

# The Reminder

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



**SUNDAY**  
**DECEMBER 14, 2014**

**BELLAIRE**  
church of Christ  
8001 South Rice Ave  
P.O. Box 1029  
Bellaire, Texas 77402  
[www.bellairechurchofchrist.org](http://www.bellairechurchofchrist.org)

## Schedule of Services

**SUNDAY:**  
9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Bible Study  
5:00 PM Worship

**WEDNESDAY:**  
7:30 PM Study and Devotional

## “What Does God Want Us To Learn”

“Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up? Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you took up?” (Matthew 16:9-10). IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT WE DRAW THE RIGHT CONCLUSION FROM THE MIGHTY SIGNS AND WONDERS THAT ARE RECORDED IN THE SCRIPTURES. But like the disciples of Jesus during His ministry, we often fail to get the point. We may be impressed with what the miracles say about God’s existence, and we may even understand that they are evidence of His power and authority. To our loss, however, we don’t always see what these signs say about God’s nature, His purposes, and His intentions toward us.

What, for example, should the disciples have learned from Jesus’ feeding of the five thousand (Matthew 14:13-21)? If they saw this amazing feat as a demonstration of Jesus’ supernatural power, that was a first step. And if they understood this demonstration of power to support His claim to be the Messiah, the Son of God, that was another step. Yet Jesus’ feeding of the multitude should have convinced the disciples of more than His godhood.

It should have prompted them to place more of their trust in His goodness as God! Later, in another situation where they showed a lack of trust (Matthew 16:5-12), it was evident that they had not gotten the point of the earlier miracle. “Do you not yet understand, or remember?” Jesus asked them. The real lesson of the miracle had been lost on them. “So little had they learned it yet, that they remembered the loaves but forgot the Father — as men in their theology forget the very Logos” (George MacDonald).

To every “What?” in life there is a corresponding “So what?” And if each word or deed of God recorded in the Scriptures is a “What?”, then it is our business to answer correctly the question “So what?” Sometimes we don’t do any better than the Lord’s first disciples, but it will help us greatly to learn from their experience. God desires to show us His nature. HE WANTS US TO LEARN NOT ONLY HIS POWER BUT ALSO THAT HE CAN BE TRUSTED TO USE THAT POWER FOR OUR GOOD!

“The lesson He would have had them learn from the miracle, the natural lesson, the only lesson worthy of the miracle, was, that God cared for His children, and could, did, and would provide for their necessities. This lesson they had not learned. No doubt the power of the miracle was some proof of His mission, but the love of it proved better, for it made it worth proving: it was a throb of the Father’s heart” (George MacDonald).

Gary Henry – WordPoints.com

## Morning Lesson

"Transformation"

Steve Garrett

## Evening Lesson

"Fellowship: A True Sharing Experience"

Jack Smith

## News and Notes:

Brian Haley came thru his surgery just fine. Hope the healing process is quick and we see him back at services soon. Many have been out with a respiratory difficulty. Don't know if it's a virus or just allergies, but the recovery time isn't quick. We've missed Fran, Curby and Melva, and others with this or similar problems.

Holiday schedule. Next Sunday, Dec. 21, Hendrik Joubert will be speaking at the AM service. His sister, Susara, used to worship with us. Bellaire supports Hendrik to preach in North Carolina. He is making a trip to visit the churches who help him in his work. Then Sunday the 28 both Steve and I will be out of town. Jospeh Casimier will be speaking in our absence. Bro. Casimier held a meeting here a couple of years ago. He is now semiretired and worships with the Cy-Fair church. Wednesday night the 24th will be a prayer and song service for the few remaining in town.

## "Anger"

It is interesting how often the Bible addresses the subject of anger. Proverbs tells us not to associate with an angry person, lest we learn his ways. James tells us that anger does not achieve the righteousness of God. Paul said that anger invites the devil and do not let the sun go down upon your anger. Jonah was angry. Cain was angry. The prodigal's older brother was angry. Naaman was angry.

Great anger comes with a cost. There is a penalty that the angry man will suffer. He will say and do things that will hurt others. The verse is directed to the one who tries to help. Maybe it's a parent. Maybe it's a wife. Maybe it's a friend. They have seen these outbursts for years. They have tried and tried to help and all they do is rescue him and apologize for him. His angry way has embarrassed and shamed them. Paul told Titus that shepherds were not "quick tempered." Timothy was told that these men were to be "temperate." Temperate is where we get the word "temperature."

In the home, it is the role of the man, as husband and father, to control the thermostat of relationships. If it is too cold inside, he needs to take the lead and warm things up by reassuring people, expressing his appreciation of them and counting blessings. He needs to take the lead in apologizing and forgiving. The way he directs determines if it stays cool or warms up. On the other hand, if it is too hot in the home, he needs to take the lead and cool things down.

## ASSIGNMENTS

### MORNING SERVICE

Announcements - M. Pharris  
Hymn Director - M. Robinson  
Scripture Reader - T. Walker

Mark 8:31

Opening Prayer - Z. Kelsey  
Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

### EVENING SERVICE

Hymn Director - R. McDonald  
Opening Prayer - J. Carithers  
Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

### EVANGELIST

Jack Smith  
Steve Garrett

### ELDERS

Mark Mann  
Matt Miles  
Mike Pharris  
Jack Smith

### Bible Classes

Acts  
Holy Spirit  
Exodus and Deuteronomy  
Graded Classes for Children

Talking without shouting, finding the problem, taking the lead in fixing things—these are the things that come with being the head of the house. Head doesn't mean you get the control of the remote nor you get to choose where we will eat. It means you lead. You lead the family to Heaven. One way this is done is by controlling the temperature in the house.

Roger Shouse - edited  
[www.jumpstartsaily.com](http://www.jumpstartsaily.com)