

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Clay Morris

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Jon Barry Rodney Ellis
Joseph Barry

Prayers

Bill Brittenham Mark Davis

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Scripture Reading

Song Leader

Lord's Supper

Prayers

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements

Song Leader

Prayers

will never **know** God. He cannot save us or lead us or protect us if we truly know Him.

It is fairly easy to learn *about* God by reading His Bible. But only by believing Him, accepting Him and obeying Him with a full heart of faith will we ever come to know God. (ex. 1 John 4:8)

Let us KNOW God!

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

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



Volume XXV

December 20, 2020

Issue 51

Seeking God
Tim Jennings

Knowing God is the essential pursuit of life. Now is time for the Lord to take his rightful place in our affections and be the object of our investigations. Now is time for God's people to be captivated by the Lord's infinite character and glorious works. "I want to know *Him*," needs to be the ambition which makes all other pursuits insignificant (Phil. 3:8-10).

It may seem strange to suggest that Christians need to consider Christ. Yet, religion has always been a respectable place to ignore God. We are constantly tempted to enthrone our own feelings and pursue our own pleasures. We end up with Christless churches filled to the brim with disciples of religious celebrities.

Is that off the mark? Just look what happens when a little "crisis" arises. We splinter in hundred directions! Why? Because we are more acquainted with our rights than God's ways. A pursuit of the knowledge of God vaccinates us against

the sickness of self-worship which lies under a thin veneer of religious justification.

I wonder, could our faith survive the transition the early church made from popularity to persecution (Acts 2-8)? Do we have the courage to share the gospel and start a church in new city (Acts 8:4; 11:19-26)? Do we have the love to yield our rights to live in fellowship with others (1 Cor. 8:1-13)? Do we have the humility to serve someone vastly different from ourselves (Acts 6:1-7)? Or do we simply find a place *we* feel comfortable?

The solution to this Christless Christianity is to know the Lord. This is much more than knowing doctrines, traditions, and institutions. It is to launch into the inexhaustible journey to discover the nature of God.

This is possible because God made himself known to us. He placed his signature on Creation. He recorded his

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Maxine Burnham, Ann Thomas and Francine Davis.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

Please remember **Maxine Burnham** and **Jean Cronce** in your prayers.

Cathy Monaghan is home recovering slowly.

Here is the current schedule of services:

Bible Study: 9:30 AM

Services: 10:15 AM

Kids Only: 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Sunday and Wednesday Bible Studies are in **Galatians**.

Additionally, we are having studies.

Monday: 7:00 PM

Thursday: 7:00 PM

Ladies Bible Class:

Next Class is Jan. 12th

deeds and values in the Scripture. Ultimately, he modeled his ways in Jesus, "the exact imprint of his nature" (Heb. 1:3). God wants us to know Him! So, he says, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

To do this requires a reorientation of our reading of Scripture. The primary purpose of revelation is not human happiness or church policy, it is to know God (Ex. 20:1; John 1:18; 5:39; et al.)! His glory engulfs

each story. His power is to be praised. His character is to be embraced.

This focus spills over into our hymns, prayers and preaching where we speak more of God than self! We do this until we recognize God is on his throne and we are on our knees. Only then will we be rightly directed by what he says and reflect who he is.

Jesus prayed, "this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent" (John 17:3). Human movements often devolve from noble ideals into an arrogant struggle between personalities. The history of religion is no different. But rescue comes when we turn our eyes upward with a singular passion to know the Lord. This is the time to know Him!

Tim Jennings

timj.theway@hotmail.com

"Let all you do be done in love" (1 Corinthians 16:14)

Extra Bit:

At the base of Mount Sinai Israel thought they knew God. To them, God looked like a golden calf who was worshipped with bodily comfort, pleasure, and riches (Exodus 32). By the end of the day 3,000 died because their knowledge of God was corrupted. We laugh at their foolishness and sneer at their rebellion, but do we also mix our knowledge of God with tradition and cultural expectations?

Israel made their "god" out of gold and fashioned him with the glory of their talent and worshipped him with the pleasures of their flesh.

But Moses took different approach. He asked the Lord, "Please show me your glory" (Exodus 33:18). What Moses wanted more than personal charisma and admiration from his peers was to know God. He was richly rewarded.

⁵ The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. ⁶ The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷ keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." (Exodus 34:5-7)

Moses saw something more glorious than gold. He came to know God! The result "Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped" (Exodus 34:8). Israel worshiped the god of their own making and "rose up to play" (Exodus 32:6). Moses learned about the God of glory, and he "bowed down to worship." The know of God was so enlivening continued to serve the suborn people of God with a face that shined like the God he came to know.

Via: focusmagazine.org

Another Extra Bit

Bill Brittenham

[I certainly hope Tim doesn't mind me adding my two cents worth, but he made an excellent point I would like to expand.]

Tim said, "***The primary purpose of revelation is not human happiness or church policy; it is to know God.***"

It is also true that "***The primary purpose of revelation is not to have knowledge about God; it is to know God.***"

There is a distinct difference between gaining or possessing knowledge "about" God and "knowing" God.

1 Cor. 1:21 *For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.*

Gal. 4:9 *But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again?*

Titus 1:16 *They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.*

Our goal should not be to just **know** the **facts** about God, but to **understand** Him. In Ex. 5:2, Pharaoh declared he did not know Jehovah. He knew who Jehovah was. He knew He was the God of the Israelites. Yet he did not know Him enough to honor or respect Him or to do what He commanded.

We can know Jehovah is the God of the Bible. We may even know He is the creator and sustainer of all that is created. Yet if we do not know, understand and comprehend the effects of that knowledge on us personally, we