



April 22, 2007

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A Paradigm Shift

It was sometime in March of 1984 and the evening sky had been cloudy. During the night we heard the distinctive pitter-patter of rain on a dry, grass roof.

The roof was not in good shape. (The family was poor and besides, there had been no rain for the past five months.) We were sleeping on the floor of a mud hut after preaching in the community where we wanted to start a church. Staying overnight helped me learn language and customs, and the relaxed evenings broke down barriers between us all.

As the rain fell on and through the roof we all woke up. I kept waiting to see how the holes would be plugged, but the Kenyans simply moved to drier spots in the room.

The next morning revealed a happy household. The rain signaled the end of the dry season which was good news to a farming community. They even had a saying about visitors bringing a blessing of rain, but I didn't understand or care. I thought the roof needed to be given more attention. Didn't they realize a leaky roof is a serious thing?

More than once while standing in the open air talking to a Kenyan, it would start to drizzle and I would begin to move toward shelter. I noticed that the Kenyans didn't share my haste. Unless it really came a downpour, they would continue to stand there enjoying the cool drops. I assumed they didn't have the sense to come in out of the rain, I eventually learned to wait (and receive the blessing) with them and to move out of the way with them so the ground could get its share.

My view of rain had been that it was a "necessary evil." I even interpreted Jesus' words about good and bad people getting rained on as a negative thing. (Matthew 5:45).

How many things do we see one way but start realizing that God sees it differently? What do most people say about giving and receiving, treatment of enemies, protecting rights, sickness, death and rules?

Most of us know what the Lord teaches, but we find it convenient to soften or ignore even direct commands. We have either decided that we know better than He does or else we have chosen to trust.

Earlier this week it rained in our town for several hours. At times it pelted us with a vengeance and then would relax into a gentle shower. I watched it from a window and from under a tree. I listened to it from my bed and from the porch. It took me years to learn to enjoy rather than despise the rain.

I guess it will take a long time to appreciate the opportunity to give, to be thankful for God's rules, to rejoice when suffering and sickness strike and to enjoy relinquishing rights on behalf of another.

Maybe if we weren't so resistant we could change more quickly and gain the advantage of being like Christ. What if I had been taught from birth to welcome sickness for what it could teach me? What if persecution had been regarded as something to be expected rather than avoided at all cost? I know—its sounds extreme.

Thankfully I now have enough sense to not rush in out of the rain. I can enjoy it like a farmer does, I do wonder, though, when I will have enough maturity to not run away from every inconvenience or difficult situation. There's a lot to be said for seeing things from another angle.

Amos Allen

We would like all of our Guests to join our members in filling out an attendance card so that we might have a record of your visit.

There are two things that we would like to explain to you about our worship service. Our singing is *acappella* or *without accompaniment*. Although instruments of music were used by the Jews in the Old Testament, they are conspicuously absent in the church of the New Testament. We are told to, "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord." (Ephesians 5:19)

We partake of the *Lord's supper* or *Communion* every Sunday as the early church did (Acts 21:7). The partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine is a weekly memorial that reminds us of what our Savior did for us. (I Cor. 11:23-26)

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

HEAR (Luke 11: 28)

But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

BELIEVE (Mark 16: 16)

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

REPENT (Acts 2: 38)

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit"

CONFESS (Matthew 10: 32)

"Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven."

BE BAPTIZED (Acts 22: 16)

"And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

WELCOME VISITORS:

We are so glad you decided to be here today! It is always such a blessing to be able to meet you and be encouraged by your presence. Thank you for coming our way.

FOR THE CHILDREN:

Children's Worship Bulletins are available at the back for ages 3-6 and ages 7-12.

Attended Nursery for infants through age two. Parents may leave their children in the nursery before the worship service begins.

A Training Room for parents to use anytime during the worship service is also provided across the hall from the attended nursery.

For Your Convenience:

Hearing aid devices are available and may be received from the attendant in the sound room at the rear of the auditorium.



