

MARC'S REMARKS

Last week's poem included a typo! The fourth stanza should read "give me happiness," not "spare me pain" (which is the subject of the fifth stanza).

I'm repeating it so that you can have the corrected version.

I asked God to take away my pride, and God said, "No." He said it was not for Him to take away, but for me to give up.


I asked God to make my handicapped child whole, and God said, "No." He said her spirit is whole; her body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience, and God said, "No." He said that patience is a by-product of tribulation. It isn't granted; it is earned.

I asked God to give me happiness, and God said, "No." He said He gives blessings. Happiness is up to me.

I asked God to spare me pain, and God said, "No." He said, "Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me."

I asked God to make my spirit grow and God said, "No." He said I must grow on my own. But he will prune me to make me fruitful.

I asked God to help me love others as much as he loves me. And God said, "Ah! Finally, you have the idea." 

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert
Rodney Ellis
Sam McJunkins II

Deacons

Mike Davis
Dave Massey
Phillip Moore
John Rinehart

Evangelist

Marc Hinds
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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

THE PLAN OF 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 8:35-39

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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Issue 3

"Our Church"

David Holder

Our church is having a Gospel Meeting." "Will you visit our church?" "Yes, they are members of our church." You've heard "our church" terminology. Maybe you've used it. I have. Many of us have also heard that we shouldn't use this language because the church belongs to Christ. This gives us an occasion to consider Scripture and think carefully about the church.

Jesus said, "I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it" (Matt 16:18). Paul; stated that Jesus "purchased the church with His own blood" (Acts 20:28). We read of the "churches of Christ" (Rom 16:16). We need to have straight in our minds that the church belongs to Christ. But what does this mean?

We should not think of the church as an institution Jesus incorporated, into which we gain membership in order to be saved. To say Jesus purchased the church doesn't

mean He established an entity which we join to get the benefits of membership. Jesus "purchased the church with His own blood" in that He died to redeem sinners from sin. He paid the price for redemption—His own blood—and those redeemed *are* His church.



The church belongs to Christ in the sense that He has saved every member of it. Every sinner who comes to Him in obedient faith is saved and added to His church (Acts 2:47). It is axiomatic that every saved person is in Christ: there is no other

Thanks for worshipping with our church family!

FAMILY TALK

About Our Sick

It was announced last Sunday that **Beth Ellen Rowland** has been experiencing heart issues lately.

Sam and **Sue McJunkins** have been sick with the swine flu for over two weeks.

Gertie Clemmons is doing better with her pneumonia. **Mary Jamison** was out Wednesday night due to bronchitis. **Jetta Avance** has also been struggling with it.

There are many others of our church family who are experiencing various ailments during these winter months.

Recovering from Rehab

It was great to see **Henrietta Vickers** with us Wednesday night. Her son, **Vernon**, brought her. She fell and broke her hip back in November of last year.

Maxine Burnham continues to slowly but surely recover from her recent fall.

Area Gospel Meeting

The Belt Road Church of Christ will have **Shane Carrington** with them from February 7–10. Service times during that week (Monday–Wednesday) will be at 7:00 P.M.

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements
Rodney Ellis

Song Leading
Phillip Moore

Lord's Supper
Reese Lunsford
Alex Spillers
Preston Ellis
Zack McJunkins

Prayers
Mike Davis
L. G. Clemmons

Scripture Reading
Caleb Rinehart

Bulletins
John Marc Hinds
Nathan Scott

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements
Mike Davis

Song Leading
Josh Moore

Lord's Supper
John Haley
Dee Minter

Prayers
Joey Avance
Rodney Ellis

WEDNESDAY

Announcements
Randy Ellis

Song Leading
Marc Hinds

Prayers
Reese Lunsford
Dave Massey

Invitation
Marc Hinds

“Our Church” concluded from previous page

way to be saved (Acts 4:12). Every saved person belongs to Christ and to the number of others who are also saved in Christ. Christ builds His church by calling people to Himself, to follow Him and be saved by Him (Matt 16:24–26). The saved belong to Christ; He is “the Savior of the body” (Eph 5:23).

Is there any place, then, for “our church” terminology? As a matter of fact, the New Testament uses this language. We read of—

- the churches of the Gentiles (Rom 16:4),
- the churches of the saints (1 Cor 14:33),
- the church of the Laodiceans (Col 4:16),
- the church of the Thessalonians (1 Thess 1:1).

Another way to phrase these references is “the saints’ churches” or “the Thessalonians’ church.” Using Paul’s own language, the Thessalonian Christians could refer to “our church.” His language describes churches as belonging to those who compose them.

The church does not belong to Gentiles or saints or Thessalonians in the same way it belongs to Christ. None of these purchased the church with his or her blood; none is the Savior of the body; none is the Head of the church. The church belongs to the saved people


proximity to one another also belonged to each other. The Thessalonians needed to feel a sense of responsibility toward the activities of and perceptions about the church in their city. We, too, should feel a sense of belonging to and being responsible for “our church.”

We should not think of the church as an institution Jesus incorporated. Those redeemed *are* His church.

in the sense that they constitute the number of the saved; they compose the church and are identified with it. Any group is what the members who compose it are. The church is “ours” in this sense, and this idea has particular relevance to local churches.

Christians in Thessalonica needed to feel a sense of identification with the rest of the saved in their city. They all “belonged” to Christ, and by virtue of their

“Our church” language needs to be clarified, but it need not be abandoned. In fact, something important derives from it. This language reminds us to think of the church in personal terms—our identity, our sense of belonging, our responsibility.

By the way, how is your church doing because of you? If every member of the congregation was just like you, what kind of church would your church be? 

Respecting the Authority of God

AUDITORIUM CLASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 17th

LESSON 5
Session 1

Rodney Ellis

Wednesday, January 20th

LESSON 5
Session 2

Rodney Ellis

Sunday, January 24th

LESSON 5
Session 3

Rodney Ellis

YOUNG ADULT CLASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 17th

LESSON 3
Session 1

Bill Brittenham

Wednesday, January 20th

LESSON 3
Session 2

Bill Brittenham

Sunday, January 24th

LESSON 3
Session 3

Bill Brittenham