

The Reminder

Bellaire Church of Christ, 15 January 2017

Announcements:

- **Pat Butler** was admitted to the hospital this week but is now home resting. The most recent round of Chemo has been hard. She will have a PET scan on January 23rd to determine what the plan will be moving forward. Pray for strength and healing.
- **Sharon Alexander** is gone to Dallas to be with her daughter who has been recently diagnosed with breast cancer. Sharon does not yet know when she will be returning. Pray for Sharon and her daughter's healing.
- **Terry Kornfeld's dad** had surgery this past week and will have a long road of rehab ahead of him.
- Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues. **Bob Stark, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn, Don Hurd, Fran Spencer, and Johnny Martinez.**
- **Sermon Title Today: Brotherly Love**
- **Mark Your Calendar: Spring Bible Weekend March 24th-26th!** Invite your friends and make plans to attend!

Who Are We?

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

Elders

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Mike Pharris

Deacons

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

Evangelists

Daniel Broadwell
Steve Garrett

Bellaire

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Directory Updates

Email:
danieljady@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Bible Study

SERVICE

Welcome - H. Banks
Song Leader - L. Williams
Opening Prayer - T. Walker
Lesson - D. Broadwell
Communion Talk -
Announcements - M. Pharris
Closing Prayer - R. Black

BIBLE CLASSES

Wisdom Literature

- Daniel Broadwell

Sermon on the Mount

- Harrison Banks
- Robert McDonald

Graded classes for children

Capacity for Joy

By: Gary Henry

"One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple." Psalm 27:4

OUR HEARTS ARE DIVINELY CREATED RECEPTACLES, PURPOSEFULLY MADE TO RECEIVE THE JOY WITH WHICH GOD WISHES TO FILL THEM.

It is true, as Bernard of Clairvaux said, that "beauty is the soul's birthright." Even though we've damaged our taste for divine things by neglect and abuse, we still find ourselves being "surprised by joy," as C. S. Lewis put it. When we experience these moments of authentic joy, we're reminded of the good purpose for which we were created. And we're also reminded how foolishly we've strayed from the God who gave us such hearts as we have. God has not left Himself "without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness" (Acts 14:17).

Concerning this temporal world and our capacity to enjoy its good things, Solomon said that it is proper for us to "rejoice." He said that "every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor; it is the gift of God" (Ecclesiastes 3:12,13). But more important than the enjoyment itself, Solomon also observed that God has made "everything beautiful in its time" and has put "eternity" in our hearts (Ecclesiastes 3:11). The limited joy that so intrigues us now is a delightful hint of what lies ahead for those who diligently seek God. Having been given the ability to foretaste eternity, we are now being drawn toward Him.

Have there not been times when we've tasted a depth of joy that amazed us, times when we learned that more joy is available to us than we thought possible? These joyous epiphanies ought to intrigue us and instruct us. They ought to suggest the vastness of what can be ours in God and whet our appetites for spiritual things. "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). We were made for so much more than we have yet received. Why do we so often deny and resist the God who gave us our capacity for joy?

"Our Creator would never have made such lovely days, and have given us the deep hearts to enjoy them, unless we were meant to be immortal" (Nathaniel Hawthorne).