

# The Reminder

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

## “Jesus As Our Advocate”

In writing to Christians in 1 John, the apostle John urges them not to sin, but if they should sin through weakness or ignorance, they have an “Advocate” who stands in their behalf before the Father. In 1 John 2:1, the word “[advocate](#)” refers to an attorney who speaks for an accused person to gain the sympathy of a judge. Other words with the same meaning are “intercessor” or “mediator.” In legal terms, it means one who is a counsel for the defense.

As Christians, we can take courage in the fact that we have a great advocate in Jesus Christ our Lord, who is at God’s right hand interceding for us (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:24). Not only does our Lord plead our case before God, He serves as the propitiation or satisfaction for our sins (1 John 2:2; cf. Romans 3:23-26; 1 John 4:10).

The blood of Christ is the ransom for our sins (Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45; 1 Timothy 2:5-6). Thus, His pleadings are heard [because of the precious blood that He shed at Calvary](#) (Hebrews 9:11-12; cf. Ephesians 1:7).

However, let us remember the Lord’s blood will not purge our sins if we not trying to live right. We must always “walk in the light” of God’s word (1 John 1:7) by obeying Him in the keeping of His commandments (1 John 2:3-5), and by emulating our Lord’s example (1 John 2:6; cf. 1 Peter 2:21-25).

- Mike Riley

## The Purpose Of Grace

Why does God extend grace to us? Notice what Ezra said in a prayer to God, “And now for a little while grace has been shown from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a peg in His holy place, that our God may enlighten our eyes and give us a measure of revival in our bondage” (Ezra 9:8).

Ezra understood that grace did not mean license to live as one pleases, but he noted these reasons for God showing grace to the Jews who were able to leave Babylonian captivity:

- To leave us a remnant to escape
  - To give us a peg in His holy place
  - To enlighten our eyes
  - To give us a measure of revival in our bondage
- Now what about us? Why has God extended grace to you?

- Don Ruhl

**SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 27, 2015**

### BELLAIRE

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8001 South Rice Ave  
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### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Bible Study

#### WEDNESDAY:

7:30 PM Bible Study



## Morning Lesson

“”

Steve Garrett

### 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.

## “The Greater Love”

“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” (John 15:13) In his book, “Written in Blood,” Robert Coleman tells the story of a little boy whose sister needed a blood transfusion. The doctor had explained that she had the same disease the boy had recovered from two years earlier. Her only chance for recovery was a transfusion from someone who had previously conquered the disease. Since the two children had the same rare blood type, the boy was the ideal donor.

“Would you give your blood to your sister Mary?” the doctor asked. Little Johnny hesitated, his lower lip started to tremble, and then he smiled and said, “Sure, for my sister.” Soon the two children were wheeled into the hospital room-- Mary, pale and thin; Johnny, robust and healthy. Neither spoke, but when they met, Johnny grinned. As the nurse inserted the needle into his arm, Johnny’s smile faded. He watched the blood flow through the tube. With the ordeal almost over, his voice slightly shaky, broke the silence. “Doctor, when do I die?” Only then did the doctor realize why Johnny had hesitated, why his lip had trembled when he’d agreed to donate his blood. He’d thought giving his blood to his sister meant giving up his life. Though, in reality, it was not necessary, he was willing to give his life for his sister. In that brief moment, his love for his sister, caused him to make his great decision.

Let us remember that there was one who laid down His life for us. *via* “*Brief Exhortations*”

## WHO ARE WE?

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

## ASSIGNMENTS

### Morning Service

Opening Prayer - J. Knapp  
Hymn Director - W. Hodge  
Announcements - M. Mann  
Closing Prayer - J. Seale

### 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

- Galatians, Ephesians and Philippians - Steve Garrett
- Auditorium**
- Children’s Bible Stories Revisited - Lee Williams
- Room 102**
- Graded classes for children

### Directory Updates

email: clanton4@gmail.com