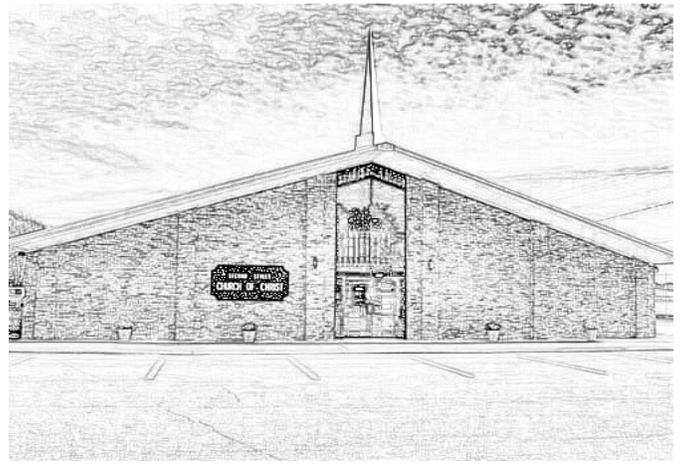


Second Street Church of Christ



March 5, 2017

MINISTER

Adam Cozort

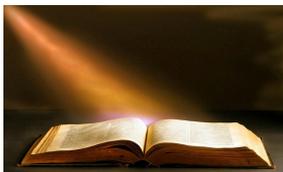
662-663-0231

Office

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P.O. Box 126
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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class....9:00am
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

*Endeavoring to keep
the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:3*

Small Congregations: Weak or Strong?

When a lot of Christians picked up the August 2016 issue of Gospel Advocate, Eric Welch's article "The Strength of Small Churches" surely caught their interest. The thought, "Hey, that's about our congregation" may have crossed their minds.

One of the misconceptions mentioned was that small congregations have something wrong with them or they would be larger. Wrong. There are numerous reasons small congregations remain small.

God showed the strength of small numbers through Gideon's victory with God on his side. This shows the more vulnerable that people feel, the more they need God and obedience to His word.

Other strengths include the close fellowship, "one another" encouragement and helping one another. It is very important that small congregations use the strength of each member being involved. Small congregations can be very much like a family.

*"Let us plant and
water and then trust
God to give the
increase."*

How visitors are greeted and treated is a very helpful attraction. Paul wrote in Romans 12:9, "Let love be genuine." People recognize quickly the honest joy that can be shown by greeting and a worship service that is true to God.

The desire to "grow at any cost" is a dangerous goal. God has always wanted His people to be true to the word and offer themselves to the teaching of His word.

First Corinthians 3:6,7: "Let us plant and water and then trust God to give the increase."

Carrol Duncan
Clarendon, TX
BulletinDigest.com

Announcements

Welcome Visitors!! You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

Scripture and Song followed by fellowship meal next Sunday night. We would like to extend an invitation to all visitors.

Bear Stuffing Tuesday night March 14th.

"To what greater inspiration and counsel can we turn than to the imperishable truth to be found in this treasure house, the Bible?"

Queen Elizabeth II

**Spring
FORWARD**

March 12



Jesus Knows Me

To hide his evil, man invented the theory of evolution. He claims he is improving. He believes in human goodness. He thinks social problems are solved by education. Man has great faith in man.

For from within, out of the human heart, come evil ideas, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, evil, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, and folly. Mark 7.21-22.

Jesus knew what was in the human heart. Because of this knowledge, he did not entrust himself to man, John 2.24-25. The very best of men is still the worst specimen of creature. Our evil thoughts betray us, for from the heart comes every type of transgression and rebellion against God. "There is no one righteous, not even one" Romans 3.10.

We judge humanity as a whole. We criticize our own society. We speak evil of our fellow citizens, as if we were not one of them. The evil we see in others we are guilty of. "Therefore you are without excuse, whoever you are, when you judge someone else. For on whatever grounds you judge another, you condemn yourself, because you who judge practice the same things" Romans 2.1.

