

“Just Doing Our Duty”

We live in a society that celebrates achievement, applause, and recognition. Value is based on how much power you have, how much you own, or how well-liked you are. To have value, one must be successful to be considered worthy. Isn't it a rat race! But when we turn to Jesus, life changes, our goals change, our values change. Jesus offers us a radically different kind of life. A life not based on what other people think. Instead, it is living a life of humility through obedience to God. In Luke 17.10, Jesus said, "So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants, we have only done what was our duty,'" It is not a call to self-loathing—it is a call to spiritual clarity.

Jesus speaks these words after describing a servant, who, after working all day in the field, comes in and prepares his master's meal without expecting thanks. Do we expect to be thanked for everything we do for others? If they don't, we feel like they didn't appreciate our efforts and determine that we will never do anything for them again. Is that what Jesus is teaching? No! Jesus is revealing the heart posture of true discipleship. When we serve our Lord, we are not employees negotiating wages. We are beloved servants responding to God's grace. Our obedience is a direct response of appreciation for what God has done for us. We do not expect to receive great honor and recognition just for doing what God expects us to do. The verse is inviting us to ask: "Do I serve to be seen, or do I serve because I've been saved?"



There is a subtle temptation in our spiritual lives to believe that our faithfulness earns us favor, recognition, and appreciation. We may not say it aloud, but we feel it when we are overlooked. Luke 17.10 dismantles that mindset. It reminds us that even when we've "done everything," our salvation is still because of God's grace, not because we have earned it. This passage is not meant to discourage us; it is meant to set us free. When we release the need for applause and recognition, we find joy in simply being part of God's work.

There is something sacred about being unseen. The quiet prayers. The unnoticed acts of kindness. Faithful worship and serving week after week. These are not wasted; they are woven into the foundation of being a part of God's kingdom. Can we learn that our value is not in visibility but in faithfulness? We are "unworthy servants"—not worthless, but unentitled. And that distinction frees us to serve with joy! Are you happy just doing your duty?

Gary

Do You Really Want To Go To Heaven?

John 14.1-3

1. Do you really want to go to heaven?
2. Are you aware that the Scriptures teach that the majority of people will not go there (Matthew 7.13,14).
3. It certainly is not because God does not want them to be saved.

If I Really Want To Go To Heaven, Then ...

I. For Heaven, I Must _____.

- A. It means "do desire, to long persistently for something or someone."
1. _____ dwells there (Ecclesiastes 5.2, Matthew 5.44, 45; Matthew 6.9).
 2. _____ dwells there (Mark 16.19; Colossians 3.1).
 3. Jesus promised to _____ to take _____ there (John 14.1-3).
- B. Why will many _____ heaven?
1. _____ blinds the minds of them that do not believe (2 Corinthians 4.4).
 2. What strategy does he use (James 1.14, 15)?

II. Of Heaven, I Must _____.

It means "to gain knowledge or understanding."

1. Paul wrote to Timothy that God "**desires that all people be saved and to come to the _____ of the _____**" (I Timothy 4.2).
 2. One is saved by the _____ of God (Titus 2.11, 12).
 3. Then why will everyone not enter heaven who tries (Matthew 7.21-23)?
- A. What must I be willing to learn?
1. I can only go to heaven through _____ (John 14.6).
 2. To do so, Jesus said ... (Matthew 11.28-30).
 3. Are you open to learning (Acts 8)?

III. Toward Heaven, I Must _____.

- A. It means "to change course or direction."
1. The Bible word describing that action is _____.
 2. We want to go to heaven; what is heaven's desire for us (2 Peter 3.9; Acts 17.30)?
 3. James specifies the "turning about" that is required for one walking in the heavenly way is to receive the _____ (James 1.21).
 4. To go to heaven takes more than _____, it takes _____.
- B. Are you willing to turn as those who were assembled on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2)?
1. They had a desire to go to Heaven and were willing to learn, but without _____ their lives to _____ to what they had learned, they would not reach heaven.
 2. As a result of their turning, "**The _____ added to their number day by day those who were being saved**" (Acts 2.47).

Conclusion: Are you willing to turn to God to go to heaven?

C O N N E C T I O N

O

Good morning WH! We are glad to be back with the family today! Deatra and I went to Kentucky to visit the Ark exhibit and the Creation Museum. I'll have much to share with you about that in coming weeks.

R

N

Today, I wanted to carry on our discussion about the fruit of the Spirit – JOY. As we have been looking at the fruit of the Spirit being our "Living Proof" of our relationship with Jesus, I have come to realize that all these fruits are about relationships—our relationship with Jesus, our relationships with each other and our relationships with those outside of Christ. How well we connect in these relationships will be affected by how well the fruit of Spirit flourishes within us.

E

R

I don't take credit for creating this idea, but I think it is valid. We all may be in a different place in the "joy cycle." There are those that are outside of Christ, who have never received the "joy of the Lord and His strength." (Neh. 8.10) There are those who have put on Christ and are fully immersed in His joy, staying in His presence, reading His word, talking to Him in worship and prayer. (Acts 8.39) As we continue to draw closer to Jesus, we will find that we can't always stay in that part of the cycle, because once we partake of His joy and His strength, He calls us to a journey— "Take up your cross and follow me." (Luke 9.23) And that journey may take us to places and through situations that we did not choose and, probably would never have chosen, but in doing so helps expose our "junk" -- the things in our lives that we have chosen to make us "happy." The things that the deceiver convinced us we just "had" to have to be "happy." Our job, a relationship, our possessions, etc., and once we have them, he convinces us that they are not good enough, there is something newer, different, better that we think we need and then we will be happy.

