and he hopes to have surgery on the other hand before the end of the month—**Mary Burns** was sick and was not in out service Wednesday night—**Bob Arnold** was sick last Sunday and not in our services—**Carolyn Davis** was not feeling well last Sunday night—**Carolyn Himes**, Jared Roger's mother, has been going through (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 572-9306

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 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:

December 13, 2015

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Willie Don Davis

Luke Arnold **Andrew Arnold**
Kevin Kanaley **Thomas Hockaday**

Sunday Evening

Luke Arnold **Andrew Arnold**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—**Zach Willeford (Opening)**

—**James Johnson (Closing)**

PM—**Randy Blackmon (Opening)**

—**Ricky Davis (Closing)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—**Leon Goff**

P.M.—**Kendall Johnson**

(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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Volume XXII

December 6, 2015

Number 49

Starting Today

Song Worship Training

Directed by

Tim Stevens

December 6 - 9, 2015

(Sunday thru Wednesday)

Sunday Class —————9:45 am

Worship—————10:30 am

Evening————---6:00 pm

Monday—Wednesday—7:00 pm

Southside Church of Christ

1220 E. Ferguson Rd.

Mt. Pleasant, TX

Sweet Words That Make You Sick

By Tim Jennings

I had a friend that was allergic to honey. He would take a spoonful of that sweet, sticky delight and swell up like a balloon ten minutes later. His body was hurt by what seemed so sweet. Gossip is a lot like that. Solomon wrote, “A *gossip’s words are like choice food that goes down to one’s innermost being*” (Prov. 26:22). There is a perverse enjoyment about knowing the inside scoop on someone’s problem. Perhaps it makes us feel superior to know the bad thing someone else has done. For a moment we can forget that we’ve probably acted worse ourselves and look down on someone else with a smug superiority.

The problem with gossip is it goes down smoothly but it causes heart burn! Gossip burns the one who speaks it and the one spoken about. Solomon described the devastating effects of gossip as a blaze of fire near dry wood.

Without wood a fire goes out;
without gossip a quarrel dies down.
As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire,
so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife. (Prov. 26:20-21)

Gossip adds fuel to the fire of relational conflict. If we are going to build good friendships and live in healthy families we must get control of gossip.

One reason it is so hard to squelch gossip is because it is so tolerated in our society. There are wildly popular magazines and television shows that make millions of dollars by sharing gossip. Gossip is not something frowned upon, but vigorously sought and eagerly shared. As a result, the fires of strife burn in our society. Don’t feed on that stuff. Don’t buy those magazines or watch those TV shows. Those things teach you to constantly judge people, and to laugh when you hear bad news about someone. They turn you into a member of the annoying paparazzi.

James gives us four clear ways to deal with the temptation of gossip in these two powerful verses:

“Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?” (James 4:11-12)

To squelch gossip practice four levels of respect.

Respect People: We should value each other as people made in the image of God (James 3:9), who are made family. The emphasis of this text is on brotherliness.

Scripture says that if we know something about our brother, instead of telling just anyone, we are to go to him about it (Matt. 18:15-20). That shows much more respect than telling others.

Respect God’s Word: Not only should my respect for my brother keep me from talking about him, but so should my respect for the law. “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” James called this the “royal law” (James 2:8). When we gossip we ignore this law and pretend that we know better.

Respect God: Respecting God will also stop gossip. James says he “is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy.” When we gossip we set ourselves up as someone’s judge. We forget that our opinion matters nothing compared to God’s evaluation.

Respect Yourself: In reality, you need to look no further than yourself to stop gossip. James wrote, “who are you to judge your neighbor?” (4:12). Wham! Right between the eyes! With all my weaknesses, struggles, and sins, who am I to talk about my brother? Often those who gossip are the very ones walking around with the most failings and shortcomings (Matt. 7:1-5).

“Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.” (Ephesians 4:29)

“Let all that you do be done in love” (1 Cor. 16:14) —Focus Online, 11/30/15

Why Song Worship Training?

I raise this question to emphasize the importance of the work that Brother Tim Stevens will be doing with us today through Wednesday.

Do you believe it is important for preachers and teachers of the word of God to receive training? Is it important to study and to receive encouragement and help from others? Well, is it not important to learn how to improve in our teaching one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, and sing with grace in our hearts to the Lord (Col. 3:16)? Is it not important to give attention and study to how we can grow in our singing and making melody in our hearts to the Lord (Eph. 5:19)?

There are two aspects involved in our worship in song. It is vital that we worship the Lord sincerely from our spiritual hearts and that we teach the truth and mean the words we sing (John 4:24). This is most important. But it certainly helps to do that if we are able to sing beautifully musically. Brother Tim will be encouraging us in both aspects.

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NEWS (continued from back page)
chemo treatment for cancer, but she is not able to tolerate the chemo, but she will have radiation—**Brantley & Zachry Moss** have had a stomach virus and **Catherine** an upper respiratory infection—Remember **Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Dorothy** and **Charles Kyle, Pat Brown, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, and Judy Hinson**—Remember our **Shut-ins:** *Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Lenelle Latimer, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson.*