Let us accept Jesus' judgment. What comes out of man makes him impure. *I* am impure. *I* need him. *I* deceive myself, but Jesus knows me completely.

And when I accept his judgment of me, I am ready to accept as well his sacrifice for my sin.

Father, the pain of sin is great, but the relief in Jesus brings joy to the inner man and peace to the troubled heart.

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The price has been paid

There is a principle found throughout the Mosaic Law about returning something to its owner. Although we don't always have the specifics given to us, it would seem that the person had stolen or possibly damaged or destroyed something that belonged to someone else. The principle was simply this: you had to restore more than what you had taken. Notice these instructions:

And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the people of Israel, When a man or woman commits any of the sins that people commit by breaking faith with the LORD, and that person realizes his guilt, he shall confess his sin that he has committed. And he shall make full restitution for his wrong, adding a fifth to it and giving it to him to whom he did the wrong. But if the man has no next of kin to whom restitution may be made for the wrong, the restitution for wrong shall go to the LORD for the priest, in addition to the ram of atonement with which atonement is made for him. And every contribution, all the holy donations of the people of Israel, which they bring to the priest, shall be his. Each one shall keep his holy donations: whatever anyone gives to the priest shall be his" (Numbers 5:5-10 ESV).

This is where Jesus comes in. He paid the price for us.

Whatever it was the person had done, he had to restore it plus an additional 20%. If he couldn't give it to the person, then it was to go to his next of kin, and if there was no next of kin, then it was to go to the priest. If nothing else, this was to show his sorrow for what he had done and his wanting to make it right.

We see something similar when Jesus spoke with Zacchaeus. After spending time with Jesus, he resolved that he would change. "But Zacchaeus stopped and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord, half of my possessions I now give to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone of anything, I am paying back four times as much!'" (Luke 19:8 NET).

Zacchaeus realized that in his position as a chief tax collector (Luke 19:2) that he undoubtedly had taken more than was required. He voluntarily offered to not only restore it, but to restore four times as much! No wonder Jesus responded, "Today salvation has come to this household, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:9-10).

This is truly a great principle – restoring more than the value of what we have taken from someone. Perhaps if this was still part of our legal system, people would hesitate to steal or destroy another's property.

But what if God asked this of us for the sins that we commit? We realize that all the wrong we do is not only against a person but it is also against God himself. Not only could we not pay back the wrong we do to God, there is no way we could pay it back with even more!

This is where Jesus comes in. He paid the price for us. "(My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.) But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous One, and he himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for our sins but also for the whole world" (1 John 2:1-2).

No wonder the hymn writer wrote: "Jesus paid it all, All to him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain – he washed it white as snow."

The price for our sin has been paid. We need to obediently submit our lives to Jesus and accept it.

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study **9:00am**
Worship **10:00am**
Evening **5:00pm**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7:00pm**

Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalms 133:1

Prayer List

Paula Wanner	Dianne Vandagriff
Faye Johnson	Cassie Tierce
Phillip Pharr	Elizabeth Posey
Stephanie Moore	Fred Webb
Larry Sartain	Flora Wanner
Carolyn Holcomb	Ellie Sander
Lou Dodson	Shane Stevens
Lynn Sander	Brenda Leatherwood
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
Debra Brewer	David James
Jimmy Searcy	Aletha Ray
Tim Thomas	Margie Pharr
Lena Hammett	Wayne Thomason
Cindy Williams	



The process for becoming a Christian is the same as it was over 2000 years ago!
To become a Christian, one must:

Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17

Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6

Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3

Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10

Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38

Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10

None of these alone will make you a Christian. These commands are from God and must be obeyed from the heart to become a Christian.



March Birthdays

Jonah Holcomb 3/3
Jimmy Higginbottom 3/15
Lena Hammett 3/15
Shawn Robinson 3/15
Michelle Holcomb 3/26
Elijah Johnson 3/30

March Anniversaries

Jerry & Janey 3/2
Barry & Debra 3/17

Sympathy