

Good morning and thanks for being here today! I hope all of you had a great week. This morning, right after church the youth will host a luncheon for the widow and widowers. We will be serving a thanksgiving meal: turkey, ham, sides and desserts. We are looking forward to seeing everyone! Thanks to all of you who came to the devo last Sunday night. See ya later! Ben



ORNAMENT EXCHANGE The annual Ornament Exchange will take place on Sunday, December 7th at the home of Sonda & Henry Baker, immediately after morning worship. Sonda will be serving lunch to all in attendance. Please bring an ornament to exchange and ioin us.

REMEMBER OUR MID-WEEK SERVICE WILL **BE ON TUESDAY** NIGHT THIS WEEK. IT WILL BE A COMBINED **CLASS THANKSGIV-**ING DEVOTIONAL.

"ARE YOU LISTENING?"

Someone has rightly said, "Sermons are not particularly meant to be enjoyed. They are intended to change people's lives." Teaching is the Lord's means of drawing people to Himself (John 6:44, 45). Thus, the sermon is an integral part of the worship assembly. In this regard, preachers have an awesome responsibility. They are told, "Pay close attention to yourself and your teaching" (1 Timothy 4:16a). Most preachers give much prayer, thought, and study to their sermons. Hearers, too, have an awesome responsibility. They are told, "Take care what you listen to" (Mark 4:24). Jesus also told them, "Therefore, take care how you listen" (Luke 8:18). Sadly, many never give much thought or effort to get more out of sermons. They allow various things from fussy children, their own daydreaming, and idle chit-chat, etc., to distract them from listening to God's message. Don't let distractions distract! Hearers need to prepare to hear. One way to prepare is by intending to get more out of sermons. However, this requires concentration, effort, and the right attitude. Another way to get more out of a sermon is by bringing a Bible and taking notes. It is certainly true that the preacher must be prepared to preach the sermon. But, the hearer, too, must be prepared if the sermon is to accomplish its intended purpose.

DOOR GREETERS Nov. 30, 2014

Marty Nash

COMMUNION PREPARATION Nov. 30, 2014

Henry & Sonda Baker



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 & OUTREACH

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 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

"In Everything Give Thanks"

Palestine, Texas 75802

903/723-6291

How grateful are you? We must allow our thanksgiving to be directed to God for the blessings we have because He is the source of all good things. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17). "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things" (Acts 17:24-25). Many of the people who will be thankful on Thanksgiving Day, will fail to be thankful to God. Since "all things" we receive are from God, we should thank Him for all things -- all the physical blessings and privileges we enjoy.

After Jesus had cleansed ten lepers, only one of them thanked Him for it. Jesus asked, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" (Luke 17:17-18). Those who receive blessings from God, must be thankful to Him.

Christians ought to be even more expressive and fervent in their expressions of thanksgiving to God because not only are they blessed with those material blessings that sustain physical life but also receive all spiritual blessings in Christ (Eph. 1:3) which sustain them spiritually and enable them to overcome sin and death in order to live eternally.

DAN

VOLUME 50

NUMBER 43 Nov. 23, 2014

HAPPY THANKSGIVING 2014

From Dan's desk:



THANKSGIVING

In a few days our nation will pause and celebrate Thanksgiving. We as a nation should stop to give thanks. A short time spent listening to the national news or reading the newspaper would indicate times are bad and getting worse. Is this really the case? Do we have any reason to give thanks? Yes, we do. We can be thankful for our nation. America is certainly not perfect, and we all should do our part to improve the nation. But what other country provides the freedom and opportunity that ours does? We can worship God without governmental interference. We are not required to pay taxes to support a nationally recognized religion and it's particular practices. We can be thankful for Jesus. He died for our sins, receiving the punishment we rightly deserve (Isaiah 53:1-12; Titus 2:14; I Peter 2:24). John wrote that Jesus "is the propitiation for our sins" (I John 2:2). To propitiate is to "appease" (an offended person). Before the Jewish council Peter proclaimed, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). Without Jesus there is no hope of salvation from sin. Jesus promised to build His church, and then did it (Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:47). The church is where God places the saved (Acts 2:47). The church serves as: the bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33); the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22,23; Colossians 1:18); the temple of God (I Corinthians 3:10-16). I am thankful for this Crockett Rd. congregation. Thanks to Joe Waugh for preaching last Sunday morning in my absence. It was good to be home last Sunday evening. We will have our midweek service on Tuesday night of this week instead of the usual Wednesday night. Thanksgiving holidays are this week and this gives families an opportunity to be with their extended family members who live away from Palestine. Sometimes this is the only holiday they share together. Thanks to the youth who are hosting the Annual Widows and Widowers luncheon today following the worship service. We have several in the congregation here, and we encourage you to take time to greet them often. We know they get lonely. We hope that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving Day with your family and friends. See you on Tuesday night. DAN

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES





<u>SHERRI CHAMBLESS</u> had surgery on her left leg at Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas on Monday.

<u>GINGER SWEETMAN</u>, former member here, has requested our prayers, as she has cancer.

<u>ALEX FLORES</u>, great-grandson of Gerri Hahn, had his neck broken in a football games last Friday. He is recovering at home, but in a brace.

HOLIDAY FELLOWSHIP

Our Holiday Fellowship will take place this year on Tuesday, Dec. 2nd, at 6:30 PM in the activity building. A list has been posted on the office glass of the menu. Please look at this menu and choose 1 entrée and then sign the list next to the menu with your choice. This is very important for the caterer. The cost is \$8.50 for adults, \$5.00 for children under 10, children under 5 are free. We would love to have 100% participation. Please make plans to join us.

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.

"NEED MORE GREECE?"

Complaining often falls into that category of sins that are excused because "that's just soand so." However, God does not provide for such exceptions. Apparently, many people do not understand the extent of damage caused by the wagging tongues of negative naysayers. The apostle Paul told the Philippians, "Do all things without murmurings and disputings; That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world" (Phil. 2:14-15). According to Paul, if a person was a complainer, he was not blameless, harmless, or without rebuke, nor could he shine as a light to the world. Complaining is very different from offering a scriptural objection. Complaining means that people have an objection to somethingsometimes anything—but that they object for personal reasons rather than Biblical reasons. If they had Biblical reasons, they would cite scripture and explain their reasons for interpreting scripture differently. Instead, they want to get their way, and they will talk, gossip, nag, argue, and politic until they get their way. While people, including those in the church, often give in to complainers just to "keep the peace," God never does. Sometimes the squeaky wheel does not need grease at all. Sometimes there is a bunch of gunk getting in the way and keeping the wheel from operating properly. When this is the case, you do not add grease, you get rid of the gunk. Complaining is sinful and will cost you your soul. Therefore, "Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer" (1 Cor. 10:10).