

## SUNDAY MORNING

### Announcements

Bryan Garlock

### Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

### Lord's Supper

Bill Brittenham      Jack Calvert  
Mark Davis            Joseph Barry

### Prayers

Jon Barry      Pete Rowland

## SUNDAY EVENING

### Announcements

Bryan Garlock

### Song Leader

Hayden Ellis

### Lord's Supper

Bill Brittenham      Jack Calvert

### Prayers

Clay Morris            Mike Davis

## WEDNESDAY

### Announcements

Bill Brittenham

### Song Leader

Jack Calvert

### Prayers

Cole Meador            Sonny Monaghan

### Invitation

Bryan Garlock

## ABOUT US

### Elders

Jack Calvert            Rodney Ellis

### Deacons

Jon Barry              Bill Brittenham  
Mike Davis            Clay Morris

### 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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## Itching Ears

Bryan Garlock

We all know the story of the rich man and Lazarus. After they both died, Lazarus rested from his suffering while the rich man's suffering had just begun. In torment, the rich man said, "I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment." But Abraham said, "They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them." And he said, "No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead." (Read Luke 16.19-31)

Those who say we need to "water down" the gospel message so that people will not be offended and the pews can overflow should consider the story of the rich man and Lazarus. Once the rich man went to torment for his sins, he asked Abraham to send Lazarus back to warn his brothers. What did he want his five brothers to hear? He wanted them to hear the message that

they needed to repent of their sins and practice holiness - that is, to be obedient to the teachings of Moses and the Prophets. Furthermore, he wanted them to know that to refuse to hear the written Scriptures was to seal their eternal destiny in hell. Not only would the rich man not want the message to be "less offensive," he would want "hell, fire, and brimstone preaching" - not this fluff-and-feel-good junk that diminishes the seriousness of sin and too often fills many pulpits today.

God knew many would not want to hear the message these five brothers needed to hear. No wonder Paul told Timothy, "I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate

## FAMILY TALK

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

After suffering several strokes recently, **Lanita Lansford** is doing better.

The doctors are working to adjust **Beth Ellen Rowland's** meds.

We are very thankful that **Joey Avance's** father, **William (Bill) Avance**, has returned home.

The doctors have confirmed that **Gerald Eaton** has recently developed Stage 1 Leukemia. He is scheduled for a bone marrow test on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.

The next **Ladies Bible** Class will be Tuesday, **Jan. 8th** at 11:30 AM at the **Jean Crone's** or 6 PM at the **Calvert's**.

The **2019 Communion List** is in the foyer. Please sign up to prepare the communion for a month next year.

for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths." (2 Tim. 4.1-4) Have you developed itching ears to justify your sin? Fortunately, God gives us what we need to hear now so that we will not hear "I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness" (Matt. 7.23) later. BG

### Poisonous Fruit

Bryan Garlock

Paul taught that we died to sin when we were baptized into Christ Jesus and raised to walk in newness of life (Rom. 6.1-4). Walking in newness of life demands that we bear good fruit by practicing righteousness (Rom. 6.12-23). However, prior to obeying the gospel, the fruit that was borne was spiritually poisonous. The apostle wrote, "But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death." (Romans 6.21) Thus, we learn that while we were sinners, the dangerous fruit we bore kept us in condemnation. This ought to encourage us to remain faithful, for who would want to harm themselves? Furthermore, we learn that we must develop hearts that maintain the shame that comes with bearing bad fruit. Since sin is good at searing our consciences so that we no longer blush, many Christians are just not ashamed of how they used to behave. Perhaps that is why so many professors of Jesus eventually turn away from Him.

Let us be ashamed of poisonous fruit. Let us trust Jesus when he says our past fruit leads to death. Let us be comforted knowing that there is no condemnation in Christ - where we are free from sin and bearing good fruit that leads to sanctification and eternal life (Rom. 6.22-23; 8.1ff). BG

### What About My Father and Mother?

Foy E. Wallace, Jr.

"A man said to me, 'Brother, I can't take the doctrine you preach that one must be baptized to be saved, because it damns my father and mother who were not baptized.'

"Well, let us see. Do you think one must believe in Jesus Christ to be saved? 'Oh, yes,' he answers. Very well, I will just change my subject from baptism to faith. A Jew comes around and says, 'Mr. Preacher, I can't accept the doctrine you preach, that faith in Jesus is necessary to salvation, because my father and mother died without believing in Christ.'

"The Jew thinks as much of his father as you do of yours. By the same argument with which you eliminate baptism, because perchance it damns some of your ancestors, he also eliminates faith in Christ. Then I preach that the knowledge of God is necessary to salvation and a Chinese comes around, and says, 'I can't take the doctrine you preach, because it damns my poor father and mother, who died without the knowledge of God' — and there you see the whole plan of salvation is nullified by contingencies.

"Friends, I suggest that we leave the matter of clemency to the judge (a judge only has the power of clemency) and let us observe the law. I have no authority to preach clemency — I must preach what God commands men to do to be saved — and I know what the law says."

### This World is Not My Home!

Doy Moyer

Christians are part of a kingdom that is not of this world and is eternal. This kingdom rises above and outlasts all earthly powers. Christians have a citizenship that is heavenly,

far greater and more permanent than any earthly citizenship. They are not to be conformed to this world, nor are they to employ carnal tactics in dealing with this world. Their message is one that calls for repentance, yet offers hope in Christ. It is a message of love, grace, and forgiveness. It is not a political message. It has nothing to do with political power-grabs.

These matters should be far more pressing, far more intriguing, far more pervasive, and far more encouraging than the winds and waves of the divisive politics that have taken over this world. We are dwelling on the ugliness of this world more than the beauty of Christ, and all the complaining in the world on social media won't change one thing when it comes to bureaucratic policies. It will make people mad at each other. It will make us suspicious of one another. It will divide us from one another. It will discourage and hurt. And the policies will remain the same. There are better things on which to dwell and better ways to foster godly relationships.

"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things" (Phil. 4:8).

"Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory" (Col. 3:1-4).

## SINGING

**Mt. Pleasant. Jan 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M.**  
*The Southside church in Mt. Pleasant is having their annual Singing.*