

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Rodney Ellis

Song Leader

Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper

Cole Meador Bryan Garlock
Bill Brittenham Jon Barry

Prayers

Jerry Schnelle Wendell Mobley

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Rodney Ellis

Scripture Reading

Jack Calvert

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Cole Meador Clay Morris

Prayers

Gerald Eaton Pete Rowland

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Gerald Eaton

Song Leader

Bryan Garlock

Prayers

Cole Meador Rodney Ellis

Invitation

Bill Brittenham

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Clay Morris

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; Romans 10:9-10

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

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The Conclusion

Bryan Garlock

It may be the most important section of any letter. It is sometimes where the identity of the author is revealed, where emotions for the reader pour out, and where all the ideas presented within the letter culminate - the conclusion.

As such, some of the most beautiful, thought-provoking, and conscience-convicting words can be found at the end of the letters written to the churches and Christians in the first century.

Take the time to read the conclusions to each of these letters. Romans 15.13-16.27; 1 Corinthians 16.13-24; 2 Corinthians 13.11-14; Galatians 6.11-18; Ephesians 6.10-24; Philippians 4.8-23; Colossians 4.2-18; 1 Thessalonians 5.12-28; 2 Thessalonians 2.13-3.17; 1 Timothy 6.2b-21; 2 Timothy 4.9-22; Hebrews 13; Philemon 17-25; Titus 2.15-3; 1 Peter 3.8-4.19; 2 Peter 3; 1 John 5.13-21; 2 John 12-13; 3 John 3-15; Jude 17-25; Revelation

22.8-21. Note that passages selected are based on this author's understanding of when each writer begins his concluding remarks.

Notice how much spiritual meat is packed into each conclusion. We learn about God's character and promises, how to praise and glorify the Godhead, how to overcome sin in our lives, the importance of remaining steadfast against error, how to maintain fellowship with God and one another, and how God comforts us and in turn we comfort each other.

The next time you are reading one of these letters, do not skip over or quickly skim through the conclusion - it is there for a purpose; it is for the saving of your soul. Take the time to appreciate these inspired words and let them strengthen you in your faith and in your relationship with God. BG

FAMILY TALK

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

Please pick up some invite cards and ask for Bible studies. See Bryan if you need any help with home studies.

Cowboys, Easy Chairs, and Bad Habits

Dee Bowman

Someone has said that bad habits are like easy chairs - easy to get into, but hard to get out of. Ain't it so? Life sometimes seems unfair, doesn't it? It's so difficult to form good habits while the forming of bad ones is done almost without doing anything. You just sort of let them happen. They usually demand very little time, and they are acquired in such subtle ways that they become routine almost without notice.

"For by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage." (2 Peter 2:19). "Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?" (Romans 6:16). What does that say to us? Better watch out what we allow to control us. Bad habits control.

Habits - good or bad - depend on repetition for survival. If you do something over and over long enough it will become an almost unnoticeable routine, a habit. Obviously, those things we enjoy doing are more likely to become habits, so it behooves to be careful to like the right things. If we don't like a thing, we respond by staying away from it.

Breaking habits isn't easy. That's why good ones are so good and bad ones are so bad. I don't know why, but it seems that bad habits are harder to break than good ones.

If we're to cease some bad habit we have to begin by stunting its regularity. And if we are to develop a good habit, we have to have such a conviction as regards its usefulness or necessity that it results in our repeating the action often enough that it becomes a beneficial regularity.

The mind is the incubator for the thoughts we choose. We decide when and what information we will allow into our minds. Our thoughts are our own - nobody does our thinking for us. If we allow our minds to constantly dwell on evil, lewd information, like pornographic material, that type of recurring thinking will soon become habitual. And the people who have studied that kind of mental addiction have concluded that pornography, and things like it, may well be the most difficult of all such mental habits to break. It's easy to start, hard to stop.

We cannot keep bad thoughts from passing through our minds from time to time, but we don't have to invite the evil in and give it a place to stay. We are to "give no place to the

devil" (Ephesians 4:27). If we give him residency in our minds long enough he will get a foothold. Too many people not only allow him to come in, but give him a place to sit, something to drink, and a comfortable conversation to enjoy.

To expel evil thoughts as soon as possible is one of the best habits a person can develop and maintain. Impurities have no legitimate place in the Christian's heart. Constant clean thinking is a splendid deterrent to evil advances.

One of the best ways to preclude the devil's invasion into our thinking is to acquire the habit of regular Bible reading. Bible reading puts God in our minds, and the habit of rapid and consecutive contact with God's word is no doubt the most effective way to combat evil encroachments. Good information crowds out evil thinking. "With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You." (Psalm 119:10-11).

Another thing - It's easy to fall into the habit of speaking what you hear around you every day. The world routinely uses foul language and ungodly speech. It is becoming commonplace to hear dirty language in the media, in music and entertainment, sports events, even on the school ground. Language which would not have been tolerated just a few years ago has become routine - habitual - in today's age. It's fashionable, even, to say

certain words and phrases of impiety, especially among the young.

Clean speech is another good habit to acquire. We don't need filthy words or inordinate vows with which to express ourselves and we should speak in such a way that it becomes obvious that we are not with the "in crowd" when it comes to dirty talking. We should habitually use words and phrases that are clean, devoid of putridness or impiety.

It's hard to break bad habits. But just as the West Texas cowboy had to "break" the horses to show them who's boss, even so we must "break" bad habits by showing them that we are greater than they are.

Snack On God's Word

"Snacking" on God's word can be either helpful or harmful.

We often associate snacking with "junk food" like chips, candy, soft drinks, etc. We are told that too much snacking can lead to an unhealth body and result in other negative impacts on us. Christians can "snack" on God's word this way too. Instead of sitting down and getting a full meal of the Bible teachings, we can pick and choose little bits from time to time. This may satisfy our consciences but leave us starved for more substantial nourishment.

On the other hand, if we eat regular balanced meals, we may treat ourselves to a snack just for the enjoyment. We can also regularly feast on God's word by reading and studying the Bible, and then enjoy "snacking" on a verse or two for the enjoyment.

So, how do you "snack"?

Bill