Prayer List

- ❖ **Carmie Green** requests prayers for her continued health problems.
- ❖ **Ben Shepard** is receiving therapy on his neck and is improving.
- ❖ **Dwain Chambers** is waiting for approval for more surgery.
- ❖ **Marvin McElwain** is at Royal Care Nursing Home in Avon Park, Room 119 and welcomes visits and phone calls. His cell # is 664-9129. Please call after 9pm and anytime on weekends.
- ❖ **Lori Barnett** has a frozen right shoulder and is going to be receiving therapy for a month.
- ❖ **Don Ware Sr.** had a stint put in and angioplasty.
- ❖ **Cliff Blain** is at home now. He received 5 pints of blood for his bleeding condition which was due to medication.
- ❖ **Herman Klahn** and June have returned home.
- ❖ **Harlen Drew** is receiving physical therapy following a stroke. He has been transferred to another hospital with a special unit for rehabilitation.
- ❖ **Helen Piety, Don and Elizabeth Ware** our shut-ins.

EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

- ❖ **Lane White**, a neighbor of Betty Abrams has cancer.
- ❖ **Charles Shinholser**, father of Olin had a malignant melanoma.
- ❖ **Glenda Friend**, sister of Carol Johnson, is at home.
- ❖ **Paul Ledbetter**, a former elder at the Griffin Rd. congregation, is in Shands Hospital.
- ❖ **Cindy LaForte**, sister of Mary Welsh, **Rita Bridges**, sister of Linda Bridges, has developed more tumors, **Bob Loush**, friend of Bob Marie, **Rich Vendel**, nephew of Donna Roberts, **Becky Gates**, and **Jim Lawrence**, a friend of John Roberts, are all undergoing treatment for cancer.
- ❖ **Wallace Maxwell**, father of Brenda Shinholser, had a stress test on Friday. Her mother, **Dorothy**, will also be seeing doctors to determine if surgery is necessary.
- ❖ **Bonnie Coss**, sister-in-law of Della Martin broke both of her legs.
- ❖ **John Stanley**, brother of Mary Jo Miller, is back in rehab after suffering a fall and is doing well with his therapy.
- ❖ **Allie Hudson**, granddaughter of Rachel Capps, has a serious eye problem. She is 6 years old.
- ❖ **Lisa Hartman**, niece of John Roberts, is having a difficult time with a pregnancy.
- ❖ **James Roberts**, brother of John has a very serious viral infection in his mouth and requests prayers.

MISSION EFFORTS

- ❖ **Anil Tejpaal and family** in Guyana.
- ❖ **Vovo Shoot and family and Dema Galook and family** in Chernovtsy.
- ❖ **F. H & Becky Gates** in Brazil

Our Record: April 15, 2007

Bible Study	86
Sunday AM Worship	112
Sunday PM Worship	70
Contribution	\$2740
Wednesday Bible Study	79
Building Fund	\$11
Ukraine Building Fund	\$125
F.H. Gates	\$0
Special Mission – Guyana	\$0
World Bible Translation (Ladies Class)	\$30
Clothing Room/Pantry 04/18	34



Lola Olson	04/23
Trudy Benton	04/24
Raymond George	04/25
Helen Piety	04/26
Patty Massey	04/27
Trudy Wood	04/27
Allen Barber	04/28



Chuck and Missy Jabas 05/02

Visitors for April 15, 2007

Richard and Sharon Sears	Jon Daniels and family
Anne Reinwand	Ray Fisch
Ken and Jackie Daniels	Tom and Clara McCloud

Who Ever Heard of a Man....

