

SUNDAY OCTOBER 23, 2016

the

# Reminder

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

## What is the Point of Life in Christ?

“Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead” (Philippians 3:8-11).

**THE POINT OF LIFE IN CHRIST IS THAT WE MAY “KNOW HIM AND THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION.”** The value of knowing Christ so far excels the value of anything in this world that we are willing to suffer the loss of all else, if need be, in order to “gain Christ and be found in Him.” Life in Christ is not primarily about relief right now from the trauma of living in a broken world. Indeed, to be in fellowship with Christ means to know “the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death” in order that we may “attain to the resurrection from the dead.”

To the ears of the Christian these truths should sound self-evident. Unfortunately, the concept of Christianity that has come to be dominant in our day is one that runs in a different direction. According to this concept, emotional pain relief is the basic, overall concern of life in Christ. Offering health, wealth, and complete emotional bliss, it promises to take away the deep ache of our needy, broken souls and to do so in the here and now. The new gospel is fundamentally about “feeling better.” It is about us.

But the historic gospel is not first and foremost about feeling better; it is about glorifying God through Christ and coming to be like Him. Christ did not die for the mere betterment of our feelings, and seeking God through Him is not mostly about pain relief. It is about character transformation. And even more than character transformation, it is about the glorification of God. Far from eliminating the possibility of pain, the glorification of God may require the suffering of pain, even to the point of death. Our expectation should be no less than that of Paul, whose only hope was that “with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain” (Philippians 1:20,21).

“Modern Christianity, in dramatic reversal of its biblical form, promises to relieve the pain of living in a fallen world” (Larry Crabb).

-Gary Henry

### Bellaire

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8001 South Rice Ave  
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### 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

**“As a deer pants for  
flowing streams, so  
pants my soul for you,  
O God.”**

**Psalm 42:1**

## SERVICE

Welcome – H. Banks  
Hymn Director – G. Williams  
Opening Prayer– A. Moralez  
Morning Lesson – S. Garrett  
Announcements – M. Pharris  
Closing Prayer – S. Camp

## EVANGELISTS

Daniel Broadwell  
Steve Garrett

## ELDERS

Brian Haley  
Mark Mann  
Mike Pharris

## DEACONS

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

## BIBLE CLASSES

How to Study the Bible

- Jesse Knapp
- Kings
- Michael Krueger
  - Justin Seale
- Graded classes for children

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

Email: [danieljady@gmail.com](mailto:danieljady@gmail.com)

## PSALM 15

O LORD, who shall sojourn  
in your tent?

Who shall dwell on  
your holy hill?

He who walks blamelessly  
and does what is right  
and speaks truth in  
his heart;

He who does not slander  
with his tongue  
and does no evil to  
his neighbor,  
nor takes up a  
reproach against his friend;

In whose eyes a vile person  
is despised,  
but who honors those  
who fear the LORD;

He who swears to his own  
hurt and does not change;

He who does not put out  
his money at interest  
and does not take a  
bribe against the innocent.

He who does these things  
shall never be moved.

## NEWS AND NOTES

Continue praying for those of our number who have ongoing health issues. **Bob Stark, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn, Don Hurd, Fran Spencer, and Johnny Martinez.**

**E.L. Nickerson's** son, **Stephon Landry**, passed away last week. Please continue pray for E.L. and the family. Thanks for all who shown him so much support in this difficult time.

**Anna Miel** is struggling with pneumonia and some shoulder problems. Please pray for her.

**Patricia Butler** continues to go through her cancer treatments, so please continue to pray for her.

**Terri Sams**, who is visiting from Birmingham, Alabama, continues to battle her cancer. Pray for her and her husband **Lenny**.