

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Clay Morris

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Bryan Garlock Cole Meador

Randy Ellis

Prayers

Willie Standokes Jerry Schnelle

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements

Daniel Allgor

Song Leader

Bryan Garlock

Prayers

Mark Davis Bill Rinehart

Invitation

Clay Morris

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Mike Davis

Clay Morris

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.

Worship10:15 A.M.

Monday (Zoom)

Bible Study7:00 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 ...

Matthew10:32-33; 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

For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. Ps 33.4-5

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Issue 6

Jesus' Parting Words

Bryan Garlock

"And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'" (Mt 28.18-20)

Comparing Matthew's account with Mark and Luke's writings, we find that Jesus said these words after His resurrection and before His ascension. Thus, this was essentially the content of Jesus' last words to His disciples.

Imagine you're about to leave your family. What do you tell them? What stories do you share that bring both laughs and tears? What wisdom do you impart, or what instructions do you leave for them? Whatever our parting words may be, they will be cherished by our loved ones and remembered for years to come. But, do we cherish Jesus' words? And, do we easily forget our Lord's instructions?

Our Lord said He had all authority. This means that if we call Him "Lord," we must surrender to His will and release any control we thought we possessed!

Our Lord said to make disciples. This means that we will be diligent in teaching others to learn from and follow Jesus, the Master.

Our Lord said to baptize those disciples. This means that those who learn from Jesus will be immersed in the Godhead, identifying themselves with the divine nature. Only those who recognize Jesus' authority will submit to this ordinance.

Our Lord said to teach them to observe all that He commanded. It is the responsibility of every disciple who follows the great Teacher to guide the disciples they make into all truth.

If we disobey these words, we will answer to His authority. But as we accomplish His parting words, He is with us and blesses our efforts. BG

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Maxine Burnham**, and **Francine Davis**.

Continue to remember the health concerns of **Gerald Eaton, Joey Avance, Jerry Schnelle, Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan**, and **Pete Rowland**.

Pat Buls will be staying here in Texarkana due to continued health issues.

Joey is doing better, but still improving.

Beth Ellen is very weak and still struggling with oxygen issues.

Barry Winters is feeling better.

How to Answer When You Don't Know the Answer

Greg Gwin

No one likes to be 'put on the spot.' We dread the possibility of being asked questions that we can't answer. This is especially true when the questions are about religion. Without a doubt, one of the biggest hindrances to spreading the gospel is this fear of being asked questions. Many Christians feel uneasy about their level of Bible knowledge. Thus, to avoid potentially embarrassing situations, they do their best to sidestep any discussion that might turn to religious themes. This is sad because it keeps us from many 'open doors' for personal evangelism.

Why Go to Class?

Bryan Matthew Dockens

Besides assembling for worship on the first day of the week, this church meets regularly to study the scriptures in class settings. Some may ignore these opportunities and others may simply take them for granted, so it is worth inquiring: Why go to class?

We go to class because "*He gave some to be ... teachers*". The Lord equipped the church with people in various roles to foster its growth, as Paul penned, "*He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ*" (Ephesians 4:11-12). Certainly, each position listed — apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor — is one whose work includes teaching. Nevertheless, mentioning "teachers" as a distinct role implies that it is possible to be a teacher without being an apostle, prophet, evangelist, or pastor. Since there are teachers who are not evangelists or pastors, then there must be teaching that is neither preaching nor shepherding. A class is the setting in which such teaching would occur. By neglecting to participate in these classes, one diminishes the ability of the body to effectively edify itself.

We go to class because some need "milk" and some need "meat". Any healthy church will include members from across the spectrum of spiritual growth. There will be the mature and knowledgeable, as well as the uninformed, and those in between. Members of every standing are necessary (I Corinthians 12:14-24), and each has different needs, as it is written, "*For everyone who partakes only of milk is*

Since no one has ALL of the answers, it is important for us to know what to do when questions arise that 'stump' us. Here are some suggestions:

- Realize — and be ready to explain — that there are simply some pieces of information that we do not have because God has not supplied them. "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God" (Deut. 29:29). But, we have "all truth" (John 16:12, 13), and "all things that pertain unto life and godliness" (2 Pet. 1:3). So, every piece of essential information has been supplied.
- When you do not know the answer, it is best to simply admit it. This is much better than trying to 'bluff' your way through. Humbly say, "I don't know." But do not fail to add: "I'll find out and get back to you on that." Following this procedure will actually provide additional opportunities to teach. It keeps the door open to further discussions.
- Study, study, study! You will feel less intimidated and more willing to engage in biblical discussions if you build your confidence level by increasing your Bible knowledge. Pay special attention to areas where you presently feel 'weak' in knowledge and understanding. Be well prepared to deal with popular denominational errors. Be ready to explain 'issues' that divide brethren.
- Never shy away from a chance to talk about God and His Word. The more you do this, the easier it will become. Every such conversation serves as an opportunity for you to 'sharpen your sword.'

unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Hebrews 5:13-14). Just as a nursing infant would choke if fed a steak or pork chop, so the novice Christian may be overwhelmed by some of the controversies debated among brethren, requiring instead "*the first principles of the oracles of God*" (Hebrews 5:12). Paul explained to the Corinthians, "*I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it*" (I Corinthians 3:2).

Conversely, an adult cannot receive sufficient nourishment from milk. It will not sustain him; he needs meat. The Christian who is fed nothing but a constant repetition of "*the elementary principles*" (Hebrews 6:1) will never grow to the maturity desired by God. As Paul admonished, "*Brethren, do not be children in understanding ... but in understanding be mature*" (I Corinthians 14:20). Thus, opportunities are needed to address various members of the church at their respective levels of knowledge and growth. Classes furnished by the church are an appropriate setting in which to accomplish this.

Christians have a responsibility to "*grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*" (II Peter 3:18) and the Lord has supplied the church with teachers to expedite this purpose (Ephesians 4:14-16). Members of the church need to let the teachers teach by attending and participating in their classes.