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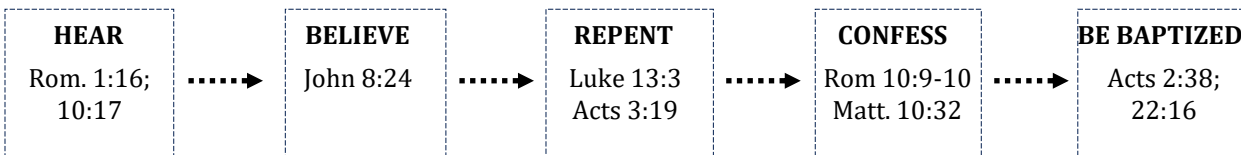
Sermon Notes



ORDER OF SERVICE

Song ~Announcements~ Song ~ Opening Prayer~ Song~ Scripture Reading~ Song~ Sermon~ Song~
Lord's Supper~ Offering~ Song~ Closing Prayer

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?



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." **1John 1:5***

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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 located at the front on the communion table.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday

Young Christians' Class10 a.m.
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.
Worship Service11 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.

*I rejoiced with those who said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
Psalm 122:1*

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Thoughts, Words, Actions!

A study of God's word will reveal that our relationship with God and those around us are built with a combination of our thoughts, words and actions. These three interlocking areas of our lives will determine our standing before God.

Our thoughts are important because, "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he," Prov. 23:7. The scriptures teach that our thoughts, minds and hearts (sometimes used synonymously) are the bases of all that we do in life. It is where sin originates as taught by Jesus in Matt. 15:19 where He says, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies." They are also the origin of good deeds and words. In Phil. 4:8, Paul tells us that "... whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things." Notice that in order for these things to be put into action we first have to think about them. It is of no surprise then, that it is said in Prov. 4:23 "Guard your heart with all diligence, For out of it springs the issues of life."

Our words or speech is a by-product of our thoughts. What we import into our minds generally expresses itself in words. If we think negatively, we will speak negatively, and if we think positively, we will speak positively. Job recognized this when he says, "Therefore my anxious thoughts make me answer, Because of the turmoil within me" (Job 20:2). Our thoughts will invariably be translated into words and our words will be a reflection of our hearts. Prov. 27:19 tells us "As in water, face reflects face, So a man's heart reveals the man." We must, therefore, always be concerned about that which proceeds from our lips because of the profound effect it can have on those around us. Paul exhorted the Colossian Christians to "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one" Col 4:6. He was quite emphatic about this message that he also told the Ephesians "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers" Eph. 4:29.

Our actions are oftentimes a reflection of our words in that, what we say affects what we do. We become less credible if our actions and words are out of sync. Jesus warned His disciples to not be like the Pharisees and Scribes because they "...do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do" (Matt. 23:3). Decades after the ministry of Jesus, this issue still needed to be dealt with. In Titus 1:16, Paul says there are those who "...profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work." The scriptures do place a lot of emphasis on what we do since our eternal destiny is dependent on our actions. In Matt. 7:21, Jesus says, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven."

- Robert Webster

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDERS:

~Please silence your *cell phones*.



~No *eating* in the auditorium.

New guest, please be sure to complete a Welcome Card.

Returning guest please **print** your name in the Returning Guest Log in the foyer.

Please send any *requests* and *announcements* to be made or to be included in the bulletin to Sis. Ruthie Gamble at 708-336-3120.

There is a *suggestion box* in the foyer.

Please review the *website* for any necessary updates. Also, if you would like a *year-end tax statement*, please contact Sis. Ruthie Gamble.

The *Ladies' Ministry* will resume Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 6:30p.m. It promises to be a great spiritual and social boost for the ladies. We will be starting our *Men's Class* on the same date and time as our sisters at the church building also. Remember that these classes are every other week.

Annual Ladies Lectureship Retreat

Theme: *Christian Women Living Courageously in a Spiritual Pandemic*

Date: April 20-23, 2023 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Website: www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org

****Please check the Ladies Retreat Website for updated information.**

Bro. Edward Davis will be having a Zoom meeting with our young people this evening at 7:00 regarding plans for the upcoming youth Sunday. The zoom link will be sent later today.

FOR PRAYERS:

The Carter & Thompson families, Sis Bell & family, The Cotton & Peden families, Sis. Helen McGee, Bro. Edward Davis, the Wyatt, Thigpen & Williams families, Cossom family, the Hardy & Burks families. Sis. Ellis, The Brantfords, Sis.

Glenda Carter, Stacye Forrest, cousin of the Cunningham/Gamble families, Young family, Bryant family, Palanca family, Sis. Errika Williams & Scott families. The Conner family, Sis. Della White & family, Sis. Kenya & Kristopher Strickland, Sis. Davis, J. W. Kinds, Sis. Cunningham and Bro. & Sis. Taylor.

Please continue to pray for and encourage our new members Bro. Kristopher Strickland, Bro. Croom, Sis. Reba & Michelle Metevia, and Sisters Tillman and McLaurin.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES:

Children's Bible Class taught by Sis. Whitney Taylor (lower level).

Young Adult Class taught by Bro. Taylor. (upper level)

Adult Bible Class - main auditorium

We are seeking volunteers for *Sunday School teachers* for kids. Please see Bro. Webster for more information.

THIS WEEK:

NO BIRTHDAYS OR ANNIVERSARIES

SKILLS BANK

Remember to submit your information to be added to the skills bank and be diligent to do your verification for relevant licensing.

Sis. WebsterReal Estate Agent
Sis. Debra WoodardFinancial Advisor
Gambles Property Preservation & Custom Home Décor

Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	81
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	49
Last Sunday offering	\$3861.20
Weekly Budget	\$2625.00