

Teen News

We will have our New Years Lock-in on December 29th right after evening classes. We encourage you to bring a friend for that night. We will be finished around 8:00 AM on Thursday. Please make plans to have a ride there. We are asking that everyone bring their favorite finger food.

Every Little Bit Counts

In a gun factory, a great bar of steel weighing five hundred pounds and eight feet in length was suspended vertically by a very delicate chain. Nearby, a common bottle cork was suspended by a silk thread. The purpose was to show that the cork would get the steel bar in motion. It seemed impossible. The cork was swinging gently against the steel bar, and the steel bar remained motionless. But it was done again and again, for ten minutes, and lo, at the end of that time, the bar gave evidence of feeling uncomfortable; a sort of nervous chill ran over it. Ten minutes later, the chill was followed by a vibration. At the end of half an hour, the great bar was swinging like the pendulum of a clock. And yet there are people who dare assert that they have no influence in the world. The regular and consistent Christian living on the part of a husband or wife will make the difference between heaven and hell with their mates. Never underestimate the power of influence.

“THRILLS”

In perhaps the greatest blues song of all time, B.B. King famously sang, “The Thrill is Gone.” And not to speak ill of a legend, but I greatly fear that kind of attitude is what makes unsatisfying marriages for many. Dating is thrilling. Courtship is thrilling. Engagements are thrilling, in an “are-we-going-to-survive-this-without-killing-someone” sort of way. And the honeymoon period is the most thrilling of all.

But marriage isn’t thrilling. Marriage is just life. And parts of life have their thrills, but the thrills wear off and we go back to the day-to-day. I hope that doesn’t make me sound like I’m soured on marriage, because I’m not. I love marriage. It’s God’s plan for mankind and always has been (Genesis 2:18). I love being married. Every day is a joy. Every day is a blessing.

But every day isn’t a thrill. And I like it that way. Frankly, I think thrills are overrated by a long shot. I love roller coasters as much as the next guy, but after four or five go-rounds, I’m ready for a break. Thrills are like vacations; we get away from the routine, charge our batteries a bit, and then get right back in there.

Too many young married people think they can maintain the energy of courtship throughout a marriage, and they get frustrated and quit when they find they can’t. But not only can they not do it, they shouldn’t even try.

Marrying someone because they get you all hot and flustered is a big, big mistake. You don’t pick a place to live based primarily on how close it is to Disneyland. You live, and marry—where you want to build a life.

DOOR GREETERS— December 26, 2010

Lois King & Sue Grubbs

COMMUNION PREPARATION

December 26, 2010
Jimmy Alford

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
Joshua Shellenbarger
Youth Minister
Bernie Baur
Associate 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
Ken Upchurch
Tanzania Africa Work
Central TX Children's Home
Buda, TX
Tipton Children's Home
Tipton, OK
Gospel Broadcast Network

ASSEMBLY TIMES

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS



From The Church Staff



OUR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

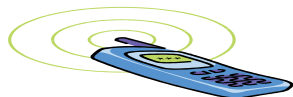
FROM DAN'S DESK..



Christmas comes next Saturday. Families will be gathering to enjoy the company, gifts and fellowship the season provides for us. One of our special gifts this year has been the finalization of the adoption of Susan. Audrey and I, along with Billy, Amanda and Luke went to Abilene this week for the final adoption of Susan. We are all so excited and happy for Billy, Amanda and Luke. God knew where to send this little girl. We will love her as our own and help provide loving care and spiritual instruction for her. We feel so blessed by God to have her in our family. We appreciate all the love and encouragement given by the congregation here. We sincerely hope that each of you will have a blessed season with your family and friends and that many memories will be made that will last you for a lifetime.

Our church here has been blessed through the year **2010** and the year **2011** promises many wonderful opportunities for our congregation. We pray that each of you will be safe as you travel over the next couple of weeks. If you are in town, we will look forward to having you with us in services. May God bless each of us as we continue to work together in the service of our Lord. See you tonight.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES
OR PUT THEM ON VIBRATE.



THOSE WHO ARE ILL

**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE
IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS:**

CLINT ELLIS had a biopsy on his kidney last Thursday in Tyler.

MARY ANN CHAPMAN has been in the hospital this last week but is back at Cartmell Home.

PATRICIA BARRETT is in the VA Hospital in Temple undergoing tests on her heart.

DENNIS ELLISON has been undergoing tests locally here this week.

Many in our congregation are ill with upper respiratory infections.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Maggie Larsen, Ida Lee Parkman, Toby Williams, Beverly Norwood, Marshall Strauss, Mary Brown, Hunter Sheridan, Danny Sumrall.

Tonight immediately after services there will be a Holiday Fellowship at the home of David & Jennifer Sparks. Everyone is invited. Please bring your favorite finger food and join us.



Former member here Mary Woods has moved to Nacogdoches. Here is her new address:
219 Harborview Dr.
East Lake Estates
Nacogdoches, TX 75964
936-559-5260

Only Human? Frank Bush

A year or so ago, I had a student in my office. He was there because his behavior was much less than what I expected in a Bible college student. After discussing the matter, he crowned his long recitation with the excuse, "After all, I'm only human." When he said that, I jumped to my feet, raised my voice about 16 decibels and fairly shouted, "Only human! Do you realize what you have said?" He moved back into his chair and his eyes were wide in surprise. I didn't wait for an answer.

"Only human! You mean in the image of God, made a little lower than the angels and in Christ, given the power to become greater than the angels, only human! You have been given dominion over the earth and every living creature on the face of the earth. The greatest of all God's creatures. The only creature able to think the thoughts of God. The object of His love and the one for whose salvation He sent Jesus to Calvary. What do you mean, 'only human'?"

Silence reigned heavily in the room. For a long moment he stared at me in bewilderment and I attempted to look through his eyes into his soul. I was hoping that my words had driven home an important truth. Soon he began to move uneasily in his chair and said, "I guess I have been less than what He wants me to be. I'm sorry, I will do better." I nodded my head and he walked out.

To use being human as an excuse for our thoughtless and stupid behavior is an insult to the God who made us.