

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 16 JULY 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Hoover Cochran**, the father of **Terry Kornfield**, passed away earlier this week. The visitation is Friday, July 21, at Paul U Lee Funeral home from 5:00-7:00. The funeral is Saturday, July 22, at La Porte Church of Christ at 11:00 a.m. Please pray for the family.
- There will be two services for **Kent Ellis**, the grandfather of **Bethany Moon**, who passed away last weekend. The first is Wednesday, July 19, at the 315th Juvenile Court at 1:30. The second is Saturday, July 22, at Southside Church of Christ at 10:00 a.m.
- **The Broadwells**, as well as several of our **young people**, are spending the week at a summer camp in Central Texas. Please pray for their safety and an edifying week of worship and Bible study.
- **Anna Mickle** continues to be in very ill and is in much pain. She is scheduled to see a doctor this month. Please pray for her.
- Continue to pray for **Pat Butler**, as well as the **Clanton family** who have had some other health concerns lately too.
- **Holly Ann Villanueva**, **Sharon Alexander's daughter**, is undergoing a series of radiation treatments. Pray for total healing.
- Keep praying for on-going health concerns: **Bob Stark**, **Deb Haley**, **Janice Kimbrough**, **Jan Cooper**, **Curby Stech**, **Laura Claburn**.
- **Sermon Title: Everything We Need (Psalm 23)**
- **Calendar Items:**
 - The **Men's Breakfast** will be Saturday, July 22 at 8:00 at the Omelette and Waffle Restaurant #2.
 - The **Youth Devotional** will be next Sunday, July 23.

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

CONTACT US

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DIRECTORY UPDATES

Email:
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SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Bible Study

SERVICE

Welcome - A. Morolez
Song Leader - L. Williams
Opening Prayer - T. Walker
Lesson - S. Garrett
Communion Talk - H. Banks
Announcements - M. Pharris
Closing Prayer - B. Haley

BIBLE CLASSES

Psalms (Auditorium)

- Daniel Broadwell
- Michael Krueger

Classes for children

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Where God's Love Is Best Learned

by: Gary Henry (wordpoints.com)

“Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Corinthians 12:10)

GOD’S LOVE IS A STRONG THING, AND STRONG THINGS ARE NOT FULLY APPRECIATED UNTIL WE ARE SURROUNDED BY WEAKNESS. The ugly, painful hardship of human experience does not contradict or call into question the love of God. To the contrary, that is where we learn God’s love the best. The way to God is not over, under, or around our difficulties — it is *through* them.

Job is the classic example of how this works. He was not anything less than a godly man before his sufferings began (Job 1:8), but it was only afterward that he could say, “I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes” (Job 42:5,6). God’s trustworthiness had become so much more real to Job that he was ashamed to think how little faith he’d had before. Likewise, when Paul prayed for the removal of his “thorn in the flesh,” God’s answer was, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness” (2 Corinthians 12:9).

But if God’s love for us is best learned in hardship, the same is also true of our love for God. We value most highly those things that have cost us something significant, and it is not likely that we’ll love God deeply until we’ve passed through some serious suffering with His love as our guide. When Jesus explained to Peter that Satan would sift him as wheat, He said, “But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren” (Luke 22:32).

When we live for no higher goal than to be pain-free, supposing that God “loves” us too much to let anything “harmful” happen to us, what happens is something very harmful indeed: *we lose our best chance to learn what God’s love really means.* The best things in life get away from us when we grasp them too tightly. Life is found in the losing of it. “Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake,” Paul said. “For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

“The love of God is the ultimate reality, the deepest and strongest force in the universe; and it is revealed to the man who resolutely girds himself to the conflict” (David Smith)