

The McLish Avenue Messenger

This is the message we have heard from Him... God is Light (1 John 1:5).

August 2, 2009

MCLISH AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST • 607 McLish SW • Ardmore, OK 73401



This New Testament passage quotes an Old Testament passage. Where is the Old Testament passage found?

“Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.”

Matthew 4:10 (NKJV)

Evangelist

Ben Bailey

cell 580/340-3678

benbailey.preacher@gmail.com

Office

580/223-3289

church@mclishchurchofchrist.com

www.mclishchurchofchrist.com

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 am

Worship 10:30 am

Worship6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 pm

How to Deal with Church Problems

Ben Bailey

When problems arise at a congregation, it is not always the problems themselves that do the damage, but how each member deals with the alleged problems. For example, Sister Chatter tells Brother Gossip that she saw Bill, a church deacon, pulled over beside a beer joint helping a young mother change her flat tire. As Brother Gossip hears the story he is so gossipy that all he hears is that a church deacon was seen at the beer joint with a young mother. After the twisted story leaves the venomous lips of Brother Gossip, goes through the demented mind of Sister Busybody, then the story comes out like this. Have you heard that Brother Bill, who has always been a faithful deacon, has now left the church and is seen at the beer joint regularly with one of the young mothers from our congregation? Such exaggerated stories like this should leave us with mixed emotions. They make us want to laugh because they are so far fetched and distorted. Yet, at the same time, they make us want to cry because we all know rumors like this one have done horrendous harm to the church of the Lord. What then should the Christian do when he hears about church problems?

1 Consider the source. Is the person who is telling me this biased toward a certain group or view? Is this person known for being a gossip and spreading rumors? Was this person actually there or did they get the information second-hand?

2 Remember, there are always two sides to a story. Every story, no matter how good, bad or ugly, has two sides. Before believing a rumor that you hear, make sure you get both sides of the story. This is especially important as it relates to religious and biblical matters. Be

Continued inside ...

Problems

Continued from front page

sure and find out if there are any biblical principles in the story that you have not been told. A lot of times when you explore both sides of the story you see things that some would rather you not know.

3If you have questions, ask the elders. When problems arise and you hear something someone said, before believing it, talk to the spiritual leaders of the congregation about it. They are the ones who lead and watch out for our souls (Heb. 13:17). And, more times than not, they are at the forefront and know both sides of the story. May all of us remember that more harm can be done after the problems arise than during the problems themselves if we do not deal with them correctly.

Response Last Sunday bro Barton Pettit came forward asking for the prayers of the congregation that he might keep his priorities straight in his life. Please remember Barton and be an encouragement when opportunity exists.

Need a ride to services? If you need the van to pick you up for services, please see **Steve Mann, Scott Saner**, or one of the elders. **A van driver is needed for Wednesday nights. If you can help drive, please talk to Steve Mann today.**

Outreach Groups

Group 1

Chock & Mary Aldridge
Ron & Peggy Jones
Ray & Tomi Harness
James & Tammy Gravelle
Ronnie Byrd
Steve Mann
Scott & Tina Saner
Jaccie Pirtle

Group 2

James & Dana Meece
David & Linda Johnson
Ben & Christie Bailey
Betty Higgins
Harold & Martha Dillard
Pat Ballard & Vickie Fletcher
Bill & Gail Stewart
Earl & Sue Mann

Group 3

Vernon & Arlene Castleman
Sharon Ryan & Christy Murray
Cecil Hargrove
Lovel & Mary Hughes
Lonnie Harris
Rick & Suzanne Tidwell
Tom Matlock
Sharlene Wallis & Rebecca

Encouragement An inmate at the Holdenville facility, Tommy Copeland, has contacted **TGOC** letting them know that he has been watching the program. He has come to recognise that he was not baptized according to scripture. If you would like to send him a note of encouragement, his address is on the back bulletin board.

