

Sermon Notes



Topic:
Text:

THE MESSENGER

"This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." 1 John 1:5

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Issue 1

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WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS

If you are one of our visitors today, please know that we are indeed honored to have you. If you are a member of the Lord's body, thanks for choosing to worship with us today. If you are not a member of the Lord's church, we would be happy to meet with you and discuss how one becomes a member of the church which we read about in the New Testament. We aim to speak as they spoke and do as they did. We also offer a free Bible correspondence course which can be mailed to you. Or, someone would be glad to meet with you for a one-on-one Bible Study. You can indicate your desire on a visitor's card and place it in the collection tray.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Class.....10 a.m.

Worship11 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting

(Last Wed. each month @ 7 pm)



WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

HEAR

Rom. 1:16;
10:17

BELIEVE

John 8:24

REPENT

Luke 13:3
Acts 3:19;

CONFESS

Rom 10:9-10
Matt. 10:32

BE BAPTIZED

Acts 2:38;
22:16

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Simply the Best! - Bro. Webster

In the ongoing Wimbledon tennis championship, an Australian player, Bernard Tomic was fined his entire prize money of \$56,100 for not trying hard enough in his defeat to another player. The match lasted 58 minutes which was the shortest on record for the men since 2004! The message is clear, if you are going to participate, you are expected to give maximum effort!

Similarly, and more so, God expects our best to be offered to Him and not our leftovers. In Malachi 1:8 God asks the Jews, "And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, is it not evil?" It is also evil and sinful when we don't give our best to God. In the Old Testament, God commanded the Jews to give Him "the first-fruits of your harvest" (Leviticus 23:10). Today, God commands us in Romans 12:1 to "present your bodies as a living sacrifice" to Him.

But even when we have given our best to the Lord, we haven't earned our salvation. Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For by grace we have been saved through **faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." It is our faith in the Lord that motivates us to do good works in His name.

We can never do too much for the Lord, but we can do too little. Jesus gave us the parable of the one talent man to warn us that we must give God our best according to our ability. Jesus says, "But he who had received one went and dug in the ground and hid his lord's money...But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant...And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth'" (Matthew 25:18, 26, 30). We see the tragic end of one who did not give his best to the Lord. The Christian who is casual and nonchalant about his service to God will end up a spiritual casualty! Hence Jesus advises us to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30).

How can we not want to give God our best when we have received His best? We are constantly on the receiving end of His divine blessings. In recognition of this fact, David asked, "What shall give back to God, for all his benefits toward me?" (Psa. 116:12). The very air we breathe, the sunshine, and the rain are all as a result of His goodness toward us. Jesus said, "...for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust" Matt. 5:45. However, God's best gift was His greatest of all, which is the sacrificial death of His Son for us. Paul calls it, an indescribable gift. He went to ask that God "...who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Rom. 8:32. God wants simply the best!

But even when we have given our best to the Lord, we haven't "earned" our salvation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to **silence** your cell phones.

Sis. Angela Williams is our new secretary. Please give her your full support and prayers.

Please don't forget to invite your families and friends to our "Friends and Family" day on Aug. 11. Our worship will be followed by our Picnic by the park.

We thank God for bringing back **Sis. Trussell** safe from her successful medical missions in Rwanda, Africa.

We encourage everyone to take advantage of the beautiful weather God has given us by attending Wed. Bible Class and also Sunday morning Bible Class.

If you did not see your birthday or anniversary mentioned in the bulletin, please let Sis. Angela Williams know.

Special prayers also for: Sisters Erika Dockens, Debra Ellis, Latanya Howard, Ursula Ware, Laurene Cunningham, Sandra Mutlab. Bros. Robert Hughes, J. W. Kinds, Robert Davis and Craig Conner.

Out of Town: Bro. and Sis. Davis, and Bro. AJ Cunningham.

Our College Students

Paris Mickles: SIU
Darren Jackson: SIU
Bria Gamble: Illinois State

2019 School Graduates

Denece Webster: University of Illinois
Serena Webster: Homewood Flossmoor High

Useful Resources

"*Preaching the gospel*" is available on both Dish Network channel 267 and *Direct TV* channel 376 on Sunday mornings at 6:30 Central Time.

Gospel Broadcasting Network is a brotherhood sponsored television station. Go to www.GBNTV.org. You can also find very useful videos on YouTube. Just type in GBNTV.

Order of Service

- Song
- Announcement
- Song
- Opening Prayer
- Song
- Scripture Reading
- Song
- Sermon
- Song
- Lord's Supper**
- Offering**
- Song
- Closing Prayer



Last Week's Record

Sun. AM Class	24
Sun. AM Worship	53
Wed. Bible Class	16