



Contact Us:

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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship..... 10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service..... 2:30 PM
Worship..... 6:00 PM

Tuesday:

Redstone Class..... 9:30 AM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Jim Moore

Don Smith..... James Thomas

Preacher:

Ryan Smithey.....

Works We Support:

Belize Mission & Kindergarten
Cherokee Home for Children
Gospel Broadcast Network
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
House to House, Heart to Heart
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.

Prepare For Emergency Landing

By Daniel Gaines

British Airways Flight 206 was flying overnight from Miami to London. As they flew, passengers dozed, read, watched movies, and peacefully passed time somewhere high above the Atlantic Ocean. Then at 3 a.m. their peace was broken by terror – an alarm sounded and a recorded message informed them that the plane was about to crash into the ocean! Passengers screamed and cried as they felt that they were surely about to die.

But it turns out that the recorded message had been played by mistake. The flight crew quickly announced the mistake and instructed the passengers to ignore the previous warnings. There was no immediate danger, and everything was operating normally.

As I read that story, I wondered how the passengers viewed their “second chance” at life. How would we feel if we thought we were about to die, only to find out we were perfectly safe? Being confronted with death has a way of sharply refocusing our thoughts and priorities. Worldly things that seemed so important moments before would now find themselves void of any real value. The “really important” things would now be all that mattered – Is my life right with God? Do my loved ones know how I feel about them? Have I prepared them for life without me? What’s going to happen to me now? Are there any wrongs that I should’ve made right? I would think that these are the type questions that might race through our minds. Those who felt prepared for death probably faced the situation with more peace than those desperate for more of this life.

Furthermore, for the unprepared, would there be any change in life after the initial, euphoric relief of not dying had passed? Or would they quickly find themselves reverting back to old mindsets? Would they merely think, “Whew! That was close!” Then quickly move on. Or would they be deeply grateful for the second chance, and be determined to prepare better for death?

A king in the Bible, named Hezekiah, had such an opportunity. In 2 Kings 20, we are told of how he became mortally ill. God told Hezekiah through the prophet, Isaiah, that he was not going to recover and he would die. Hezekiah responded by praying as hard as he knew how. God heard those prayers, and granted him 15 more years. So how did he respond to his second chance? We are told in 2 Chronicles 32:25, “But Hezekiah gave no return for the benefit he received, because his heart was proud; therefore wrath came on him and on Judah and Jerusalem” He wasted his second chance because of his pride. Would we do better?

The truth is that we are all on notice. James 4:14 cautions us, “whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that

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*Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ:
that whether I come and see you, or else be absent,
I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit,
with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;”*

Philippians 1:27

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appears for a little time and then vanishes away”. People sometimes say, “Live each day like it’s your last!” We can’t literally do that because there are mundane chores of life that must be done, which we would surely forsake if we knew for certain that tomorrow would not come. We can’t skip work EVERY day. We can’t skip the dishes EVERY day. We can’t ignore the bills EVERY day.

However, we can live each day prepared for our last, by keeping our priorities in line, and by doing all the good we can with the opportunities presented to us by the day. Just three verses later James would say in James 4:17 “Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.” So let us do the good we can while we have the opportunity. That very challenge is issued to us in Galatians 6:10, “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

If today were in fact your last, would you be okay with that? Or would you be filled with regret?

Why is Patience So Important?

By David Harris

Patience is a word that is used in the Bible quite extensively. It is considered by God to be something that we need (not something we might use) as Christians. As we read our Bibles and apply the teachings to our lives we all can understand the need for faith, holiness, love, compassion, knowledge, and wisdom but why do we need patience? Patience is considered to be a Christian virtue. What is that? The definition of a virtue, according to Webster’s, is: “Moral excellence, goodness; righteousness.” It is also defined as: “conformity of one’s life and conduct to moral and ethical principles.” If patience is a Christian virtue, then I must have it. Patience is something that God knows that we need yet one of the last things that might cross our minds as we endeavor to live the Christian life. The definition of “patience” is: “the bearing of provocation, annoyance, misfortune, or pain, without complaint, loss of temper, irritation, or the like.” When you boil it all down, patience is an attitude of our character that needs to be sharpened every day.

In 2 Peter 1:4-7, we find what we like to call the “Christian Graces.” *“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these you might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith, virtue; and to virtue knowl-*

edge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.” Patience is right in the middle of these “Christian Graces.” Then we are told in this context, in verse 8: *“For if these things be in you (patience included) and abound, they make you that you shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”* Patience is one of the things that will help us accumulate the knowledge of God’s Will to guide our lives and glorify God.

We are also taught that we are to be patient on our focus toward our Christian lives and goals. *“And let us not be weary, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not”* (Galatians 6:9). One of the things we are to be as Christians is “Givers” (Luke 6:38). However, sometimes it seems as if our giving is unappreciated. No matter, be patient, it will return on God’s timetable. God never wants us to give up – *“in due season we shall reap if we faint not”* – Not on our Christian life, nor on our Christian goals.

Notice the tremendous encouragement we find from the Holy Spirit: *“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us, and*

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Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)
Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB
In Search of the Lord’s Way
Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB
Gospel Broadcasting Network
Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org
Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on
Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)
Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

God’s Plan for Redeeming Man

Hear Learn the saving message of Christ’s sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).
Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)
Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)
Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)
Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Bible Study Schedule

Week 6

Genesis 31-36 & Matthew 11-12

Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.

Also anyone interested can join us at 5 PM each Sunday in the fellowship hall to discuss the questions and answers.

