

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 22 APRIL 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- We are blessed to have **Kevin Clark** here from Birmingham to preach for us. He'll be preaching for our Bible class hour as well, and after a potluck at the Bellaire Community Center we we'll have a final lesson at **2:30**. Join us for all of this!
- **Brian and Deb Haley** are driving home from Tennessee, where they've been for a few weeks after the tragic death of their grandson, **Isaac Mattson**. Keep praying for the Mattson and Haley families and encourage **Brian and Deb** all you can.
- Others have recently lost loved ones as well, including **Anita Washington** (brother-in-law) and **Justin Seale** (grandfather).
- **Muffy Garrett** is in Kentucky with her mom, **Beverly Berthold**, who is in her third round of chemotherapy. Pray for total healing and safe travels for **Muffy**.
- Don't forget **Bob Stark** as he keeps recovering from his heart transplant and travels back and forth to work in Dallas. **Bob and Erma** are also still displaced and rebuilding their home.
- 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, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Johnny Martinez, Anna Mickle, Bob Stark, and Curby Stech**.
- **Sermon Titles: The Gospel is for All; A Prepared Place for a Prepared People; Heaven Will Be Worth it All**

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

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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 - D. Broadwell
Song Leader - R. McDonald
Opening Prayer - J. Seale
Communion Talk - D. Hooton
Lesson - K. Clark
Announcements - M. Pharris
Closing Prayer - R. Black
Wed. Songs - G. Williams
Wed. Invitation - D. Haley
Wed. Prayer - S. Camp

BIBLE CLASSES

Isaiah

- Daniel Broadwell
- Auditorium

Middle - High School

- Steve Garrett
- Upstairs

Classes for All Ages

- Back Classrooms

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God Must Be Sought Before Spiritual Strength by: Gary Henry (wordpoints.com)

“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:33)

WHAT BLESSINGS ARE INCLUDED IN “THESE THINGS” THAT WILL BE ADDED WHEN WE SEEK FIRST GOD’S RULE AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS? When He made this statement, Jesus was speaking of temporal needs like food and clothing. But doesn’t the principle of putting first things first apply even to “these things” that are of a spiritual nature? Even when the blessings that we seek are spiritual, we must not seek them for selfish reasons or personal benefit. God is not to be sought for what we can get out of Him; He is to be sought for what we long to give to Him. We were created to enjoy a relationship that revolves around Him, not around us. Only when we get this priority fixed in our minds and seek God first will other things fall into their rightful place.

Although spiritual blessings are higher than temporal ones, they are the same in that they come to us indirectly as we seek God, not directly as we seek our own desires. The example of happiness is a good one. It is a much sought-after temporal blessing, but ironically, it eludes us when we pursue it for its own sake. Instead, it comes to us indirectly, as a by-product of contributing to others’ happiness. And spiritual blessings, at least in this regard, are no different. The strength we desire doesn’t come by focusing on our own needs, however spiritual those needs may be. These things are by-products of focusing on God. If we’re obsessed with ourselves (Are we getting the help we need with our problems?), it’s not likely that we’ll find what we’re looking for.

A. W. Tozer once wrote, “Selfishness is never so exquisitely selfish as when it is on its knees. Self can turn what would otherwise be a pure and powerful prayer into a weak and ineffective one.” Our prayers must not be self-centered, but God-centered. It is when we’re weak that we’re strong. We find ourselves when we forget ourselves. Having been made for the purpose of showing forth His goodness and His glory, we find our lives when we lose them in His. When we seek Him first — not His blessings, but God Himself — all “these things” will be added to us.

“Live out your life in its full meaning; it is God’s life” (Josiah Royce)