

## SUNDAY MORNING

### Announcements

Bill Brittenham

### Song Leader

Jack Calvert

### Lord's Supper

Jon Barry                      Bryan Garlock  
Joseph Barry                Cole Meador

### Prayers

Bryan Garlock                Wendell Mobley

## SUNDAY EVENING

### Announcements

Bill Brittenham

### Scripture Reading

Rodney Ellis

### Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

### Lord's Supper

Cole Meador                Clay Morris

### Prayers

Bill Rinehart                Mark Davis

## WEDNESDAY

### Announcements

Mark Davis

### Song Leader

Bryan Garlock

### Prayers

Jack Calvert                Daniel Allgor

### Invitation

Danny Davis

## 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.

[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; 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

2301 Franklin Drive ■ Texarkana, AR 71854 ■ (870) 772-0746



Volume XXIV

August 18, 2019

Issue 33

## Mind Your Own Business!

Bryan Garlock

A busybody is one who meddles or pries into the affairs of others. More specific, a meddler is one who involves themselves in a matter without right or invitation ([dictionary.com](http://dictionary.com)).

Paul instructed Christians to “aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands...” (1 Thess. 4.11) He wrote, “For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.” (2 Thess. 3.11-12) Elsewhere we read, “Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not. (1 Tim. 5.13)

Take note of the descriptions of those who are busybodies. They “walk in idleness”, they are “not busy at work”, they go from “house to house” (as idlers, giving and receiving private information;

now accomplished by phone), and they are “gossips... saying what they should not”. If you continue to read from 1 Timothy 5, you see that those who are busybodies “have already strayed after Satan” (14-15). It is no wonder, then, that God put meddlers in the same category as murderers, thieves, and evildoers (1 Peter 4.15). Finally, the Holy Spirit taught that we are to mark busybodies as unruly people and have nothing to do with them (2 Thess. 3.6-15).

What causes this sin? First, God’s word says that idleness is a contributor — this includes those who are lazy, who refuse to work, and who are bored. These folks have nothing better to do than to sit around and talk about others. Thus, the God-given solution is to get to work and be diligent in your own life. This keeps you too busy to be concerned about the lives of others. Other factors include a lack of self-control, an envious heart, a desire for attention, the desire for

## 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 remember **Gerald Eaton** as he continues his treatments.

The next **Ladies Bible** Class will be Tuesday, **September 10<sup>th</sup>**.

**Rodney Ellis** is scheduled for a medical procedure this week.

**Karah McWhorter** will be going to California next month for medical evaluation.

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

Continued from page 1

retaliatory information, and even the influence of this world. Consider all the gossip news outlets (like TMZ). They offer 24/7 breaking news on all the latest gossip and “dirt” on famous, wealthy, and powerful people. This culture has conditioned us to crave the private affairs of others — without their invitation to be privy to the information. It is sent directly to our televisions, phones, and social media newsfeeds — *and we just soak it in.*

Whatever the reason is for meddling, wisdom teaches, “Whoever meddles in a quarrel not his own is like one who takes

a passing dog by the ears.” (Prov. 26.17) The point is this: If you grab a dog by his ears, watch out for his bite. Likewise, if you thrust yourself into private affairs, watch out that you are not devoured and defiled by what you hear, say, and repeat.

Lest there be any confusion, not all inquiries into another’s private life are meddling. For example, it is not meddling when Christians hold each other accountable. In fact, it is a God-given responsibility (Gal. 6.1; James 5.19-20; Heb. 13.17). Furthermore, it is not meddling when parents question their children’s whereabouts or demand to see their phone messages or look at their internet search history.

Are you a busybody? Does the following describe you?

**You love to hear juicy information about others.** You are overly interested in knowing whatever people are doing, saying, or dealing with in their private lives. The more you learn about people, the better your day is going to be!

**You feel powerful with the knowledge of one’s private life.** It’s a great feeling to know something others do not! Likewise, you feel powerless without the information. It even hurts or causes internal bitterness or fear to not know another’s information, *especially when others know it.* Thus, you are in control when you know all!

**You use whatever means necessary to extract the information.** For example, you will secretly listen in on private conversations or ask a close friend or relative for the information of the person you are inquisitive about, all under the guise of caring for them or desiring to help the situation. Perhaps you befriend someone to find out their

information or do a good deed for them so that they will open up to you.

Notice how these descriptions expose the ungodly characteristics associated with being a busybody. If you have these meddling tendencies, God’s words says to mind your own business!

Not to pry or anything, but are you keeping out of people’s business? BG

## Seven Simple Reasons to Believe in the Inspiration of the Bible

Gardner Hall

Why do we think God guided the men who wrote the Bible? Could men have written the Bible without God's guidance?

1. **The claims of scripture.** Though the writers were generally humble men, they confidently claimed to be writing the word of the Lord.
2. **The influence of the scriptures.** How could humble fishermen and farmers have written by themselves a book that has served as the legal and ethical foundation for Western culture?
3. **The omissions of the scripture.** If men had been writing without God's guidance, they would have included details to satisfy our curiosity: a physical description of Jesus, details about his childhood, details about Paul's death, etc. God didn't feel such details were important for us.
4. **The impartiality of scripture.** In contrast with other ancient literature, the Bible reveals all the flaws of all its heroes, Abraham, David, Noah, Peter, James and

John, etc. The only exception, of course, is Jesus Christ.

5. **The superiority of the Bible in comparison with other books of antiquity.** The literature of the Assyrians, Babylonians, ancient Greeks, Romans and other ancient cultures are full of fantasy and irrational tales. For example, think of the Greek myths, the Babylonian epic of Gilgamesh, etc. The Bible presents its story in a reasonable and trustworthy manner.

6. **Lack of scientific absurdities.** Though the Bible was written in a time of many superstitions and myths about life and the universe, it is completely free of such. If in just one text, the Bible affirmed a flat earth with people falling of the end, an earth supported by Atlas or a monster with an eye in the center of its head it would be discredited. No such absurdity exists.

7. **The unity and order of the scriptures.** Although the 66 books of the Bible were written by over 40 different men over a period of some 1600 years, they present an orderly account with a beginning and an end. Other supposed sacred writings such as the Koran, the Vedas and the Tripitaka (scriptures for Buddhists) are disjointed and ill-defined.

If one reads the Bible without a negative agenda he can see that it proclaims deep truths about man and his existence that could only come from a source higher than man. Many honest skeptics have been convinced and changed by such an open minded investigation. You can be too!