

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 20 MAY 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Terry Walker** fell on Thursday night and broke his upper left leg. He had successful surgery on Friday to repair the bone, and will be in the hospital recovering for the next week. He is in Memorial Hermann: Greater Heights (610 & Ella), Room 417, and is happy to have visitors.
- **Denise Flinn** had surgery this week on her rotator cuff, and the surgery went well. Please pray for her speedy recovery!
- **Laura Claburn** was in a car accident a couple weeks ago and was banged up pretty bad. She hopes to be here today; let's check on her and pray for continued relief.
- **Muffy Garrett** is in Kentucky with her mother, Beverley Berthold, who has completed four rounds of chemotherapy. Pray for Beverley's healing and Muffy's safe travel.
- Others out of town: **Mike and Linda Pharris** (Dallas), **Jeremy and Kristie Tom** (Florida), **Beth Broadwell** (Nashville).
- The **Starks** and the **Haleys** continue to rebuild their houses from Harvey, and deal with other health concerns. Don't forget others that had damage are still working in their homes: **Guzman, Benthall, Banks, Hurd, Washington.**
- Remember our one expectant mother, **Josie Haley.**
- Keep praying for those with on-going health concerns: **Pat Butler, Laura Claburn, Jan and Richard Cooper, Mike Flinn, Janice Kimbrough, Johnny Martinez, Anna Miekle.**
- **Sermon: Fruit of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace**

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 Haley
Mitchell Howell
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
John Moon
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

EVANGELISTS

Daniel Broadwell
Steve Garrett

CONTACT US

8001 S. Rice Ave
P.O. Box 1029
Bellaire, TX 77402
bellairechurchofchrist.org

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Email:
danieljady@gmail.com

SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Bible Study

SERVICE

Welcome - I. Davies
Song Leader - L. Williams
Opening Prayer - D. Boyls
Communion Talk - F. Sparks
Lesson - S. Garrett
Announcements - B. Haley
Closing Prayer - J. Martin
Wed. Songs - M. Mann
Wed. Invitation - J. Moon
Wed. Prayer - M. Gomez

BIBLE CLASSES

Isaiah

- Daniel Broadwell
- Auditorium

Middle - High School

- Steve Garrett
- Upstairs

Classes for All Ages

- Back Classrooms

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 20 MAY 2018

Burn the Boats! **by: Brian Messerli**

In 1519, Spanish conquistador Hernan Cortes and his band of soldiers faced a near impossible task; plunder the Mayans. For 600 years, no one could defeat them. Armies with more resources than Cortes tried and failed. When Cortes' men sailed ashore, he stayed with them on the beach for days, firing them up with motivational speeches. He helped them envision how great life would be once they plundered this treasure, he led them in songs to build their confidence, he encouraged them to be wild men of adventure. It was inspiring, but Cortes knew they need more than inspiration to win this fight. He turned to his men and said, "Burn the boats." Wait — what? Some of the men probably thought he was joking, but he was dead serious. Cortes knew, even after days of inspiration, motivation, and encouragement on this beach, what the men needed most was commitment. They burned their own boats to give themselves zero chance of retreat. Win or die. The only way home was on the ships of their enemies.

In Romans 13:14, the apostle Paul writes, "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts." Sometimes we make provisions for our flesh by keeping sinful boats around as an escape just in case. Just in case the fight against pornography gets too difficult, I'll keep an unfiltered laptop in my house. Just in case marriage gets too hard, I'll keep a prenup on file and divorce attorney on call. Just in case life gets too overwhelming, I'll keep some beers in the fridge. Just in case sexual temptation gets too strong, I'll keep a "friend with benefits" on speed dial. Just in case life gets too boring, I'll keep my gossip group on standby. Burn the boats! Commit! When we keep these sinful boats around, we make sin an option.

Jesus said, "If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into Hell." (Matt. 5:29). What boats need burning in your life? What provisions have you made to fulfill your sinful desires when temptation hits? It may be an object we need to get rid of, it may be a relationship, it may be a routine or tradition, it may be a place. Whatever it is, don't let it be a crutch anymore. I know it's scary, but we have Christ and we don't need it anymore! Jesus said, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62). When we burn our boats, there's nothing to look back at, and that's a blessing. It means we're all in now! Win or die! Heaven or hell! There's no going back! There's no in-between! (cf. Matt. 6:24).