Who preferred to drown rather than get into a boat with a hypocrite?
Who quit going to the movies because the manager did not speak to him?
Who always quit on the second day of a job because he made a mistake on the first?
Who never did anything about his illness because he wasn't interested in the subject?
Who refused to eat because he couldn't understand how it could give him physical strength?
Who was too busy to breathe?
Who refused to pay his taxes because he was "good enough" or refused government aid because he "was not good enough?"
Who never made any kind of promise to anyone because he was "afraid he couldn't hold out?"
Who scorned a personal invitation to have an audience with the President of the United States because he would have to give up some of his friends?
Who refused to obey the law of his nation because his parents might object?
Who failed to improve himself in any way because someone might laugh at him?
Who renounced his American citizenship because he didn't like the President?
In the World—Never
In Religion—Often

via Airline Church of Christ



Preaching Schedule

4/22 Jason Waller AM
Timothy Class PM

Ladies Class Schedule



April 24th the teacher will be Laura Ware.

Clothing Room

On Thursday, 9-11am, the clothing room is open for the community. **On the last Thursday of each month the time will be changed to 4-6pm.** If you have any furniture or household items to donate for use in this ministry, please let Betty Abrams or Harry Johnson know.



Searching For Truth

A new supply of copies of World Video Bible School DVD *Searching for Truth* has come in and copies are available on the tables in the back. The elders encourage everyone to use these DVD's and share them with friends, family, and those in the community.



Communion Sign-up

The sign up sheet for 2007 for communion preparation is on the bulletin board in the foyer. Your help is needed. There are still some months that still need people to be willing to do this.

Help Needed

The Mount Dora Children's Home will be holding their Annual Food and Supply trip during the week of May 21-25, 2007. See the sheet on the bulletin board for a list of supplies that they need. Currently they provide 30 children with a safe home.

Youth Activity

On Saturday, April 28th, there will be a game day for the youth from 3:00-6:00pm. See the insert in the bulletin. If you have any questions, see James Ware.

From the Elders

Today, Jason Waller and his wife Carie are here to have him try out for the preacher position. He will be speaking to all the Adult Bible classes as well as the morning service. Be sure to fill out the evaluation sheets and give to an elder after the morning service.

The Bible

This book contains the mind of God, the state of men, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true and its decisions immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, good to support you and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword and the Christian's character.

Here paradise is restored, heaven opened and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design and the glory of God its end. It should rule the heart, fill the memory and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its holy contents.

Via Church of Christ, Hale Center, TX

Area Meetings

The **Pinecrest** congregation will be holding a spring songfest on Friday, April 27th, starting at 7:30pm. See the bulletin board for directions.

Lake Street Church of Christ, in Stuart, will be holding their 14th Annual Anniversary for their Minister Henry McFadden on July 14th at 4pm. They will be having a gospel meeting July 15-19. See the bulletin board for further details.



CEO

The CEO will meet on Friday, April 27th at 5:30pm at the Thai Restaurant in Sebring. All are invited to attend.

It Bears Repeating:

Unless there is within us
That which is above us,
We shall soon yield
To that which is about us.

SHEPHERDS

Harry Johnson.....655-3386
(Evangelism/Membership
Directory/Membership
Fellowship Clothing Room)

Dave Marcum385-8899
(Treasurer/ Administration)

Olin Shinholser.....382-1060
(Worship Services/ Education)

Paul Talbert.....385-3756
(Building & Grounds/
Benevolence/ Membership
Services)

DEACONS

Bill Benton453-6002
(Treasurer/Visitation)

Chris Fowler386-4661
(Youth Director/ Services
Director/ Substitute Teacher
Assignments/Sound Room)

Roger Gurganus453-3939
(Building & Grounds
Maintenance (Outside)/
Transportation/ Communion)

Tracey Stalter471-9736
(Building Maintenance (Inside)/
Membership Directory/ Pews)

BJ Thomas385-7270
(Building Maintenance (Outside)/
Benevolence, Clothing Room)

Don Ware.....382-0194
(Special Mission Efforts/
Timothy Class)

Giving

When he has more than
he can eat,
To feed the stranger's
not a feat.

It isn't hard to give or
lend.

Who gives but what he'll
never miss

Will never know what
giving is.

