

Rom. 14:19 So then let us follow after things which make for peace, and things whereby we may edify one another.

THE LENEXA EDIFIER

And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. John 8:32

APRIL 21, 2024

OUR SPRING GOSPEL MEETING IS HERE!

THE LENEXA CHURCH OF CHRIST INVITES YOU TO A GOSPEL MEETING APRIL 21-24 2024

Following is the Schedule of Lessons:

Sunday AM Bible Class - 9:00 AM
WORKING OUT YOUR SALVATION

Sunday AM Worship - 10:00 AM
FELLOWSHIP IN THE GOSPEL

Sunday AM Worship - 10:50 AM
YESTERDAY, TODAY, FOREVER

Monday Night Lesson - 7:00 PM
PAUL'S RESUME

Tuesday Night Lesson - 7:00 PM
THE NATURE OF CHRIST

Wednesday Night Lesson - 7:00 PM
**GOING INTO ALL THE WORLD:
ETHIOPIA**

**Come let us learn the value of knowing Jesus
Christ and learning from Him.**

WHY HAVE GOSPEL MEETINGS?

Jim Stauffer

Jesus came to seek and save the lost (**Luke 19:10**). It is our responsibility as those who have been redeemed by His blood to share the good news of the gospel in order to present the opportunity for the lost to be saved (**Matt. 28:19,20; Romans 1:16; Colossians 1:13,14**). Contrary to the thoughts of many, all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God and need the propitiatory sacrifice of God's Son to cleanse them of sin if they are to spend eternity in heaven (**Romans 3:23-26**).

This is where one must become attendant to what the Lord has said rather than listen to the voices of the majority. We must understand the devotion to good things, even to religious activity will not provide salvation from sin. The most respected member of society needs the same redemption as the vilest of sinners. The one everyone in the community respects and admires for his generosity and kindness has sinned according to **Romans 3:23** and therefore is one of the lost Jesus came to save as surely as the murderer who serves a jail sentence for his crime.

When we sin (and God has said we all do), we are then separated from God. *Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short That it cannot save; Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.*

(**Isaiah 59:1-2**) Those sins then must be removed and that only comes through the merciful act of Jesus' death on the cross. (**2 Corinthians 5:21**)

Please come to hear the good news of the gospel.

Better Worship During Preaching

We hate to admit this, but most of us have sat through a sermon with our minds somewhere else. The preacher was boring, the sermon was long, and we were no longer with him. There is a responsibility upon the preacher to find ways to communicate effectively and efficiently with the audience. But we have a responsibility as well. How do we worship better during the preaching?

To understand this we must understand the concept of worship. Worship involves participation on the part of each of us. Worship is not a spectator sport. Worship is action. It is something we do. Worship reflects an attitude we have. It involves all of you, including your mind, your heart and your emotions. The things that affect your insides will affect your worship. Being tired, bothered, worried, bored, or mostly how you view God, will affect worship. It's hard to get much out of a sermon when one can barely keep his eyes open or his mind is racing with all that he plans to do the next day. Doing worship better begins with being focused.

Sermons really serve two purposes. First, they inform and instruct. Some listen to sermons, others learn from sermons. There is a difference. So we ask, "How do I learn better?" First, bring your Bible and follow along. Listen to what the preacher is saying. See it in your Bible. That is essential. The facts of the Bible will build faith, strengthen convictions and destroy error. God's word is powerful! Take notes, either in your Bible or on paper. Circle words, underline phrases, write down what words mean, interesting thoughts, and things that you did not know. Make your Bible user friendly to you. We remember only so much of what we hear. We remember more by hearing and seeing. We remember even more by hearing, seeing and writing down. We remember the most by hearing, seeing, writing down and telling someone else. Find a way to save and then use your notes from the sermon. You might refer to them in teaching a friend, or you might use them in teaching a class. There is a wealth of study being shared with you each week. Listening week after week ought to be a growing experience for you. You are learning and you are getting stronger as you think, listen and grasp the messages from God's word. Come ready to learn!

It is sad to see brethren gathering each week, with no Bible in hand, no paper to write on and just staring at the preacher during the sermon. If a college student did that in one of his classes, he'd probably not pass. It's hard to remember things from week to week. We can do better. We must do better.

The second purpose of preaching is to persuade the listener. Paul said, "*Knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men*" (2 Corinthians 5.11). The preaching of Peter moved the audience to interrupt him and ask, "*What shall we do?*" (Acts 2.37). Preaching is more than the giving of facts, it is the changing of lives. The Lord ended His incredible Sermon on the Mount with the story of two men who built their houses on different foundations. This story illustrated the difference in those that were persuaded to do something and those who were not. The preaching of Jonah changed the city of Nineveh. Preaching can change your life and impact generations of your family.

You will get more out of a sermon as you engage in the worship with an open heart and mind. The preacher is talking to you! That's all that matters. Where are you in the things that he says? The words of the sermon can move us to obey the Gospel of Jesus. They can move us to a deeper commitment and challenge us to become more involved. See yourself, not just in the sermon, but in what the Bible says. Make application. How can this lesson make me a better parent, or a better disciple? What is it that the Lord wants me to be? The seed that was planted into the good and honest heart produced a bountiful harvest. The good and honest heart — that's up to us, not the preacher.

