

News and Notes

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
1460 North Main
Vidor, TX 77662

Services of the Church

Sunday

Bible Classes (for all ages)9:30 am
Morning Worship10:20 am
Evening Worship 6:30 pm

Wednesday

Bible Classes (for all ages)7:30 pm
(Singing the last Wednesday of the month)

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The Correct Mode Of Baptism!

When it comes to baptism in the religious world today, there is confusion as to the way that it should be administered. Should it be by “sprinkling, pouring, or immersion?” Draw your conclusion from what the scriptures say. John 3:23 says this: “And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.” Both Romans 6:3-4 and Colossians 2:12 teach that baptism is a “burial.” The conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8:26-39 shows that baptism requires a “going down into the water and a coming up out of the water.” When you put all of these scriptures together the conclusion is clear. Bible baptism is by “immersion.” Both sprinkling and pouring do not require “much water, a going down into the water or a coming up out of the water, or the action of a burial.” The word “baptism” itself means a “dipping, pouring, or immersion.” The safest course therefore to take when it comes to being baptized is to simply be “immersed.” This is the clear process by which baptism in the first century was administered and the same thing should be done today.

Mark Legendre

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S BIBLE QUESTIONS:

- The Apostle Peter (2nd Peter 3:13) and the Apostle John (Revelations 21:1) are the two New Testament writers that use the term “a new heavens and a new earth.”
- Onesiphorus is the Christian who found Paul while he was in Rome and was not ashamed of the fact that Paul was a prisoner. (2nd Timothy 1:16-18)

QUESTIONS FOR THIS MONTH:

- What two men in the Old Testament were taken up into Heaven without experiencing physical death?
- What two men made arrangements for the burial of Jesus?

Who Are We Trying To Please?

In Galatians 1:10 we read the following statement: “For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.” It is obvious when you look around at the various activities that churches get involved in today, there is very little concern being given to “pleasing God.” Rather it clearly appears as though whatever it takes to “please men” has become the standard of determining which direction a church will go. One church in the Vidor area recently started having services on Saturday evenings so that people who had things to do on the “Lord’s day” could still worship God each week. They were to begin this Saturday worship with a big “pizza party” for the whole community right before their worship began. Even though it is the “Lord’s will” that the “Lord’s supper” (Acts 20:7) and the “contribution” (1st Corinthians 16:1-3) be taken “on the first day of the week,” in order to “please the people” these activities will now be done on Saturday as well. This may be convenient, but it is not right. And it certainly does not please God.

Mark Legendre

The Success Formula!

The best and quickest way for a family to grow closer together is to draw closer to God together. The family that attends the services of God’s people as a family and not individually as the mood strikes them, is the family that is growing closer together in all of the activities of life. While the opposite is true of the family that does not worship God together. The family that does not have God as the center of their lives will find that slowly they are growing farther apart as the days come and go. And, before long they are separated and distant from each other.

When God is the center of the family life many of the difficulties of daily living are eased. There are not nearly as many misunderstandings and difficulties found within this family as within the family that does not keep God before their thoughts at all times.

Families that have been brought up to enjoy the worship of the Father in Heaven look forward to each and every opportunity to worship Him. It never enters their minds to willingly miss a service of God’s people. Through these hours of worship they are brought closer to God and thus also are brought closer to each other. Mothers, do you want your daughters to respect you? Then teach them to respect the Lord. Fathers, do you want your sons to respect you? Then teach them to respect the Lord. Do you want your children to obey you? Then teach them to obey Christ Jesus. Teaching is best done by example; therefore let us all be setting forth a teaching example before those who are watching us in our daily avenues of life.

Our Children watch our every action. They see how father treats mother; how mother treats father. To the very best of our ability we should set a good example before them. They may not imitate us instantly, but be sure they will follow our examples in the days to come. Obviously, there may be exceptions to the rule, but that is what they are, exceptions.

Someone has said, “The family that plays together is a family that stays together.” Even truer is, “The family that worships together, is the family that grows closer together.” If you doubt this, then why not put it into practice and see if it will not work.

Jack Thompson