

Good morning and thanks for being here today. Last Sunday night the vouth group helped with Bible Hour and did an excellent job! Thanks to all of you who were there. I really appreciate the effort you all are putting in to attending classes each week and helping around the church. The bulletin boards in the hall look great! REMEM-BER to do your daily devotionals! See you all tonight. BEN

#### "No Pain, No Gain."

This expression basically means that if you are not willing to work hard and suffer a little for your efforts, then you are not going to accomplish very much. Just doing the easy and simple exercises that don't challenge one's body won't lead to lasting results. The same principle is true in life as well. In order for one to be productive in business, for example, one must be willing to make sacrifices of time and money; one must make an effort in order to do well. The more we put into a relationship the better it is going to be. The parent who makes an effort to spend time with his children is going to have a better relationship with his child than the parent that doesn't. Should it cause us to wonder, when we come to the spiritual world, that if we don't make an effort at serving the Lord that we're not going to get anything out of our relationship with God? The same principle is true here as well. "No pain, no gain." Sometimes I think that people expect church to be some kind of spiritual playground where we can just relax and have fun in the glow of God's goodness. Our worship and service requires of us some effort, both mentally and physically. The more effort we put into our worship and service, the greater our relationship with God will become. ADAPTED

#### "IT'S REMOVED"

"Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out" (Acts 3:19).

In an old, one-room, country schoolhouse years ago, John Maynard was doing very poor work. About half way through the school year, though, something the teacher said inspired him. He diligently applied himself to his work. His grades improved. His assignments were neat and attractive. He finished the year with very good marks, and his parents were quite proud. On visitation day at the end of the year, however, John's heart sank as he saw his mother looking at his workbooks from that school year. He knew that the first half of those workbooks were full of messy work and unsightly blots. He watched as his mother leafed through them and was surprised that his mother was quite pleased as she called his father over to examine them. John discovered that his kind teacher had removed all of his work from the first half of the year and only left the work that was neat.

The point in life where we have a change of heart is called "repentance." Sometimes in the Bible this change is simply called "turning" (Acts 3:19). When we make an about-face, God covers up all of our shabby deeds from the past. God says, "....I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like mist" (Isa. 43:25; 44:22).

Writer unknown

DOOR GREETERS -Feb. 8, 2015

J.B. & Joyce Matlock

**COMMUNION PREPARATION** Feb. 8, 2015

Fred & Beth Freeman

# Gospel Worker Crockett Road Church of Christ

1717 Crockett Road; P.O. Box 288 Palestine, Texas 75802 903/723-6291 www.crockettroadchurchofchrist.org

#### **MINISTERS**

Dan D. Manuel **Pulpit Minister** Ben Rhone Youth Minister

#### **ELDERS**

Dan D. Manuel Dale Sparks

#### **DEACONS**

Henry Baker Sam Ellis **Dwight Franklin** Adam Harding Kyle Lock

#### **SECRETARY**

Lorelee Reeder

#### **MISSIONS**

**Brown Trail School of** Preaching, Bedford, TX Jose Cuadras- Mexico School of Preaching Hershel Bearden India Mission Central TX Children's Home—Buda, TX **Tipton Children's Home** Tipton, OK GBN T.V. NETWORK GIVE ME THE BIBLE T.V. Program KETK-56 Tyler, TX. FOX 44- Waco, TX. FOX 33 Shreveport, La. FOX 29, Bryan-College Station, TX. NBC 53- Lufkin, TX.

#### **ASSEMBLY TIMES**

Sun: 9:30 AM Class 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM Evening Wed: 7:00 PM

#### DO YOU "LOVE THE BRETHREN"?

by Larry Ray Hafley

Well, do you? "He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light" (1 Jn. 2:9, 10). "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death" (1 Jn. 3:14).

Some brethren are more loving and lovable than others. We will not feel the same emotional affection or attachment to some that we do toward others. However, we must "love (all) the brethren," for "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar; for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen" (1 Jn. 4:20)?

. How do we know if we "love the brethren"? "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments" (1 Jn. 5:2). Those who "love God, and keep his commandments" do not maintain membership in man made churches, worshiping God according to the traditions and commandments of men (Matt. 15:8, 9, 13). Their devotions are "in vain," the Savior said. Their religious plant, not being planted of God, "shall be rooted up." One does not "love the brethren" when he walks contrary to the commandments of Christ. If the man referred to above truly loved the brethren, he would "love God, and keep his commandments." If he loved the brethren, he would not be endorsing a religious institution unknown to the New Testament. He would not be following human traditions that make void the word of God (Mk. 7:7, 13; 1 Jn. 5:2). Therefore, he has not "passed from death unto life." Have you passed from death to life?

**VOLUME 51** NUMBER 5 Feb. 1, 2015

## GOOD ATTANDANCE FOR MONDAY NIGHT FOR THE MASTER ONE RESPONDS TO THE INVITATION





### From Dan's desk:

Thank all of you who came last Monday evening for "Monday Night For The Master." So many of you give of your time and energy to get a lot of things done. Your work in the Kingdom of God here does not go unnoticed. We have a lot of folk at Crockett Rd. who serve the Lord faithfully and make every effort to be involved in the activities of the Lord's Church here. We appreciate what you do and commend you for it. Only Heaven truthfully knows how much good results from our combined efforts. A lot of things were accomplished last Monday night. Last Sunday morning, DAVID SPARKS responded to the invitation expressing his desire to "let his light shine brighter." He realized the need to do more, and felt that he had not been as enthusiastic as he has been in times past. We commend him. David is a great servant of God. A great example of true Christianity. We all love you, David. The Tipton Children's Home truck came last week and gathered up the items you brought to the building. They were so grateful for everything that was contributed by those in the congregation. One of the areas of our service to God is in the area of benevolence. James 1:27. "Visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and keep oneself unspotted from the world." Thanks to so many of you who have given special contribution to the GIVE ME THE BIBLE program. Another person came up to me last Sunday and said that they wanted to give and additional \$25.00 above their contribution weekly to the program. This is great. God is pleased and honored. See you tonight. DAN

#### PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES





#### TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

KAYE WILLIAMS is having heart surgery in Houston this week.

LINDA ALLEN has come home from the hospital and is in rehab locally.

All others who have been ill or in the hospital continue to undergo treatment. Remember that the pray list in available for you in the foyer. Be sure to pick up a copy and pray for those who have requested our prayers.

#### THANK YOU

A big thank you to those who gave to the Tipton Children's Home Your contributions of love will be deeply appreciate by the home there. You are to be commended

#### RESPONSE FOR PRAYER DAVID SPARKS

"If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will [my] Father honour." John 12:26

#### **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.

#### **WORSHIP WHY?**

Not long ago a Church Research Group published a survey concerning church attendance that was very alarming. Their survey showed that only 40% of American adults attend church services on a typical weekend (www.barna.org). How shocking that 6 out of every 10 people don't attend church services regularly! Of the sixty percent who don't attend church regularly, an estimated twenty percent either don't believe in God or have no desire for religion. But what about the other forty percent who don't attend? These may not attend church services regularly because they have not realized the inherent value of worship. What makes worship so valuable? Our Creator. A knowledge of and a personal relationship with God makes worship essential to the Christian life. It is in worship that we praise and magnify God for who He is and what He has done for us (Jn. 4:24). When worshipping God we realize our purpose in life is to glorify Him in every way (Isa. 43:7). It is this close communion with God that makes us humble ourselves and focus on eternity (James 4:10, Eccl. 12:13-14). DAN

