

## SUNDAY MORNING

### Announcements

Bill Brittenham

### Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

### Lord's Supper

Mike Davis                      Dee Minter  
Jerry Schnelle                      Dave Massey

### Prayers

Jack Calvert                      Wendell Mobley

## SUNDAY EVENING

### Announcements

Bill Brittenham

### Song Leader

Jack Calvert

### Lord's Supper

Mike Davis                      Dee Minter

### Prayers

W.H. McFerrin                      Pete Rowland

## WEDNESDAY

### Announcements

Bryan Garlock

### Song Leader

Jack Calvert

### Prayers

Bill Brittenham                      Melvin Potts

### Invitation

Jon Barry

## ABOUT US

### Elders

Jack Calvert                      Rodney Ellis

### Deacons

Jon Barry                      Bill Brittenham  
Mike Davis                      Dave Massey

### Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Study .....9:30 A.M.  
Worship .....10:15 A.M.  
Worship .....6:00 P.M.

### Wednesday

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

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## 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



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## The Challenge Of The Gospel

Rickie Jenkins

Have you ever had one of your children come to you and cry because he/she recognized something was different about him/her? Christians are different. We are exhorted to be different (2 Cor. 6:14-18). In the midst of an ungodly, crooked, perverse society we are exhorted to stand for what is right. Jesus tells us His disciples are the salt of the earth and the light of the world (Matt. 5:16-ff). It is a real challenge to be different from the world especially when the pleasure of sin and the influence of our peers are so powerful. It seems easier to go along with the crowd. However, we do our children no favor by allowing them to compromise when they are challenged for the gospel's sake. We must teach them to stand for what is right even when it costs them. We must show them it is possible to be right in a sin sickened world.

**It is challenging to be a believer in an unbelieving world.** The challenge is not simply to be religious. Many folks are religious, but do not know the truth about Jesus Christ. Yes, there are religious people who believe things about Him but they are not willing to believe that He is the Christ and allow Him to make the difference in their lives. As long as they believe He lives, or that He is a good man, or good teacher, that is fine

with them. But believing Him to be the son of God imposes obligation on all of us. The obligation is to obey Him.

**We are also challenged by the gospel to do what the Lord says (Matt. 7:21-24).** Jesus never promised that everyone who acted religious would enter the kingdom of heaven. The philosophy of the world is do something religiously whether God approves or not. Just do something! Our real challenge is to do what the Lord said. Think about it: we could save every person on the face of the earth if we were permitted to let everybody be saved in his or her own way. But, lost people will not be saved like that. People will only be saved by doing what the Lord says. The real question in judgment is not what will we say but what will God say (Matt. 7:21).

**Furthermore, Christians are challenged to live securely in an insecure world.** Fears, anxiety, and stress are all about us. These affect us all. Most anxiety is not caused over fear of not having enough to eat but fear of not being able to keep up with someone else. Today an adjusted person is one who can balance his pep pills with his tranquilizers in order to take his weekly trip to the psychiatrist. Why, in the land of plenty are so

## FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Willie Margaret Mobley, Bob Buls, Bonnie Allgor, Max Thomas, Maxine Burnham and Mary Alice Turner.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

We have two new sisters in Christ: **Lindee Braley** and **Tara Stinson.** Both were baptized this past Wednesday evening. Please make sure you meet them and welcome to our family at Franklin Drive. And pray for these two new Christians to continue in zeal and faith and grow in God's grace.

**Jean Cronce** is waiting for her surgery in Dallas to be scheduled.

**Lahron McJunkins** is home. He is recovering and getting stronger. Please keep him in your prayers.

**Max Thomas** has been in the hospital with pneumonia.

cont. from pg. 1

many people living insecurely? The answer is, because we trust in false standards. We all need to be reminded that security does not rest in things (Lk. 12:13-15). Life is not what we can gather around ourselves. People live and die with dread who are surrounded with wealth and things. They never learn to really enjoy what they have. Our challenge is to put our trust in God, not things. As Christians we do not know what the future holds, but we do know Who holds the future. We do not have all the answers, but we do know Who does. Security is an attitude of heart. It is not what happens to us that makes a difference; it is our attitude toward what happens to us that matters. No one can take from us our

right to choose our attitude toward our circumstance in life.

