

Teen News

Thanks to the young people who participated in the pre-convention events for L.T.C. this year. You did a great job. The bulletin boards look great. The young people will be recognized as a later date. Thanks to those who went to the concert over the weekend also. We hope you had a good time. It is always great to be together.

BLAKE

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

A hat was passed around a church congregation to take up an offering for the visiting minister.

Presently, it was returned to him...embarrassingly empty.

Slowly, the preacher inverted the hat and shook it meaningfully. Then, raising his eyes heavenward, he exclaimed, "I thank you, Lord, that I got my hat back from this congregation."

God & Economics

I don't know the number of times I have been asked questions pertaining to money. Some want to know why some people seem to have enough money and they struggle to pay their bills. Money is the number one cause of divorce. Therefore it impacts our homes and the Lord's church. If we are worried about our finances we are being harmed and our attention is being taken away from other things. I don't claim to be a financial expert but I do know the following: Just as there are physical and spiritual laws in the Bible there are also laws of economics. As long as we respect the laws of physics we can survive and do well. If we obey God's spiritual laws we can go to heaven. If we recognize and obey the laws of economics we can pay our bills. Those economics laws do not change over time. The problem we are having as a nation is because many of the financial laws have been violated and now we are paying the price. Old sayings I heard as a child such as, "Sooner or later you have to pay the piper" or, "If you can't pay for it, don't buy it" or, "A fool and his money are soon separated" and, "If it sounds too good to be true it probably is"; are as true today as they were 50 years ago. But some have bought into the idea that they can have whatever they want and not have to pay for it. We live in a materialistic society. May God help us to focus more on the Spiritual life we have in Christ. **We may be the richest indebt society ever to exist.**

DOOR GREETERS –April 14, 2013

J.B. & Joyce Matlock

**COMMUNION PREPARATION
April 14, 2013**

Sam Ellis

Gospel Worker

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MINISTERS

Dan D. Manuel
Pulpit Minister
Blake Baker
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

TUNNEL VISION

In one sense tunnel vision can be good. There are times we need to block out things and remember what is really important. I think that is what Paul means in Philippians 3. "12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. 13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." Paul was not going to get distracted and take his eye off of heaven. We have to remember that we are here for one purpose and that is to serve God. Problems arise when we get our priorities and life out of kilter with going to heaven. Seeking first the kingdom of God requires us to keep our eyes on the upward prize and not on the things of this earth.

In another sense tunnel vision can be bad if we focus on just one aspect of serving God and leave out other parts. The Jews had a real bad case of tunnel vision. Just read Matthew 24 and you will see all kinds of tunnels. They stressed parts of the law but left out other parts of the law. Let us keep in mind that we can not pick and choose which part of the Bible we will keep. We have to do all that God says. Adapted by DAN

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**Guest speaker RON BROWN
Missionary from China to
speak this morning.**



From Dan's desk:

I am gone for a few days to Louisiana. I will be conducting a Gospel meeting in Leesville, La. with the Jackson Chapel Church of Christ. My thanks to Ron Brown for teaching the Bible class this morning and for speaking during the worship hour also. Ron is a very dedicated servant of God and has been working with the Lord's church in China for several years. We are grateful for the inroads that have been made regarding the preaching of the Gospel of Christ in China and the efforts being put forth by all of our missionaries who are serving in foreign fields. I know you are glad to have a copy of the new church directories. The directories are available to those families who had their picture made. The company furnished a directory to everyone who had their picture made for the directory. We had to pay to have additional directories made for those who did not. The cost is \$10.00 per directory if you would like to have a copy. This was a cost to the church and we are simply passing it on to those who wish to have their own copy. The directory will serve us well for some time now. We generally have to have a new directory printed every 3 to 4 years. Since we started trying to get the directory together, we have had several move away and others who have been baptized and others place membership with us so (some pictures were inadvertently left out) it is not up to date. We will print a sheet soon with updates and pictures to place in your directory so you will have information (addresses and phone number) of our newer members. Continue to pray for those who are ill and those who are hurting in any way. Keep us in your prayers while we are away.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES



**TO KEEP
IN OUR PRAYERS**

SANDRA IVES is seriously ill at her home.

MAGGIE LARSEN remains seriously ill with hospice

MATTHEW RAY is a patient in Herman Hospital in Houston

Others who have been ill continue to improve for which we are thankful.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE WITH
CONTINUING ILLNESSES:**

Linda Allen, Lorlee Reeder Dennis Ellison, Ed Furman, Gary Oliver,

Why do Brides Wear White?

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"

The mother replied, 'Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life.'

The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

DIRECTORY PICTURES

For some reason some pictures were not placed in the new directory of those who had your picture made. Please let the office know. We are going to print a supplement picture page and want to include all of those who had their picture made and were not in the directory. You still get a copy of the directory. Be sure and get your today. Thanks, THE ELDERS

Had You Been Zacchaeus

A familiar Bible character to many is Zacchaeus, the short man who climbed a sycamore to see Jesus. Noting Luke's account (Luke 19), please consider the following. Had you been Zacchaeus...

1. ...would you have sought Jesus out? (vs. 3) He didn't have to see Jesus, but he chose to. He had a real interest in the Son of God. How interested are you in the King of Kings and Lord of Lords?

2. ...would you have put forth the extra effort? (vs. 4) Zacchaeus was so determined to observe Jesus that he ran and climbed. Many today are lazy in regard to spiritual things. "Less is best" is the attitude of the mere pew warmers. Are you willing to exert effort in doing the will of God and advancing the cause of Christ?

3. ...would you have immediately obeyed the Lord? (vs. 6) When Jesus said "jump", Zacchaeus said "how high?" Not literally. But he did hurry down the tree at the command of Jesus to "make haste and come down." How obedient are you to the Lord's commands?

4. ...would salvation have come to your house? (vs. 7-10) Salvation came to the house of Zacchaeus as one with a penitent heart. He assured the Lord that he had repented, was a changed man, and ready to be godly. Would you do that? What if you had been Zacchaeus?