The other soils found in the parable of the sower may well explain why we are not getting the most out of preaching. Our hearts may be too crowded, or shallow or hard. I will get the most out of a sermon when I listen to it with the idea of making application to myself. It is so easy to play spiritual dodge ball with the preacher, ducking from this point and then that point, or worse still, to try to guess what person the preacher is talking about, never realizing it could be me. Don't do that. You are wasting time, not worshiping as you should and failing to grasp a wonderful opportunity to become a disciple of Jesus. All of us, including those of us who preach, can learn from the sermons of others. The message is more important than the messenger. What is said is more important than how it is said. Sometimes we get that backwards.

Preaching and teaching are God's avenues of growing the kingdom. There is no other way. That powerful seed planted in fertile hearts will produce a disciple that longs to walk with Jesus. That's what a sermon can do

by Roger Shouse

Let Us Do Something

Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias (Matthew 17:4)

Peter, James and John have been brought up into a high mountain where they not only witness the transfiguration of Jesus, they see Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. There is no doubting that Peter was excited and inspired at what he was seeing. According to Mark, Peter didn't know what to do (Mark 9:6) but he couldn't just stand still and do nothing. He had to do something so he says to Jesus, it is good to be here, "Let us do something."

We will never be blessed in this life to have the privilege of being part of such an awe inspiring event as Peter, James and John had on that high mountain. But my friends, we are blessed with a love from God that has brought to us some priceless blessings (John 3:16; 1 John 3:1-3; Colossians 1:12-14; John 14:1-3, 27; Heb. 4:16). When we stand at the foot of the cross on which Jesus died and see the blood flowing from his head, hands and feet, when we in awesome wonder watch as the soldier pierces his side with a sword and see the blood and water as it flows mingled from his side, it will be a cold, cold heart indeed that is not inspired to cry out as did Peter. "Let us do something."

Now, at this point there are a multitude of thoughts that race through my mind. Let me share but one of them with you today. Let us make a solid commitment this day to always walk before the Lord while we live and breath (Psalms 116:9). This is a commitment that will require us to let the Lord have full possession of our life (Romans 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 2 Cor. 8:5) as we yield every member of our body to him (Rom. 6:12-19; Rom. 8:12-14; Col. 3:5; 1 John 2:15-17) When we make this commitment we agree with the Lord that will let his word dwell in us richly, molding our thoughts, filling our heart and guiding our lives each step of the way on our journey through this life. In walking before the Lord, our focus is going to be on spiritual things (Col 3:1-2; Matt. 6:19-21; Heb. 12:1-3). Bottom line to all this is that we will humble ourselves under his mighty hand (1 Pet. 5:6; James 4:10; Luke 14:11). Be ever thankful that we do not have to depend solely on our frail, weak selves as we endeavor to be an active worker in the Lord's kingdom. God is our refuge, our strength, our help and he has promised that he will

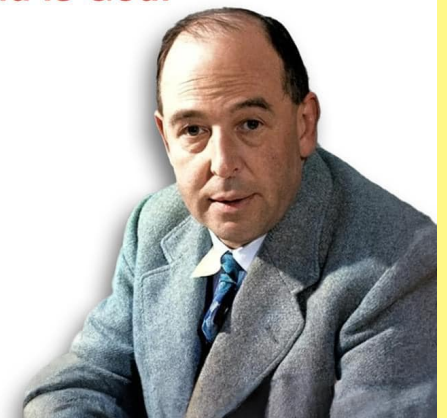
never desert us nor forsake us (Psalms 46:1-3; Heb.4:14-16; Heb. 13:5) As long as we walk before the Lord, there is no force on the face of this earth that can separate us from his love, protection and help (Rom. 8:35-39).

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord"--
1 Cor. 15:58.

Charles Hicks, White House Tennessee
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'We are faced then with a frightening alternative. Jesus... was, and is, just what He said or else insane or something worse. Now it seems to be obvious that He was neither insane nor a fiend; and consequently, however strange or terrifying or unlikely it may seem, I have to accept the view that He was and is God.'

C.S. Lewis



What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:1-4)

Psa. 1:1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, Nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers: 2 But his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water, That bringeth forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also doth not wither; And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. 4 The wicked are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous; But the way of the wicked shall perish.

HOURS OF WORSHIP

Sunday A.M. 9:00 Bible Study

Sunday A.M. 10:00 Assembled Worship

Wednesday P.M. 7:00 Bible Study and Worship

Visitors welcome

We conduct in home Bible Studies

We offer Correspondence Courses

Evangelist and Editor Jim Stauffer

Elders:

Ron Peck

Jim Stauffer

Deacons:

Bill Miller

Troy Armstrong

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Check out the following websites

facebook.com/LenexaChurchofChrist

lenexachurchofchrist.org

NEWS AND NOTES:

PLEASE REMEMBER ALMA
BAUMGARTNER, BROOKLYN BOYER,
DAVID AND JOANNE BECKLEY,
WAYNE MOODY, SHANE SCOTT, THE
ROBINSON FAMILY, PAT MCLLOUD,
ELLIE GOLDSTON, WINNIE
RAWSON, GENE MCCLUNG, ZACH
FLAXBEARD, JORDAN MOODY, JADE
BLOUNT, DALE AND TRACY
RICHARDSON AND SCOTT
LINDEMAN

BIBLE CLASSES:

SUNDAY MORNING

BILL MILLER-AUTHORITY

WEDNESDAY 7 PM

JIM STAUFFER-MINOR PROPHETS

SUNDAY SERMON:

GOSPEL MEETING



What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the gospel - Romans 10:17

Believe in Jesus Christ - Hebrews 11:6

Repent of sins - Acts 17:30

Confess Christ as Lord - Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for remission of sins - Acts 2:38

Be Faithful unto death - Revelation 2:10