

BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Time of Services:

Sunday: 10:00 A.M. class, 11:00 A.M. worship, and 6:00 P.M. worship Wednesday: 7:00 P.M. class

Preacher:

Larry Black (cell) 903-588-4253 email: lblk@peoplescom.net

Youth Leaders:

Heath & Carla Hines 903-717-1423 email: hhines@hotmail.com

Benevolence - Rick Toland: 903-220-9825 Evangelism - Heath Hines: 903-717-1423 Edification - H. L. Robertson: 903-856-5461 Building Maintenance - Mark Sharpin: 903-573-3993 Grounds & Van - John D. Porter: 903-563-5945 Finance - Larry Reynolds: 903-767-0742

Wednesday Devotional Speaker: Eugene Stone Van Driver for March: Eugene Stone



BLODGETT
CHURCH of CHRIST
Bulletin

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Where Does Worry Lead?

Matthew 6:25-33

There are a lot of instructions throughout the Bible, and Jesus was always instructing His followers and those multitudes that gathered everywhere He went. God told Adam and Eve not to eat from the tree of life, but they did. He told Moses to lead His people out of Egypt, he did and in the process God gave Moses the Ten Commandments of "do's and don'ts." Daniel was thrown into a lion's den when he didn't obey the commands of the king but did obey God in all that he did. The Bible is full of stories of people and what happened when they did or did not do what God told them to do.

Then there is Jesus and all His lessons. One instruction He gave which stands out is "do not worry." For some of us, that is like telling the sky beyond the clouds not to be blue. Occasionally we all give in to worry, so we all know what it's like to worry. We dismiss it as just being concerned about what is going on around us or about the problems we have to solve in our own lives. We think that worry is really just part of figuring out what to do. Notice what Paul wrote in Philippians. "Be careful for nothing" means "Do not worry."

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (7) And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Phil. 4:6-7)

Jesus asked a very important question in regard to worry: can we add even one more hour to our life by worrying? Worry is the starting line to a whole host of sins which are literally birthed in the agony of worry. It sneaks in as concern when we are given a questionable diagnosis by the doctor which requires further tests. A spouse comes home with the news that the company may be laying off employees, and it's not certain if you will be affected or not. Many things in any given day will trigger concern and then

worry. Do you respond or react to triggers like these or similar ones?

There is a fight or flight mechanism within our brains. It was put there by God to help us avoid situations we don't need to be in or to help us survive. If you saw a tornado coming toward you, would you just stand there and watch it without trying to get to a safe place? Or would you stand in the middle of a busy road without moving to safety so that cars wouldn't hit you? These are situations where the fight or flight mechanism kicks in and hopefully would result in the flight response.

But many of us will stand and fight with worry all day long, day in and day out about things we just cannot control. Worry does not heal the sickness when we don't even know what it is. Worry won't change anything that we never had control over in the first place. In regard to worry, our reaction should be "flight" instead of "fight."

So what does worry lead to? With anxiety, mood swings, arguments, frustration, and addictions, worry is the worst roller coaster we can ever agree to ride. Worry is the result of a lack of faith. Worry is the opposite of faith. It is the failure to grasp the trust of the God who is worthy of our trust. Worry is nothing less than not trusting God who has already done so much for us. Will God not continue to do for us, help us and see us through anything this life tries to use to set us back? Worry is the front door to trouble. We open that door and invite a multitude of sins to rush right in and set up house. These unwanted guests will not leave voluntarily, which then makes it even harder to stop worry from wreaking havoc in every part of our lives.

Worry leads to many problems that faith and trusting God could have prevented. Worry doesn't fix anything but gives us much more of which to repent.

~ Larry (adapted from Teresa Jenkins)

Some minds are like concrete: thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

If worries can cure your sickness, then go ahead and worry. If worries can prolong your life, then go ahead and worry. If worries can make you happy, then go ahead and worry.

Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors.

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Family News

- **Nina Wharton,** Susan Dennis' mother, has been diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver.
- Our condolences to the **Sue Hendrix** family in the death of her sister, Lou Gene Maxton, and to **Larry Reynolds** in the death of his friend, David Tubbs.
- Paul Caldwell, Frank's brother, had heart surgery last Friday.
- **Debbie Reynolds** has been diagnosed with "walking pneumonia."
- The Oak Grove church is hosting a "Spring Sing" Friday, March 22nd beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- HRR pantry item for March is assorted salad dressing.

I BELIEVE IN THE SUN, EVEN WHEN IT IS NOT SHINING; I BELIEVE IN LOVE, EVEN WHEN I FEEL IT NOT; I BELIEVE IN GOD, EVEN WHEN HE IS SILENT.

Jesus is Watching You

A burglar broke into a home and was looking around. He heard a soft voice say, "Jesus is watching you." Thinking it was just his imagination, he continued his search. Again the voice said "Jesus is watching you." He turned his flashlight around and saw a parrot in a cage. He asked the parrot if he was the one talking, and the parrot said, "yes." He asked the parrot what his name was, and the parrot said, "Moses." The burglar asked, "what kind of people would name a parrot Moses?" The parrot said, "the same kind of people who would name their German Shepherd Jesus."

Flight to Egypt

Terri asked her Sunday School class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Kyle's picture, which showed four people on an airplane. So, she asked him which story it was meant to represent.

"The flight to Egypt," said Kyle.

"I see... And that must be Mary, Joseph, and the Baby Jesus," Terri said. "But who's the fourth person?"

Kyle explained, "Oh, that's Pontius the Pilot!"