

Good morning to all of you. I hope you all had a wonderful beginning to the New Year. The holidays are always nice and the opportunity to be with family and friends is special. It is always nice when we can get back to a routine. am glad you are here today and I especially appreciate all of you who continue to come to Bible class on Sunday and Wednesday. The Elders announced plans for the church in the New Year and I wanted you to know that I have a lot of plans for the youth also. We want you to be active and involved in the youth program. We can all help each other to be stronger. Your influence on your friends means a lot. Let me encourage you to be faithful and reach out to your classmates who are not Christians. Thanks again for your encouragement to me personally.

BEN

## **NONSENSE**

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The word faith is used primarily in two ways in the Bible. One is referring to the body of doctrine delivered to us from God. "Contend earnestly for the faith once and for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). In one sense the faith refers to the teaching in the Old and New Testament. It refers to the doctrine of Christ and that preached by the apostles. We understand that the Law of Moses came from God and so did the Law of Christ. The Law of Moses was nailed to the cross and we are under the Law of Christ today. On the other hand, faith can refer to one's conviction. It is in this sense that want to write about "faith."I am afraid many equate faith with a hunch or superstition. They feel something is right and therefore it must be. To question one's faith is akin to questioning one's humanity. In this article, we want to define faith how one develops faith in God, and what faith does. Faith is defined in Hebrews 11.1 "Now faith is the substance of thinas hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Abraham is given as a great example of faith in James 2. God promised Abraham the land of Canaan , a lineage that would become a great nation, and his faith became reality. Genesis 12, 15, 17, 22. DAN

**DOOR GREETERS** Sunday Jan. 20, 2019 Wayne & Carol Ann Cartwright **COMMUNION PREPARATION** Sunday Jan. 20 2019 Ben & Keri Rhone



# **Crockett Road Church of Christ**

**MINISTERS** Dan D. Manuel

**Pulpit Minister** Ben Rhone Youth Minister

#### ELDERS **Dwight Franklin** Dan D. Manuel

**Dale Sparks** DEACONS Henry Baker Johnny Jenkins **Kyle Lock R.D.** Prince

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Wed: 7:00 PM

#### "A WATERED DOWN GOSPEL"

Palestine, Texas 75802

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Growing up I used to watch all the Bowl Games on New Year's Day. There were about eight of them and they were confined to that 1 day. To get to a Bowl Game a team had to be really, really, really good. Now we are inundated with bowl games. There are so many that a I cannot keep up with them. One Bowl Game had two teams whose coaches were fired for having such a poor season. Another Bowl Game had to get a special waver from the NCAA to allow a team with a losing record to play. Why the change over the last 50 vears? Money and the desire of the colleges, the NCAA, and the organizers of these Bowls to make money. The end result is that the Bowl Season is now over a month long and most fans only keep up with their team. The bowls have become diluted to mean practically nothing. Such can be said to a lot of preaching that goes on today. It used to be that the Bible was preached in almost every pulpit. Now a lot of places hardly hear the Gospel of Christ. The conditions of salvation are often left out of sermons, and sin is not mentioned. In denominations the Bible is a relic, an outdated book with outdated principles. Every day in the Lord's church there are congregations where plain preaching is not appreciated. So what happened over the last 50 years? Man has decided that religion should concentrate on man and not God. Church has become a social organization with social programs and a social message. Some preachers today are good communicators but poor students. Churches have become businesses with "programs" and "outreaches." Money is needed to finance all of these activities. The truth is diluted to appeal to a larger audience. The end result is weak preaching and teaching. Jesus prayed, "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth" (John 17.17). DAN

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## We Off To A Great Start One Responds for prayer

From Dan's desk:



The New Year is off to a great start. The attendance was back up last Sunday after the holiday season that took so many people out. Many were also sick during that period of time as well. We are glad everyone is back and doing much better. Dale spoke about the plans for the year 2019 and a copy of those planned events and budget are available in the foyer. We are grateful as he stated for the love and support given by members of the congregation here. We hope and trust that this year will be a wonderful year in many respects. On Sunday night SYLVIA GURGANUS responded asking for the prayers of the church here. Sylvia has been undergoing a very serious problem with her eyes. She has developed a problem called "Narrow Angle Glaucoma". It is a rare eye problem, unlike the usual glaucoma that a lot of people experience. She will have surgery soon. We want to continue to pray for her. Our "Give Me The Bible" is just two weeks away. We always look forward to this time of year when preachers, Elders, Deacons and their wives come together from all over to meet concerning the Program. We will have the usual luncheon and several smaller venues will be set up for display. The Hopkins Publishing Company will be here with numerous books that will be available. We hope you can come. There is a "sign up list" placed in the foyer on the bulletin board and we encourage you to sign up as soon as possible. We will need to know how many to prepare for concerning the meal. The food, fellowship, lessons and good gospel singing will make the day a memorable one. Thanks all of you for being present this morning and we hope you will be back tonight. Make it a practice. God bless you all. DAN

## **PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES**





JACK BEASLEY is recovering from surgery this last week in Tyler. SYLVIA GURGANUS will have surgery on her eyes soon and has asked for our prayers. Palmer, who, in the 1961 Master's finals was approached by a friend and congratulated on his victory a few shots prior to his finish. Palmer is on record as saying that in that moment he lost his focus and he ended up losing by a point. It happens time and

BRANDON EVANS, nephew of Kathy Chambless is seriously ill with cancer. GEORGIA TURNER mother of Sonja Rose is improving from recent hospital test and treatment.

RANDY FOREMAN has been in the hospital in Athens for tests on his heart. Several remain ill with various

viruses. Continue to pray for them.

### WELCOME VISITORS

A big hearty welcome to those visiting today. Allow us to meet and greet you following the worship service this morning. At the end of the service today you will be given a gift bag from our congregation. "It is a small gift, but it comes from big hearts." Thanks again for coming.

## RESPONSES For Prayer Sylvia Gurganus

### BUNKO

BUNKO will take place on Thursday January 17th. Ladies are invited to bring their favorite snack food and join the fun. This will take place in the small fellowship area.

## **OUR FOCUS FOR 2019**

The story is told of the golfer Arnold Palmer, who, in the 1961 Master's finals was approached by a friend and congratufinish. Palmer is on record as saying that in that moment he lost his focus and he ended up losing by a point. It happens time and again; there is the football player who looks toward the goal line and drops the ball; the who misspeaks and ruins his political career? all for a lack of focus. Out of all of the kings of Israel, David was arguably the greatest; he had his problems, but he always ultimately sought to put his trust in the Lord. Nevertheless, because David was a man of war, his greatest desire, to build the Lord a house, could not be accomplished by him. David, however, purposed to do all that he could toward the construction of the temple prior to his death. He made agreements with nations for materials; he collected materials; he assembled workers. Before his death, David commanded the princes of Israel to help Solomon build the temple (1 Chronicles 22:17). He exhorted them, "Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God; arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the name of the LORD" (1 Chronicles 22:19). Do we see the focus in the words, "Set your heart and soul to seek the Lord your God"? Because they focused upon seeking God, they were able to accomplish the task at hand. DAN