He'll win few praises
from the Lord

Who does but what he
can afford.

The widow's mite to
heaven went

Because real sacrifice it
meant.

Edgar A Guest

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR MORNING WORSHIP

THIS SUNDAY

Prepare Communion:

Lori Brockwell and Patty Massey

Greeters:

Ron Horton Carl Marin
Bill Sweeton Della Martin

Pick Up Cards:

Nicholas Stalter & Forest Ritenour

Pick Up Communion Cups:

Hayden Parker & Austin Ritenour

Sound Room:

Tracey Stalter

Secure Building This Week:

Tracey Stalter

Announcements:

Chris Fowler

Song Leader:

Paul Talbert

Opening Prayer:

Dwain Chambers

Lord's Supper:

Preside:

John Roberts

Serve:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Edison Green | 4. Robert Capps |
| 2. John Burton | 5. Roger Gurganus |
| 3. Dale Spung | 6. Troy Talbert |

Closing Prayer:

Bill Cole

Sunday Evening

Song Leader: Opening Prayer:

Timothy Class Timothy Class

Lord's Supper: Closing Prayer:

John Roberts Timothy Class

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Invitation:

James Ware Dave Marcum

Closing Prayer:

Cliff Blain

FREE BIBLE STUDY BY MAIL

If you would like to receive a series of Bible Study Lessons, send this request to:

Sebring Parkway Church of Christ
3800 Sebring Parkway
Sebring, FL 33870

Name _____

Address _____

Age Range:

0 - 10 yrs 11 - 17 yrs

18 - 50 yrs 51 - ?? yrs

NEXT SUNDAY

Prepare Communion:

Lori Brockwell and Patty Massey

Greeters:

Ron Horton Tracey Stalter
Bill Sweeton Nancy Stalter

Pick Up Cards:

Victor Oregon & Austin Ritenour

Pick Up Communion Cups:

Nathan Ramer & Austin Ritenour

Sound Room:

Roger Gurganus

Secure Building Next Week:

Roger Gurganus

Announcements:

Dave Marcum

Song Leader:

Chris Fowler

Opening Prayer:

Robert Capps

Lord's Supper:

Preside:

Carl Martin

Serve:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Tracey Stalter | 4. Herb Ellis |
| 2. Wayne Anderson | 5. Don Yost |
| 3. BJ Thomas | 6. Bob Parnett |

Closing Prayer:

Cliff Blain

Sunday Evening

Song Leader: Opening Prayer:

Paul Talbert Dale Spung

Lord's Supper: Closing Prayer:

Carl Martin Carl Martin

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Invitation:

Don Ware Gordon Smith

Closing Prayer:

James Ware

MEET WITH US

Sunday Bible Study.....9:00 AM
Sunday AM Worship.....10:00 AM
Sunday PM Service.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study....7:00 PM

Website: <http://www.sebringcoc.com>

Email:

sebringparkway@sebringcoc.com

Office Hours: 9am-2pm M-F

Announcements: Chris Fowler

Song: 794 Unto Thee O Lord

Opening Prayer: Dwain Chambers

Song: 853 When We All Get to Heaven

Song: 387 Tell Me the Story of Jesus

Communion

Offering

Song: 749 The Battle Belongs to the Lord

Lesson: Jason Waller

Invitation Song: 935 Sinners Jesus Will Receive

Song: 854 When He Comes in Glory By and By

Closing Prayer: Bill Cole

Reminder

If for some reason you find that you cannot serve as scheduled in the monthly assignment schedule, please call Chris Fowler as soon as possible so that a substitute can be selected.

Those serving are asked to be here at least 10 minutes before the service starts.

Those who participate Sunday morning are asked to wear appropriate dress attire, preferably, though not required, a dress shirt and tie. At other services casual sport shirt and slacks are acceptable; no T-shirts or shorts should be worn while serving the congregation.

Thank you for your cooperation.

What should not be heard by little ears should not be said by big mouths.