

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



BLODGETT CHURCH of CHRIST Bulletin

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"Nothing Significant?"

"I just don't feel like I've done anything important for God. I've tried to live a good life, but I just don't see how it matters. I've done nothing important for Jesus."

At times you hear these words or words like them that are often spoken by people who are precious. They do things that are sweet, sacrificial, serving, and tender for people when they need it most. Yet because their acts of service are done quietly or don't seem to be a big deal to them, they think they don't matter that much to God.

Some of the most important people in any story go unnoticed and underappreciated. Yet these people are vital to the story unfolding in the way it does. Without them, the most important things would never happen. This is true whether the story is a movie or a novel or our own personal story. This is quite often true of God's story in the Bible.

One of the most amazing stories in Scripture is the conversion of Saul, the fiercest and most passionate persecutor of the early followers of Jesus (Acts 8:3; Acts 9:1-2; Acts 26:10-11; Galatians 1:13; Philippians 3:6). Of all the early problems Jesus' followers had to overcome, Saul was one of the biggest and troubling ones.

Yet in one event, Jesus turns Saul from His biggest problem into His greatest spokesman! While it took fourteen years for all the details to get completely sorted out (Galatians 2:1), the threat of Saul's violent persecutions were immediately solved, and he was on his way to being perhaps the most influential follower of Jesus to have ever lived!

However, there is a behind the scene character whose name might escape many that played a significant role in the conversion of Saul, known later as the apostle Paul.

Saul of Tarsus was struck blind after an amazing encounter with Jesus on the road from Jerusalem to Damascus (Acts 9:3-9). Jesus tells him to go to the city, and he will be told what to do to be saved and to receive his sight again.

Meanwhile, a well-known follower of Jesus from Damascus named Ananias is told to find Saul and share the message of Jesus with him. Ananias is reluctant to go because he knows Saul's mission in Damascus is to arrest and persecute people like

himself (Acts 9:15-16). Ananias is assured that Saul is repentant and has been spending the last three days fasting from food and water, blindly praying for God's messenger to come share what he needed to do (Acts 22:10). So Ananias risks his life and safety to share Jesus, baptize Saul, and help Saul regain his sight (Acts 22:14-16).

So who is the unknown and important player in this story? The man who opened his house for the blinded Saul to wait, pray and fast; the man who was greeted at the door by Jewish Temple soldiers and a blind Jewish man looking for a place to stay in Damascus; the man who welcomed Ananias into his home to speak with Saul and to lead him to Christ. Without this man's hospitality, none of this would have happened in the beautiful way that it occurred. His name is Judas. Unfortunately his name is not remembered with fondness because of the other Judas, but Judas was a player behind the scenes that changed the course of Biblical history.

We have people at Blodgett who go about doing things behind the scenes that are important yet are deeds that most do not know about. At the risk of overlooking some, let me mention a few. Mike Fields picks up trash from the grounds and roadway every week. Mark Sharpin takes care of building maintenance. John D. Porter maintains the grounds. Susan Dennis cleans the building. Bill Money streams our services. Sharon Fields edits the bulletins. Larry Reynolds pays the bills. Mel Carpenter writes cards to visitors. Frank and Darlene Caldwell and others send "birthday," "get-well," and "thinking of you" cards.

The point is that many do things that may go unnoticed unless they were not done. Truly the church at Blodgett is one body with many functioning members. I for one want to say, "Thank you." ~ Larry

For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. (1 Cor. 12:12-14)

God Himself does not propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should we?

ASAP MEANS: ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER.

Family News

- We will have an ice-cream fellowship tonight following the evening service instead of a luncheon today.
- A men's business meeting is scheduled for July 14 after evening services.
- There is a workday scheduled at the building for Saturday, July 13 beginning at 10:00 am.
- Robert and Pat Slone have a new great-grandson.
- HRR pantry item for July is Kool-Aid or assorted fruit drinks.

Nouth Activities:

- July 15 SYS at Greer Blvd., Pittsburg. Van leaves at 6:30 p.m.
- July 22 SYS at Mt. Vernon. Van leaves at 6:30 p.m.
- Aug. 5 SYS at Oak Grove (coincides with their gospel meeting)

What Satan Fears Most

What Satan fears most is a man on his knees.

Not marching armies with great weaponry.

He knows he can stand against the powers of man.

To engage in battle is mere sport to him.

But a man on his knees with his head bowed in prayer

Is something quite different to the prince of the air.

For when he sees us in prayer to our God most high,

He knows we have seen through his devilish lies.

That's why Satan fears most a man on his knees,

And we'll keep him trembling if our prayers never cease.

ATTENDING CHURCH SERVICES REGULARLY IS LIKE MAKING A PATH THROUGH THE FOREST – THE MORE OFTEN YOU USE IT, THE LESS OBSTRUCTION YOU FIND IN THE WAY.

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: {25} Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. (Heb. 10:24-25 KJV)