“...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;” (1 Pet. 2:2)



Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **Ladies Bible Class** meets each Wednesday at 10 AM in the high school class room. Also this week the ladies are planning on going out to eat following class.
- ◆ **Grandbury Forum**...the annual open forum hosted by the Granbury Street congregation in Cleburne is this Saturday, February 11th from 1 to 4:30 PM. A flyer is on the back bulletin board. Let Ryan know if you would like to go and need a ride.
- ◆ **Game Night**...We hope to start planning a game night for those who want to get together every other month. The Smitheys will host the first one at their home on **Friday night February 24th**. Bring games and of course your favorite foods. If you wish to host one either at your house or here at the building see Ryan or Priscilla to schedule .
- ◆ **Gospel Meeting**...mark your calendar for our spring meeting with Wayne Jones of San Maros, TX on May 20-23. He will be speaking on the home and marriage.

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let us run with patience the race that is set before us” (Hebrews 12:1). All races are not the same. You cannot run my race, and I cannot run yours. We may even think someone else’s race is much better than the one we have been given to run. No matter, whatever race is set before us, let us run it with patience and never give up. This is what James is talking about in James 1:2: “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith works patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that you may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” We need to count it all joy that we are still in the race, and then consider that our faith is only a word until it is tried and tested. The trying of our faith will render a Christian virtue that will help us get to heaven.

Let us never forget what is at the end of the faithful race, of which Paul speaks: *“For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing” (2 Timothy 4:6-8).*

That is why patience is so important.

Visitation Meeting

Remember our visitation meeting each Sunday night following the evening worship to sign cards and discuss the work going on. Please join us each time. Last week **30 contacts** were made.

Celebrate

“Rejoice with those who rejoice...” (Romans 12:15)

February Birthdays: Peggy Chism (03), Carol Wilcox (05), Lunday Maninger (08), Patti Bannister (14), Jonathan Fuller (28).

February Anniversaries: Mariah & Steven Martinez (04), Peggy & Billy Chism (26).



Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...

Records

	Jan. 22, 2012	Jan. 29, 2012
Bible Class	48	54
AM Worship	73	77
PM Worship	45	39
Wednesday PM	34	42
Contribution	\$1927	\$1768

	This Week: 2/05/12	Next Week: 2/12/12		
Sunday AM:	Lead Singing: Tom Wilcox	Lead Singing: Gene Bannister	February 2012 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: Cindy Fuller Keep Grounds: James Fuller March 2012 Make Announcements: Jim Moore Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism Clean Building: The Smithey Family Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox	
Greeters	Jack & Joyce Hill	The Maninger Family		
Opening Prayer	Garrett Barnum	Allen Griffith		
Communion	Gene Bannister*, Ken Maninger Allen Griffith, James Fuller	Hank Wheeler*, Don Smith Tom Wilcox, John Barnum		
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Jim Moore		
Attendance Cards	Seth Smithey/Matthew Ochoa	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez		
Sunday PM:				
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	Ken Maninger		
Scripture Reading	Hank Wheeler <i>Matthew 5:13-16</i>	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	Gene Bannister	Hank Wheeler		
Closing Prayer	Jim Moore	James Fuller		
Wednesday Devotionals:	February 8 Allen Griffith	February 15 Tom Wilcox	February 22 Garrett Barnum	February 29 James Fuller

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

Studies for the week of February 5, 2012	Sunday Class Romans 7-8 Wednesday Class Bible/Redemption Survey
<p>Lessons About Evangelism (Matthew 10) Matthew 10 focuses in on Jesus' charge to His apostles from which we can learn some lessons as we spread the gospel:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Go With Wisdom, Love, and Truth (v16-20) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use wisdom and love, yet some would still be set against them; also they were to speak as God would have them to. Today our charge is still to go forth with the gospel wisely (Eph. 5:15-17), in love (Eph. 4:15), speaking the Word of God (Matt. 28:19; Gal. 1:6-12). Fear God, Not Man (v21-31) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They would face danger and persecution in doing Jesus' work, but that should not cause them to cease; they must be more interested in pleasing God rather than man. We still are to spread the gospel to the world even in midst of persecution? (2 Tim. 4:2; Matt. 28:19-20; Gal. 1:10) Put The Lord First (v32-39) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They were to confess Christ by the lives they lived, regardless of the consequences faced in this life. This meant giving Him priority even over family and life. God and spiritual interests must always come first and such should show in the way that we live (Matt. 6:33; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 1:27; 1 Thess. 1:6-10; Matt. 16:26). Support The Work (v40-42) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus praised those who would receive His disciples and as they would be supporting Him, and God who sent Him; even small acts of kindness would not go unnoticed. Even today we need to do our part but also encourage and support those who are doing the work of the Lord (v10). 	<p>Godly People In A Godless World <i>Daniel records for us the lives and challenges four Hebrew youths would face in Babylon. Their challenges are similar to ones we may face today so what can we learn from them:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges They Faced <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Taken into Babylonian captivity as youths they found themselves in a strange environment (1:3-4) that where their identities were attempted to be removed (1:6-7) and they faced spiritual challenges (1:8). This is not unlike our world that we face outside of our homes and gatherings with other Christians, a world that does not support our faith but actually tries to destroy it (John 17:14-16; Matt. 10:25, 28). Determination They Displayed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They showed themselves to be men of conviction in these challenges, they displayed purpose/determination of heart (1:8), humility (1:8-12), and integrity/honesty (1:12-16). This was not an isolated event; consider the fiery furnace (chap 3) as we as Daniel's prayer and character (chap. 6). Will we have the same determination (1 Pet 5:8-9; Lk 9:23)? Influence They Had <ol style="list-style-type: none"> These men showed themselves to be an encouragement to each other and those around them, they displayed a godly influence that affected others (2:47, 3:29-30, 6:25-28, etc.), and the result was a glorious ending (1:15, 19-21). We may not see it on the scale that these men did, but we can have the same influence on others around us today if we live with the same determination (Phil. 2:15-16; 2 Cor. 3:2).