

SUNDAY MAY 1, 2016

the

# Reminder

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, Texas

## “Being Honest With God”

Do you want to have an amazing relationship with God? Would you like to pray as the psalmists did? Would you like to connect on a gut level with the Almighty through your prayers? Though we can learn numerous things from the psalmists, perhaps the greatest lesson is to be honest with God. I don't just mean tell the truth. I don't just mean if you did it, confess it. I mean be rigorously honest about our emotions. Tell God how you really feel.

The most repeated genre of the psalms is the lament or the complaint. These psalms contain statements such as:

“Why, O LORD, do you stand far away? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?”—

**Psalm 10:1.**

“How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?”—

**Psalm 13:1-2.**

“My God, My God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.”—

**Psalm 22:1-2.**

Many of us have felt these same feelings, but we would think we were blaspheming if we said them. The psalmists did not fear this. They were honest about how they felt and they took it to God.

Perhaps we fear angering God. That is how we deal with each other sometimes. We are so afraid someone will get upset if we tell them how we really feel we just keep it on the inside. God is not like us. We can trust Him with our feelings. We don't have to manage His feelings. Just read the psalms and discover God wants us to bring this to Him. He doesn't want us bottling it up inside where it will poison our faith. He wants us expressing it and getting it out so we can get back to relying on our faith in Him, just as the psalmists repeatedly did.

Of course, anger is not the only emotion in the psalms. There is fear, despair, joy, happiness, loneliness, shame, guilt, hope, etc. Many scholars search in vain for some kind of order to the psalms. They are surprised the laments are lumped together and the praises aren't together in a pile. I think the reason is because the psalms mirror life. Today, I may be overjoyed, while tomorrow something may anger me or depress me. The psalms are a mix of all these. But their number one lesson is don't hide what you are really feeling from God. Think of it this way, in reality, He already knows. You can't really hide it from Him. You might as well share it with Him. Be honest with God.

*Edwin L. Crozier*

## About Us

### Bellaire

church of Christ  
8001 South Rice Ave  
P.O. Box 1029  
Bellaire, Texas 77402

[bellairechurchofchrist.org](http://bellairechurchofchrist.org)

### Who Are We?

A group of God's children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament.

### Schedule of Services

**Sunday:**  
9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Bible Study

**Wednesday:**  
7:30 PM Bible Study



**MORNING LESSON**  
**Daniel Broadwell**

**SERVICE**

Welcome – H. Banks  
 Hymn Director - G. Williams  
 Opening Prayer – B. Haley  
 Morning Lesson – D. Broadwell  
 Lord’s Supper Lesson- D. Broadwell  
 Announcements – M. Mann  
 Closing Prayer - J. Carithers

**EVANGELIST**

Jack Smith  
 Steve Garrett

**ELDERS**

Brian Haley  
 Mark Mann  
 Matt Miles  
 Mike Pharris  
 Jack Smith

**DEACONS**

Scott Clanton  
 David Davila  
 Dan Kimbrough  
 Jesse Knapp  
 Alex Morolez  
 Gregory Williams

**BIBLE CLASSES**

Messianic Prophecies – Robert McDonald

**Auditorium**

I and II Samuel – Jack Smith  
**Room 102**  
 Graded classes for children

**Directory Updates**

email: clanton4@gmail.com

**“Missed Opportunities”**

The other day I ran across the story of a man who had a great opportunity that he missed. His friend took him for a ride one day way out in the country. They drove off the main road and drove through groves of trees to a large uninhabited expanse of land. A few horses were grazing and a couple of old shacks remained. The friend, Walter, stopped the car, got out, and started to describe with great vividness the wonderful things he was going to build. He wanted his friend Arthur to buy some of the land surrounding his project to get in on the ground floor.

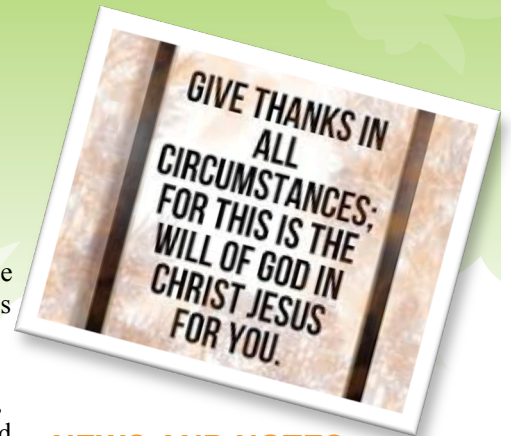
But Arthur thought to himself, *Who in the world is going to drive twenty-five miles for this crazy project? The logistics of the venture are staggering.*

And so Walter explained to his friend Arthur, “I can handle the main project myself. But it will take all my money. But the land bordering it, where we’re standing now, will in just a couple of years be jammed with hotels and restaurants and convention halls to accommodate the people who will come to spend their entire vacation here at my park.” He continued, “I want you to have the first chance at this surrounding acreage, because in the next five years it will increase in value several hundred times.”

“What could I say? I knew he was wrong,” Arthur tells the story today. “I knew that he had let this dream get the best of his common sense, so I mumbled something about a tight-money situation and promised that I would look into the whole thing a little later on.”

“Later on will be too late,” Walter cautioned Arthur as they walked back to the car. “You’d better move on it right now.”

And so Art Linkletter turned down the opportunity to buy up all the land that surrounded what was to become Disneyland. His friend Walt Disney tried to talk him into it. But Art thought he was crazy.



**NEWS AND NOTES**

Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues. Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn and Don Hurd.

Jack and Anita Smith are out town. Jack should be back Monday evening. Anita will be staying in Alabama for a few more days before returning. Anita Washington is out of town in the Dominican Republic. Pray for their safe return.

Jack's Aunt Ethel continues in Hospice.

Daniel Broadwell is our guest speaker today. Brian Orf will be speaking next week. Brian worked with the Kleinwood congregation and is now in Portland Oregon.

The Smith’s going away party is scheduled for May 14 at 5:00 at the home of Barbara McDonald. It is a Tex-Mex potluck. There is a sign up sheet in the back for food.