

I hope you all had a good Christmas and a Happy New year. The holidays are over and school has started back. I know that you all enjoyed your time off from school. Thanks to those who were in Bible Class last Sunday, there were several who were gone last Sunday. I want to encourage all youth in this congregation to join us in class anytime you can. Tonight after the worship service, make plans to stick around. We are having a DEVO here.

If you want to invite your friends, you all are welcome to do so **BEN**

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

When in sorrow... call John 14

When you are lonely or fearful..call Psalms

When you want to be fruitful... call John 15

When you want rest and peace... call Matthew 2:25-30

When you have sinned... call Psalms 51

When you grow bitter and critical... call 1 Corinthians 13

When you worry... call Matthew 6:19-34

When you feel down and out... call Romans 8:31-39

When your prayers grow selfish... call Psalms 67

When you are in danger... call Psalms 91

READ YOUR POLICY

People often accuse insurance companies of not honoring their polices. Having spent a few years in that business I know the charge is seldom true. State and federal regulations force insurance companies to honor their policies. Insurers do exactly what they say in their policies; the problem is that most people have never read their copy. What keeps people from reading their policy?

Sometimes people trust their agent so they figure there is no reason to question his word. This is sad for there are a few "bad apples" in every business.

Sometimes people claim the policies are too difficult to understand. I believe most people who say this have never attempted to read their policy anyway.

I have also noticed that many people look at religion the same way they would a life insurance policy. They put blind trust in a smooth talking salesman (some preacher) and hope that he knows what he is doing. They never read their policy (the Bible) for they imagine that they couldn't understand it anyway. It is much easier to trust a priest or preacher than to read and study for themselves.

The Bible can be understood. It is given to us in this life and will be opened before us at the judgement (Rev. 20:12). What you know about God's word, and what you do about it, will determine what He says to you in the final day.

Let us imitate the noble Bereans who "searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11). **ADAPTED**

DOOR GREETERS –

Sunday January 15 Jerry & Marlene Thompson

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Sunday January 15 Billy & Amanda Lane

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MINISTERS THE BACKSLIDER'S CALENDAR

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

ELDERS

Dwight Franklin Dan D. Manuel Dale Sparks

DEACONS

Henry Baker Johnny Jenkins Kvle Lock R.D. Prince

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-NBC 56 Tyler, TX. FOX 44 KWKT-Waco, TX FOX 33 KMSS Shreveport, LA. NBC 28 KYLE, Bryan-College Station, TX. NBC 53-KLSB Lufkin, TX. FOX 29 KSVP Lake

Charles, LA. ABC10- KTEN Sherman-Denison, TX

ASSEMBLY TIMES

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

The backslider's calendar is a result of the many excuses some members give for not attending the worship services of the church.

January — I hereby resolve to start attending worship regularly. Gotta get over the holidays first though.

February — Weather is terrible. I'll start when it gets a bit warmer. My blood is too thin this time of year.

March — Lots of sickness just now. Got to stay in and keep away from

April — Big crowds — Easter. They won't miss me.

May — I've been holed up all winter, and now that the weather is getting better, it's time for us to have reunions.

June — I'll wait until the baby is older. How on earth do some folks take their babies out when they are just a few weeks old and never miss a service!

July — Boy! The heat is terrific! That air conditioning in the church building gives me a chill. Anyway, we've got the cabin and the boat for Sundays.

August — Preacher is on vacation. He'll never know that I've missed. I never like those guest preachers anyway. When the preacher gets back

September — School has started. Vacation threw me behind in my work. Got to make one last visit to relatives before the snow flies.

October — Leaves are beautiful this time of year. I can worship God outdoors anyway. Kids will be cooped up all winter.

November — Getting colder. Can't stand the warm church building with so many people. I'll start back after Thanksgiving.

December — Christmas! I don't have time for church now. Roads are dangerous. Anyway, next month is January, and I'll resolve to start back with the New Year.

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New Year Off To A Great Start



From Dan's desk:



The New Year has begun. Thanks to all of you who were present last Sunday. Many were still out of town for the holidays. We had a large number of visitors with us. Some of those were from within the city. We hope and trust that they will return. This morning we will make available to the church here a copy of the budget as well as a list of events we have planned for the church during the year 2017. All of the Deacons, and Elders will be participating in the worship service today. We appreciate your support of our efforts to lead the congregation in the direction of Heaven. The New ledger church phone directory is also available in the foyer. We invite you to pick up a copy following the worship this morning. The ladies will be set up at a table ready to distribute them to the congregation. We have a number of new people we have published their addresses and phone numbers. Please be sure to acquaint vourselves with our newer members. It is great to have them with us. They along with all of you, help us build a "Strong Church". God is blessing this wonderful congregation. Last year we had some 58 responses to the invitation. Some 17 were baptized into Christ and others responded for prayer and a deeper commitment to Christ, while others placed membership with us at Crockett Rd. I hope that each of us will work hard to make this the best year ever in the history of this congregation. The future is bright and we know that God will bless us if we bless Him. "Let's Be Keen" (spiritually sharp) in 2017. Thanks for being here this morning. See you tonight.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES





TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

MARTY NASH has been in Mother Frances Hospital this last week with heart issues.

BOBBY KING mother of Shelia McCullough has been ill.

CATHY HARDISON sister-in-law of Janette Alford has cancer and they have asked for our prayers

Others are improving.

RULES FOR A HAPPY LIFE

- 1. **Make up your mind to be happy.** Most people are about as happy as they decide to be. Find pleasure in the simple things of life.
- Make the best of your circumstances. Everyone has some sorrow; seek to make smiles out of numbered tears...
- 3. Accept that you can't please everyone. Don't let critics ruin your life...
- 4. **Don't borrow trouble.** Imaginary problems are heavier than actual ones...
- 5. **Refuse to let your life be ruined by hate.** Hate poisons the soul. Don't nurse grudges...

Keep busy. A busy person doesn't have time to be unhappy... ADAPTED

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.

WHY?

Some people always ask "WHY?" when it comes to using seatbelts while driving. Why is it that people who know the dangers of not wearing seatbelts or not having their children wear them, do not "buckle up?"

Again, the harmful effects are well documented and easily seen. Why is it that people do not wear them?

I believe the reasons are the same as those cited for smoking cigarettes: "It won't happen to me." "Nobody's going to tell me what to do." "I just don't like wearing a belt. It is uncomfortable so I am not going to wear one. I'll do what I like." Some people say death will not happen to them. Heb. 9:27. I will wait to take Christ seriously and become a Christian when I feel like it. It is unwise to reject God's counsel and fail to follow the instruction of God. Too many people jeopardize their hope of heaven simply because they cannot find an answer to their question "WHY?". WHY?

SYMPATHY

Our hearts were saddened by the recent death of ROBERT TAYLOR. His memorial service was held last week. Our prayers are for RITA and the family at this time. We will miss him here.

Our hearts were also grieving over the passing and sudden death of ROBIN DONALDSON, daughter-inlaw of Bob and Mary Stech. Her memorial service was held in Waco last week. Our prayers are with this family.