

NEWS

Paul Chapman was running a low grade fever last Sunday and was not in our services, but he was back with us Wednesday night—**Relda Marshall** continues to valiantly battle cancer and we are thankful that she is still determined to be in as many of our services as possible—**Judy Hinson** and **Bob Arnold** continue to do well in their battle and treatment with cancer—**Kelly Carrington** went back to M.D. Anderson for report on the results of the tumor she had removed. She only received preliminary results regarding (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:
Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 717-0265

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 5:00 PM

Wednesday
Ladies Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

PREACHERS:
Drew Nelson 254-541-3815
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:
October 28, 2018

Serving The Lord's Supper
Sunday Morning
Scripture: Andrew Arnold
Roger Lambert **Alec Capel**
Enoch Waldrep **Bobby Burns**
Sunday Evening
Roger Lambert **Alec Capel**

PRAYERS
Sun. AM—Jimmy Lewis (Opening)
—Richard Tapparo (Closing)
PM—Shea Bilbo (Opening)
—Charles Davis (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS
A.M.—Leon Goff
P.M.—Duane McGough
(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 XXV

October 21, 2018

Number 42

Same Sounding Prayers
By Drew Nelson

A while back, Meagan and I read a Psalm or two each evening over the course of several months. When we got around 60 Psalms in, she made the observation, “a lot of these sound the same.” Simple observations like that are often the most profound ones. I thought about it for a minute and said, “you could probably say the same thing about our prayers too.” When you read David’s Psalms together (about half the Psalter), you get an index of David’s prayer life. And David prayed about the same things all the time.

David constantly prayed, thanked, and celebrated God. If I sent you on mission to locate and mark every time the Psalms use a sentiment like, “*how majestic is your name in all the earth,*” “*I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,*” or “*in the Lord I take refuge,*” your pen might run out of ink before you found them all. Telling God you are thankful for your food every time you eat or praising his love and mercy daily is not a lazy vice if you mean it every time. It is really a recognition that if God is providing for me everyday, then he deserves thanks for it everyday. If God is praiseworthy everyday, then I’ll praise him everyday!

David also never hesitated to ask for help and deliverance from God. David did not just pray when it was sunny outside and he felt good. David prayed when he was in the muck of life—and not just once. A cursory survey reveals that about two dozen of David’s Psalms are pleading with God to deliver him from and to destroy his enemies. Five Psalms specify in the title that they originated from the time when Saul was pursuing David. David prayed like the persistent widow who kept coming to the judge saying, “*give me justice against my adversary*” (Luke 18:3). David under—

stood the lesson of the parable long before Jesus told it: “*he told them a parable to the effect that they ought **always** to pray and not lose heart*” (Luke 18:1).

Same sounding prayers can sometimes be an indication that our prayer lives are becoming stale with mindless repetition (Matthew 6:7). But done well, same sounding prayers can be a key ingredient to a healthy prayer life. What’s the alternative? Just to thank God for blessing once and let him consider himself thanked? Just to make a request of him once and let him consider himself asked? A survey of David’s prayer life reveals a man who never stopped talking to God, praising and petitioning his Lord for the same things day after day. What would a survey of your prayer life reveal?

=====

Attending Services

Roy Cogdill

Attendance at the services of the church is the best index of interest in one’s own spiritual growth, and it is a certain indication of one’s own interest in the Lord’s church.

One of the purposes for which God gave the church is that we might be edified as a member of the body (Ephesians 4:16). The edification of the body as a whole depends upon each member contributing his individual part thereto. This is the object of worship and fellowship in the church. We need this strength for life’s

problems and temptations, and we cannot successfully live the Christian life and render an acceptable service to God without it. Every one of us should be determined, therefore, to obtain it by attending every service that is possible for us to attend. The services of the church are designed for this very purpose. They can be a blessing for our souls and make us stronger Christians. We must attend them, however, with the right attitude if we are to receive a blessing from them. No service can do us any good without our being present, no matter how much truth is preached. Every service will benefit us unless we come to it with an improper attitude—unteachable, and prejudice in heart. We rob ourselves of the strength we need if we fail to attend with the right disposition of soul.

In these services, through study and instruction, and the worship ordained of God, we receive admonition and exhortation, and therefore strength. No member of the church can be the strong Christian that he should be without attending every service possible. It is entirely impossible for us to be Christians that we must be in order to please God, and grow as we should if we habitually miss the services held for the very purpose of helping us. Neither is it possible for us to please God, and grow as we should by merely attending Sunday morning. Sunday morning Christianity is half-hearted conversion to the Lord.

When our services on Sunday

evening present only about 60% of our attendance on Sunday morning; when, on Wednesday night, we have only about half of those present for the breaking of bread on Sunday morning; when attendance at the Bible classes is less than membership of the congregation; and when more than half of the membership of a congregation do not attend and support a series of gospel meetings to preach the gospel; something is seriously wrong with the church. Such half-hearted devotion of duty and the interests of the kingdom can only be a reproach to the church, and be disappointing to the Lord. Where do you, as an individual, fit into the picture?

—*Good News*, Lufkin, TX

=====

A Nation That Has Forgotten God

1. We have murdered 30 million unborn babies in the last 20 years. We call it abortion and the Bible calls it murder.
2. The Bible speaks of drunkenness. We call it alcoholism, sickness, or disease. The Bible calls it sin.
3. The Bible says that homosexuality is contrary to nature and God (**Rom. 1:27**). We call it gay or alternate lifestyle. The Bible calls it an abomination.
4. There are 1.3 million couples living together out of wedlock. The Bible calls it fornication (**1 Cor. 7:1-5**).
5. Crime in this country cost taxpayers 2 billion dollars per year and 53% of all crime is caused by an alcoholic drink. “The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forgot God.” Psalm 9:24.

—Ward Hogland, *The Voice*

Gospel Meetings

Our Gospel Meeting here at Southside with **Bubba Garner** doing the preaching is set for **November 11 - 14**. This is just 3 weeks away. There will be morning services Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in addition to the evening services.

Gordon Grammer is the speaker in the gospel meeting at the **Reel Road church in Longview**, this week, **October 21—24, 7:00 weeknights**. Gordon is their new local preacher that has been working with them the last few months.

=====

Congratulations to the Nelsons

Clara June Nelson was born a week ago yesterday, weighing 7 lbs 8 ozs, and 19 inches long. She and Mom, Meagan, are doing well. We are happy for them, Drew, Daphne and the grandparents.

=====

NEWS (continued from back page)
the extent of malignancy—Remember **June Johnson, Randy Blackmon, Teresa Tate, Carlos Barnes, Frank White, Jace Hockaday, Willie Done Davis, Judy Hinson, Relda Marshall, Betty Rust, William & Yvonne White, Catherine Moss, David Chapman, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford**—Remember our **Shut-ins: James Johnson, Maurine Lee, and Wanda Sikes**.