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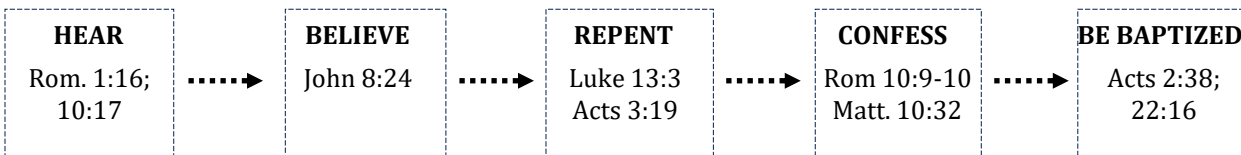
Sermon Notes



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***

Volume 3 **March 5, 2023** **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 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

The Power of the Living Word – R. Webster

At the risk of sounding simplistic, it is an indisputable fact that the Word of God is the single most powerful tool available to man today, especially Christians. Heb. 4:12 “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” The sad thing is, few appreciate this divine piece of literature. Is it any wonder then, that the Bible is regarded as merely a book of mere stories to be read rather than the means by which God inspires man today?

If we only knew the real benefits of God’s Word, then we will echo the words of the Psalmist when he said, “Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path” (Psa. 119:105). Without God’s word, we live in darkness or ignorance to life’s most fundamental questions like; *How did I get here? What is expected of me? And where am I going?* It was Derek Bok, an American lawyer, who once said, “If you think education is expensive, try ignorance.” It is ignorance that has led man to many problems in life, some of which have eternal consequences. Prov. 14:12 says “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”

There is absolutely nothing that God requires of us that is unconnected to His Word. It teaches us how to pray, how to be faithful Christians, how to worship and what attitude to maintain in difficult circumstances. This means, therefore, that we must humbly seek God’s help through prayer to bridge the gap between what we read and how we live. We run the risk of becoming nothing more than a storage facility for God’s Word instead of it facilitating us to live daily for Him. The scribes and Pharisees knew the law well (Rom. 7:1) but because of stubbornness it had little effect on them. Jesus warned his followers about the Pharisees' detached lives from the law when He says, “Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do” (Matt. 23:3). They had the correct interpretation of the law in many instances, but their lives did not correspond with it.

It is human nature to resist being told what to do. However, our relationship with God is predicated on submission and obedience to His will not ours. Jesus says, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me” (Matt. 16:24). This means that we must be willing to make whatever sacrifice necessary to follow Christ and we follow Him by living according to His teachings. The power of God’s Word is only realized when it is lived. Frustration and discouragement will continue to invade our lives unless we resolve it. With the aid of the Holy Spirit, we prayerfully seek to bridge the gap between the written word and living word.

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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.

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

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.

FOR PRAYERS:

Sis. Helen McGee, Bro. Edward Davis, the Wyatt, Thigpen & Williams families, Cossom family, the Carter & McMillian families, the Raglin & Murphy -Reece families and the Hardy & Burks families. Sis. Ellis, Sis. Brandi Bell, The Brantfords, Sis. Glenda Carter, Bro. Croom, Stacye Forrest, cousin of the Cunningham/Gamble families, Young family, Bryant family, Palanca family, Sis. Errika Williams & Scott family. 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 who was baptized on February 12, 2023, 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.

BIRTHDAYS

*MALACHI PAYNE	WED. MAR. 1ST
BRO. GOLDMAN	FRI. MAR. 3RD
SIS. STRICKLAND	TUES. MAR. 7TH
SIS. GLENDA CARTER	THUS. MAR. 9TH

* DENOTES NOT A MEMBER

NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

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	78
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	46
Last Sunday offering	\$2593.42
Weekly Budget	\$2625.00