

## SUNDAY MORNING

**Announcements**  
Bill Brittenham

**Song Leader**  
Daniel Allgor

**Lord's Supper**  
Cole Meador      Mark Davis  
Jerry Schnelle      Hunter Byrd

**Prayers**  
Jack Calvert      Jon Barry

## SUNDAY EVENING

**Announcements**  
Bill Brittenham

**Song Leader**  
Jack Calvert

**Lord's Supper**  
Cole Meador      Mark Davis

**Prayers**  
Gerald Eaton      Jerry Schnelle

## WEDNESDAY

**Announcements**  
Gerald Eaton

**Song Leader**  
Jack Calvert

**Prayers**  
Bryan Garlock      Bill Brittenham

**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.

[WWW.TXKCHURCH.COM](http://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



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## Competing for the Crown

Bryan Garlock

Please read 2 Timothy 2.1-7. While Paul prepared Timothy for his coming death, he encouraged him to be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus. All those who carry out the Lord's work from day to day need this strength to continue steadfastly in the faith. Paul gave three analogies for the Christian – soldier, athlete and farmer. In this article, we will see how the Christian is like an athlete. To read about the soldier, please visit our article section online at [txkchurch.com](http://txkchurch.com)

Like athletes, the faithful are a dedicated people. The Spirit expressly says, "Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord" (Rom. 12.11). Elsewhere we read, "...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us..." (Heb. 12.1). For one to run a race with endurance, they must be fervent. Thus, faithfulness depends on a person who is willing to endure and remain enthusiastic no matter the obstacle or difficulty. This person has prepared his mind for action (cf. 1 Peter 1.13; Col. 3.2;

Phil. 4.8-9). This is not unfamiliar to a competitor. His dedication will determine success, growth, and wins instead of losses. Are we as dedicated as an athlete? Let us run the race in such a way to obtain the crown of life and never lose it (cf. 1 Cor. 9.24-25; Rev. 3.11).

Next, participation in sports demands both mental and physical training. Players cannot compete if they do not understand the rules and regulations of the game nor will they have the stamina needed to achieve their goals. Therefore, players must prepare daily. For both the "babe in Christ" and the mature Christian, training involves daily prayer, studies of God's word, and spiritual growth. However, occasionally a player will have excess weight, torn ligaments, etc. that will slow him down or hinder him in his training. One writer wrote to Christians to "...lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us..." (Heb. 12.1). All training is

## FAMILY TALK

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

**Rhonda Minter** had successful knee surgery Tuesday in Shreveport. She is recovering according to schedule and returned home on Friday.

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fruitless if sin hinders us from achieving our spiritual goals!

Finally, athletes are rule keepers. All successful team members skillfully follow the authorized rulebook that sets out the guidelines for their sport. Interestingly, there are very few problems between the opponents because they have agreed upon a standard. Therefore, though it is a competition, they are ultimately of one mind. All worthy coaches and participants keep exactly to the rules. If there is any deviation from the standard, discipline will ensue.

Paul understood this vital ingredient to faithfulness. He explained that "an athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules." All players are required to obey the referees as well as their coaches. Just as the referee has a standard by which he judges, so does God (John 12.48). Therefore, athletes compete by the rules "...to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown" (1 Cor. 9.24-25). Paul instructed all Christians to follow the pattern of sound words and expected all to obey what he wrote in his letters (see 2 Tim. 1.13; 2 Thess. 2.15; 3.14, etc.). Those who are dedicated according to God's rules will receive the crown of righteousness, which is eternal life (Rev. 2.10; 1 Cor. 9.25; James 1.12; 1 Peter 5.4). Only then can we say with Paul, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing" (2 Tim. 4.7-8).

Paul used the illustration of the athlete to show how a competitor would prepare, train and "go for the gold". In the same manner, a faithful Christian will be fervent in his dedication to the Lord, obedient to the standard of God's word, and perseverant in his training and preparation for the carrying out of the Lord's work. BG

### In Me You May Have Peace

Aaron Kemple

*I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."*

(John 16:33)

I was thinking about this verse this morning. There are two "in's" in this passage:

- In the world you will have tribulation.
- In Me you may have peace.

How do those two concepts coexist? Tribulation, meaning we are under pressure like grapes being crushed to produce juice. That is what happens to us in the world, according to Jesus. But then he also says that we can while under pressure and anguish have peace.

"In Me you may have peace." We are physically located in the world, but our hearts and relationships are tied to the eternal Christ. This is how Jesus slept in a boat on the storm. He was physically located in the storm, but His heart was resting safely and quietly in the Father.

I really need this right now. Maybe you do, too. May we come to Christ and to His words (and to His people) for the peace that passes

all understanding. The peace that only comes through Jesus Christ.

*...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

(Philippians 4:6-7)

*Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*

(John 14:27)

## Don't Forget

Franklin Drive Church of Christ

# GOSPEL SINGING

A capella Music

Join us as **Antony Parsons, Dane Shephard, and Tim Stevens** lead us in a night of praise in song.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 6TH - 7PM**

2301 Franklin Drive, Texarkana, AR 71854

Call/text: 903.308.4905 | txkchurch.com

## A SEARCH FOR GOD'S WILL

April 8-11, 2018 with **Dee and Russ Bowman**

"Whatever a Man Sows" Russ, Sun. 9:30am

"Teach Me, O Lord" Dee, Sun. 10:15am

"What Is Good?" Russ, Sun. 6pm

"The Sufficiency of God's Word" Dee, Mon. 7pm

"Except God Be With Him" Russ, Tues. 7pm

"A Well Orchestrated Life" Dee, Wed. 7pm

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