As Christians we face a great challenge given to us by God. He challenges us to "come out from among them, be ye separate, and touch not what is unclean and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters." That is our challenge. We must show the world what kind of people we are by accepting the challenge. We will only purify the world by accepting God's challenge.

Via Focus Magazine  
rickiej08@gmail.com

## You're Never Finished Obeying The Gospel

Wes McAdams

### What is the Gospel?

People often say the gospel is "the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus." 1 Corinthians 15:1-5 is often cited to prove this point. But pay attention to what Paul actually says in that passage:

"Now I would remind you, brothers, of **the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved**, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve."

The word "gospel" means "good tidings" or "good news." Paul is reminding the Corinthians about the Good News he preached to them. He does not say the gospel *is* the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, but that these are "of first importance" to the gospel message. The death, burial, and resurrection are certainly **at the heart of the gospel**, but it's not accurate to say "the gospel *is* the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus." That is an oversimplification (of which I too am guilty).

There is a stone in Priene, Turkey on which there is an inscription that dates back to 9 B.C. The

inscription speaks of the birth of Augustus Caesar. It says Augustus is a god and the savior of the world. It says his birthday signaled "the beginning of good news for the world." The word used in this inscription for "good news" is the same word the New Testament uses about Jesus (euangelion).

If you really want a summary of the gospel, you might consider a passage like Colossians 1:15-20. This is the Good News:

"[Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And **he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.** And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."

The gospel is the Good News that the Son of God came into the world. While in the world, He made peace by the blood of His cross. He was raised from the dead and now He rules over all things. **The gospel is that Jesus is the victorious Messiah, the Anointed One.**

Yes, the death, burial, and resurrection are at the core of that message, but the message is more than just those three things.

### Obeying the Gospel

This brings us back to our question, "What does it mean to obey the gospel?" There are three passages that speak of obeying the gospel. Interestingly, all three passages use this phrase in a negative sense. They all speak of the Lord punishing those who "do not obey the gospel" (see Romans 10:16; 2 Thessalonians 1:8; 1 Peter 4:17).

Let's consider one of those passages. In 2 Thessalonians, Paul is writing to the suffering church in Thessalonica. He himself had witnessed the resistance to the gospel in that city (see Acts 17:1-9). On his second missionary journey, Paul

had gone to the synagogue in Thessalonica and reasoned with the Jews, saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ" (Acts 17:3). But the Jews stirred up a mob and drug some of the disciples before the city officials.

So when Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, he said, "We ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring" (2 Thessalonians 1:4). He assured them Jesus would settle the score when He returned. Saying, He will return "in flaming fire, **inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus**" (2 Thessalonians 1:8).

Paul mentions two groups who will be punished. The first, "those who do not know God." This has reference to, "the Gentiles who do not know God" (1 Thessalonians 4:5). And then he mentions, "those who do not obey the gospel our Lord Jesus." This especially refers to the Jews. They were the ones who knew God, in a sense, but **were refusing to submit themselves to the Good News of Jesus' kingship.**

In fact, the word "obey" here is a present tense verb in the Greek, which indicates ongoing action. Young's Literal Translation reads, "those **not obeying the good news** of our Lord Jesus Christ."

### Keep Obeying the Gospel

Obeying the gospel means accepting the fact that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Jesus. It means becoming His disciple. It means being baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It means observing all that He has commanded (see Matthew 28:18-20). This was the Good News message the apostles proclaimed to the world.

Obeying the gospel is not something you ever *finish* doing. The gospel is something you are either being obedient to – right now – or you are not. The question isn't, "Have you obeyed the gospel?" But rather, "Are you living in obedience to the gospel?"