Media available *There is a sign up sheet on the back bulletin board if you would like to have a complete set of Ben's lessons on Revelation.* If you'd like a copy of another specific lesson taught from the pulpit, please write down your name and which lesson(s) you are interested in and give to Melba Wallace. Don't forget that tracts are available in the tract racks at the back of the auditorium and in

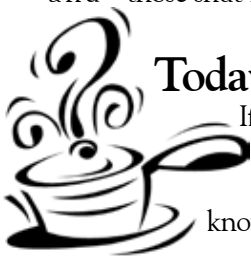


the hallway to the offices. These can be used in discussing religious matters with friends and neighbors. **The Gospel of Christ** CDs and DVDs are available at the back of the auditorium for use in your own Bible study or in evangelistic efforts. If there is a CD or DVD that is not out that you'd like copies of, please use the order forms in the tract rack on the right side as you are facing the back. Also available are transcripts of **The Gospel of Christ** media. Don't forget to check out www.thegospelofchrist.com to access all the media available through that effort.



Deborah Thomas is having pain problems and fell a week ago. Betty Higgins is waiting on the results from recent testing. Olga Stinson is at home after a stay in the hospital for testing. Nancy McClanahan is having some health problems: her foot is not healing and she is having some tests run on her heart. Gary Dillard, Harold's son, had a stint inserted after suffering a heart attack. A.L. Hargrove, Cecil's brother in Washington, is having health difficulties. Arlie Blount, Mary Ashley's brother, had tests run last week. Ruth Parker asks for prayers for a friend, Dova Modesto, who had a stroke last Sunday. The Manns' ask for an employee of theirs to be remembered. James Johnson has two aneurysms in his stomach and three heart blockages. Kenneth Overby, who attends the Wilson congregation, has colon cancer. David Lokker, Arlene Castleman's nephew, is out of the hospital and doing better. Please continue to remember: Tim Hicks, Todd's father • Lois Beavers • Jamie Feroli's sister, Dara Robison • Harvey Grant, Glenda Vinson's brother • James Harris, friend of the Aldridges' • Wayne Price, Jennifer Johnson's uncle • W. O. Clark • Darlene Pennington's brother, A.W. Roberts • Melba Wallace's sister, Wanda Barnum • Joanne Craft, April Willis' mother • Mona Blanton • Murray Goforth • Tabitha Ray-Barton, Rick & Mary Ray's daughter • Tom Matlock's brother-in-law • Jean Cary's nephew • Rebecca Stafford • Glenda Vinson's sister, Marie Daube • Jim Bowman • Debra Thomas' mother • Earl & Sue Mann • Marty Stinson • Pat Morrison, Olga Sue Stinson's sister • Virgie Burchfield • Norma Perkins' friend, Jerry Lover • Dorthea Phillips • Madeline Minyard • Jerry & Glenda Vinson • Harry Phipps • Sharon Ryan's mother, Mary Griffeth • Larry Ryan's mother, Lorraine • Peggy Jones' sister, Mary Warner • Pat Ballard's mother • Jamie Feroli's mother, JoAnn Watson, and grandmother • and those shut in/nursing home members.

Today at noon we will gather for a fellowship meal. If you are visiting with us, we would love to have you as our guest. There is always an abundance of food and we'd like to get to know you better!



Birthdays & Anniversaries

July

- 29 James & Dana Meece '72
- 30 Colin Saner

August

- 2 Kevin & Chelsea Pendergrass '08
Kathie Clifton
- 3 W.O. & Gloria Clark '62
- 4 Paul Giles
- 6 Shelly Hicks
Ashley Castleman
- 10 Clayton Austin
- 11 Ashley Grant
Andy & Melody Smith '73
- 12 Judy Grammer
- 14 Craig Anderson
- 15 Melissa Waller
Randy & Adela Scott '98
Todd & Shelly Hicks
- 17 Kenneth Parker
- 18 Doris Mobley
- 19 F.A. Shellenberger
- 20 Larry & Sharon Ryan
- 21 Jean Parker
- 24 Roslyn Dotson
- 25 Andy Smith
Gavin Lewis
- 29 Jerry Vinson
Martin & Roslyn Dotson

September

- 2 Sharlene Wallis
- 5 Aaron Mann
Bill & Virgie Burchfield '74
- 6 Allison Hicks

