

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements
Mark Davis

Song Leader
Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper
Jon Barry Clay Morris
Cole Meador Matt Davis

Prayers
Bill Brittenham Pete Rowland

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements
Mark Davis

Song Leader
Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper
Cole Meador Matt Davis

Prayers
Jon Barry Cory Easley

WEDNESDAY

Announcements
Dee Minter

Song Leader
Cory Easley

Prayers
Gerald Eaton Cole Meador

Invitation
Bryan Garlock

ABOUT US

Elders
Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons
Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Dave Massey

Evangelist
Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday
Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.
Worship6:00 P.M.

Wednesday
Bible Study7:00 P.M.

WWW.TXKCHURCH.COM

GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Acts 8:35-30

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16;
1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

Think On These Things

Franklin Drive Church of Christ
2301 Franklin Drive ■ Texarkana, AR 71854 ■ (870) 772-0746



Volume XXII

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Issue 3

The Lord's Use of Scripture

Bryan Garlock

Paul said, "Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves..." (2 Cor. 13:5). It is necessary that we as Christians constantly test ourselves to see whether we are in the faith by our obedience to the truth. One such aspect of this is our knowledge of the Scriptures or lack thereof.

It is unfortunate that many Christians are ignorant of the Scriptures. We have countless brethren who cannot quote scripture, not even one verse! This is not because they have not memorized scripture, but because they have not internalized Scripture through diligent reading and studying. Besides the fact that we cannot be right with God if we do not know His will (Eph. 5:17; 2 Tim. 2:15; Rom. 10:17; 1 Peter 3:15), countless limitations placed on these Christians. Let us observe just two.

It means we could lose the battle of temptation. In Matthew 4:1-11, we read

the account of the temptations of Jesus. Matthew records that Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights and though He was hungry, He did not give into temptation by the lust of the flesh (4:3-4). Nor did He by the lust of the eyes (5-7) or by the pride of life (8-10; cf. 1 John 2:15-16). Jesus fought each temptation head on without giving Satan any "wriggle room". The Hebrew writer affirmed that Christ "was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin" (4:14-16). How did Jesus overcome Satan? It was Scripture that helped Him defeat and resist the Devil. Christ knew the Old Testament and could quote it perfectly when tempted (Deuteronomy 8:3; 6:16, 13). If we fail to internalize God's teachings, how can we resist the evil one? John the apostle wrote, "...you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one" (1 John 2:14). Can he say that about us?

Without God's word and prayer, we cannot stand firm and resist the Devil and

FAMILY TALK

Joey Avance is scheduled to get the results of his biopsy on Jan. 20th.

Remember **L. G. Clemmons, Willie Margaret Mobley, Bob Buls, Mary Alice Turner** and **Max Thomas**.

Please continue to remember **Elizabeth Eaton** who has been sick for the past few weeks.

Terry and **Tyna Armstrong** are both scheduled for back surgery in January.

Helen Kinney is recuperating from a broken leg.

Several others have been out due to various illnesses.

Mt. Pleasant Singing. Remember the annual area-wide singing at Mt. Pleasant, Jan. 20th at 7:30 P.M.

Elders, Deacons & Preacher Meeting: The quarterly meeting will be this afternoon at 5:00 PM at the building. If you have matters to discuss with them, please either let one of them know or you can attend the meeting.

Congratulations to **Lahron McJunkins** on his 94th birthday!

Please remember our young families that the parents continue faithfully in our Lord and train their children to develop their own faith and love for God, His Son and His church.

Front Page Article (concl.)

his fiery darts (Ephesians 6.10-17; James 4.7; 1 Peter 5.8-9). No wonder Paul commanded, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly..." (Col. 3.16). The abiding word will guard us from sin and keep us pure (Psalm 119.9, 11; 1 John 2.1). Otherwise, we can and will lose the battle of temptation.

It means we could miss teaching opportunities, causing error to prevail.

Jude exhorts us "to contend earnestly for the faith" (1.3). Peter instructs us to "...always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you..." (1 Peter 3.15). Finally, Paul commands us to "be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2.15). There are teaching opportunities missed due to the lack of scriptural knowledge. Some cannot contend for the faith because they do not know what their faith is (Rom. 10.17). Others cannot give an answer for their hope because they do not study to show "themselves approved". How do we suppose Jesus would have taught people if He was not ready to contend, or worse, had no answers for His hope? Though this writer realizes that Jesus is the author of the Scriptures and therefore needed no training in the word, it should be noted that how He handled people was determined by His knowledge and use of the word. We should all strive to be like Jesus in knowledge and practice of the word.

Jesus always resorted to scripture! He was ready, willing, and equipped with the "sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph.

6.10-20, note 17). We see Him in action as the Sadducees questioned Him on the resurrection (Matt. 22.23). He charged them with "not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God" (22.29). He then smashed their belief by quoting Scripture: "Have you not read...?" (32; cf. Exodus 3.6). Notice what happened next: "and when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching" (33). How many soul-saving opportunities have been lost because we have not "astonished" others with our teaching? How many souls have been condemned for error because we cannot contend for the faith? When Scripture is not second nature, we cannot help others see their error, we cannot teach them the truth and we cannot contend for our faith; instead, teaching opportunities are missed and error prevails.

Could Jesus have fought temptations without knowing the Scriptures? Would He have missed teaching opportunities if He had not known God's word? Could He have contended for the faith against the rising false doctrine without the knowledge of the truth? Brethren, we must learn to internalize the Scriptures through much study so we can rightly divide God's word and fight the good fight of faith! BG

Our Purpose as a Church: [Adapted; author unknown]

It is our purpose to be the church of Christ in Texarkana, AR (Matt. 16.18; Rom. 16.16; Eph.1.22; Acts 20.38).

It is our purpose to worship God in spirit and in truth, and continue steadfastly in the apostles' teaching (John 4.24; Acts 2.42).

It is our purpose to speak the oracles of God and hold fast the pattern of sound words (1 Peter 4.11; 2 Tim. 1.13).

It is our purpose to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and be a shining light in this community (Matt. 28.19-20; 2 Tim. 2.2; Phil. 2.15; Matt. 5.16).

It is our purpose to glorify God (Rom. 15.6; 1 Cor. 6.20; Eph. 3.21).

Are you helping this church fulfill her purpose?

Check out our **Facebook** page, "**Franklin Drive Church of Christ**" (www.facebook.com/txkchurch).



And don't forget our WEB site.

txkchurch.com

2 Thess. 3:16 Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with you all.