

## SUNDAY MORNING

### Announcements

Clay Morris

### Song Leader

Jack Calvert

### Lord's Supper

Jerry Schnelle      Rodney Ellis  
Mark Davis      Pete Rowland

### Prayers

Cole Meador      Joseph Barry

## SUNDAY EVENING

### Announcements

Clay Morris

### Scripture Reading

Bill Brittenham

### Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

### Lord's Supper

Jack Calvert      Mark Davis

### Prayers

Gerald Eaton      Melvin Potts

## WEDNESDAY

### Announcements

Jack Calvert

### Song Leader

Bryan Garlock

### Prayers

Jon Barry      Bill Brittenham

### Invitation

Daniel Allgor

## 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; 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



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Issue 37

## What Kind of Faith Do You Have?

Bryan Garlock

**“What if” = fear - “Even if” = faith**  
(Luke Metzger)

Do you see the difference? If you choose the first one, fear will cripple your faith. If you choose the second one, faith will embolden your convictions. The reason is that “What if...” *questions* while “Even if...” *affirms*.

“What if” rings in the minds of those who refuse to obey the gospel, who refuse to repent of their sins, who refuse to confess their sins to others, and who refuse to confess Jesus to others.

“Even if” shouts from the minds of those who accept the consequences of obedience, confession and repentance of sins, and who allow nothing to stand in their way of confessing his name to others.

Do you have a “What if” faith or an “Even if” faith? BG

## How Is Your Walk With Christ?

Bryan Garlock

The Holy Spirit has a lot to say about walking as Christians. To “walk” simply refers to how one lives his daily life — his habits and lifestyle. Thus, if you find that you are not growing in Christ the answer is that you have not continued *walking by faith*. (2 Cor. 5.7)

Take your Bible and read the following verses: Psalm 15.2; Jer. 6.16; John 8.12; 11.10; Acts 9.31; Rom. 4.12; 6.4; 8.4; 13.13; 14.15; 2 Cor. 5.7; 10.3; Gal. 5.1; 6.16; Eph. 2.2, 10; 4.1, 17; 5.2, 8, 15; Phil. 3.17-18; Col. 1.10; 2.6; 3.7; 4.5; 1 Thess. 2.12; 4.1, 12; 2 Thess. 3.6, 11; 1 John 1.6-7; 2.6, 11; 2 John 1.4, 6; 3 John 1.3-4; Jude 11.

As you read, study the context to help you learn these divine truths and to help you make the right application for your life.

As you study, answer these questions: What does it mean to “walk

## 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.

The next **Ladies Bible** Class will be Tuesday, **October 8<sup>th</sup>.**

REMEMBER our **Gospel Meeting** is scheduled for **Oct. 13-18** with **Mark Roberts.**

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

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in the light”? What does it mean to “walk by faith”? What does it mean to “walk in newness of life”? What does it mean to “walk in wisdom”? What does it mean to “walk in truth”?

As you can see, this will be a profitable study. BG

## Two Perspectives and Two Processes

Shane Blackmer

<sup>12</sup> *Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.* <sup>13</sup> *Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God*

*cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.* <sup>14</sup> *But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.* <sup>15</sup> *Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.* (James 1:12-15; NKJV)

This passage provides perspective from which we can confidently serve our God and also from which we can investigate what is going on in our life and determine what the problem is.

Jesus promised a crown of life, that is eternal life, for those that love Him. Jesus told us if we love Him, we will keep His commandments. If we are faithful and obedient to Jesus Christ then we will be blessed as we overcome our temptations, will endure in this life, and be found approved by Him as we return to Him in spirit (crown of life). That is the process of God.

In that, we can be confident that God is not and does not tempt. It says clearly in the verse that “evil” is what tempts and there is no evil in God. There is no darkness but only light. There is no bad, only good. Our God is Holy.

So if God isn’t tempting us, where is it coming from? Evil. What is evil? That which is contrary to God. Who is contrary to God? The devil is evil and he is contrary to anything God stands for and he is the one that appeals to us in our flesh and tempts us to act in a way that is contrary. The devil is selfish. We are at risk of being selfish. Satan will appeal to that perspective while Jesus is saying deny yourself and follow Him.

If we give way to the temptation of the devil through responding to the desires of our flesh or our self-centered perspective, then we are in danger. This desire, if allowed to take hold, will give opportunity for sin and if the sin is born and not taken care of will result in spiritual death. That is the process of the devil.

So we have two perspectives and two processes. God’s is heavenly and holy and results in eternal life. The devil’s is fleshly and results in sin and death.

This provides us opportunity to reflect on our lives and consider what choices we are making, what sorrows we have, what fruit we are bearing and determine which perspective and process we are adhering to.

God loves us and wants us to be safe and secure as any Father does but He wants our heart and that requires our faithful and consistent choosing of Him. He does not tempt us. He only loves us. And He does and will equip us to endure temptation by the devil and to secure an eternal and living crown.

## “Time Management”

**Eph 5:15-16** Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; **redeeming the time**, because the days are evil. (ASV)

*making the best use of the time* (ESV)  
*making the most of your time* (NASB)

**Col 4:5** Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, **redeeming the time.**

(ASV)

*making the best use of the time* (ESV)  
*making the most of the opportunity*

(NASB)

**Definition:** to **buy up**, that is, **ransom**; figuratively to **rescue** from loss (**improve opportunity**) (Strong)

Do you (we) use time **wisely**? Do we **look for** – actually, **seek actively** – **opportunities** to serve our God and His Son?

Jesus gave His life to **redeem (buy back)** sinners for His Father. We all sinned and sold ourselves to unrighteousness and death. (Study the second half of Rom. 6 closely.) But Jesus left heaven (Phil. 2:6-7), came to this sinful earth and spent His entire life making opportunities to serve His Father. He denied Himself the pleasures of the world in order to **rescue** and **ransom** us from our eternal condemnation. Why? Because He loved His Father and obeyed His will. He loved us as His Father does. He loved serving His Father. He fully understood the priority of **redemption** to salvation as opposed to the hollow, temporary pleasures of sin.

Do we **buy up** or **redeem** time from other much less important activities to seek ways to **teach** or **study** or **pray** or **serve**? As Christians, we should (must) imitate Jesus. Use our time (God’s time) wisely.

Bill

**John 3:16** *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”*