Once the Spirit takes us through the journey and exposes and enables us to get rid of all the junk, we find ourselves back in the midst of joy! → Joy → Jesus → Journey → Junk → Joy → Jesus → Journey → Junk . . . and the cycle repeats again. And as we become more and more mature in Christ and produce more fruit of the Spirit, we make new and deeper connections with Jesus and each other, and those outside of Christ can see what they are missing, what they will never find outside of Christ – true, everlasting joy!

Just think of the ways that are there for us to find connection. Seeking others that have found the joy of the Lord and rejoicing together. Joining others that are trying to deepen their relationship to Jesus and encouraging one another. Sharing with others who are amid a journey with Jesus just like you! Getting ideas from other brothers and sisters, about getting rid of the junk in our lives that the Spirit has brought to light. What a way to enjoy "In-joy" our Christian lives together.

Decide to jump on the joy cycle! You will be blessed.

— Les Keele



SHEPHERDS

Greg Ball	214-801-7375
Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
*Dan Kille	817-793-7493
Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

*Shepherd of the month

MINISTERS

Gary Williams: Pulpit Minister	662-321-3208
Les Keele: Associate Minister	817-808-0566
James Bowie: Youth Minister	817-944-4492

LAOTIAN MINISTRY

John Boudtaroth	817-891-2132
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DEACONS

Jon Bartee	817-889-2686
David Birdow	972-310-1143
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Zach Brookshire	817-296-9918
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

Welcome - Robert Scott

Song Leader - Russ Jones

Song - We Shall Assemble

Song - You're The One

Song - Ancient Words

Opening Prayer - Jonny Bartee

Scripture - John 14:1-3

Song - In Christ Alone

Lord's Supper - James Bowie

Prayer for Contribution - James Bowie

Song - A Mansion, Robe, And Crown

Do You Really Want To Go To Heaven? - Gary Williams

Song - Create In Me A Clean Heart

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal - Dan Kille

Our Code for Tithe.ly

Giving



QR Code for

Attendance



Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years and a mother's nursing room.

Single-side in-ear mono earbuds with personal receivers are available for those with hearing difficulties. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for assistance.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, October 13
Jeremiah 41-43; Hebrews 13

Friday, October 17
Jeremiah 52; Psalm 74; Lamentations 1

Tuesday, October 14
Jeremiah 44-45; Psalm 13; Jeremiah 46-47

Saturday, October 18
Lamentations 2; Psalm 77

Wednesday, October 15
Psalm 123; Jeremiah 48-49

Sunday, October 19
Lamentations 3; Psalm 140

Thursday, October 16
Jeremiah 50-51; Psalm 137

Last Week

Bible Class	127	Wednesday	103
Worship	213	Contribution	\$ 11,703.34
PM Worship	68	Budget	\$ 14,216.88

Times of Assemblies

Bible Class:	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS

NAME	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Chandra Mann <small>10/01/2025</small>	Will have another scan on October 13, 2025	Results to be good enough for her to go on maintenance drugs
Skipper Reed <small>09/30/2025</small>	Is now on oxygen. Brook Dale Club Hill, 1245 Colonel Drive, Apartment 1022, Garland, Texas 75043	Comfort
Paula Pauley <small>09/30/2025</small>	Had surgery on her hand. 3409 Muleshoe Lane, Fort Worth, Texas 76179	Quick healing
Dan Pratt <small>09/25/2025</small>	Is battling high blood pressure 10920 Hawkins Home Boulevard, P.O. Box 126437, Benbrook, Texas 76126	Recovery
Dorothy Anderson <small>09/25/2025</small>	Had a corneal transplant. 11137 Castle Oak Lane, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Recovery and healing
Bob Willyerd <small>09/23/2025</small>	Had a successful surgery on his bladder and, as of this date, remains in Harris Downtown. 3704 Guadalupe Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Recovery and healing
Brandon Duncan <small>09/12/2025</small>	Has nerve pain, weakness, and numbness in his leg. 110 McAnear Street, Cleburne, Texas 76033	Relief from the pain which is improving and healing
Bridget Yawn <small>08/25/2025</small>	Is experiencing side effects of her Lupus. She would appreciate calls and letters. 9213 Idaho Street, Joshua, Texas 96058	Comfort and strength
Mary East <small>07/08/2025</small>	Has been put on hospice at the home of Mark and Karen Brahn and remains very weak. 101 Rambling Trail, Weatherford, Texas 76087	Strength and comfort for Mary; guidance for Mark and Karen

All requests are posted for 30 days unless the office is notified to continue running them. Thank you.

FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND NEIGHBORS PRAYER REQUESTS

NAME	REQUESTED BY	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY
Betty Shephard, cousin of	Nancy Wright	Fell, hit her head, and broke her hip requiring surgery.	Healing and return to good health 10/01/2025
Ellie Martone	Mindy Markum	Is a kindergarten student who is in remission for leukemia and is still taking chemo. She now has strep in her blood and is in Cook's Children's Hospital.	Remission to continue, strep to be removed from her system, and to return home 10/12/2025
Anne Tomme, Joe's aunt and longtime friend of	Johnnie and Nancy Wright	Fell, broke her arm and hip.	Healing, successful therapy, and return to good health 10/07/2025
Clyde Hathcock, cousin of	Nancy Wright	Is in the hospital following surgery.	Healing and return to good health 10/01/2025
Jack Corley, brother-in-law of	Johnnie Wright	Is having surgery to replace his jaw bone.	Successful surgery and comfort in a long healing process 10/01/2025
Rob Ryan, son-in-law of	Sharon Pippin	Will have a check-up in three months for the pre-cancerous cells discovered in a recent MRI.	Doctors' guidance 09/30/2025
Marie, friend of	Lisa Wilson	Will be undergoing chemo for a spot on her colon.	Healing 09/30/2025
Alex Farnsworth, friend of	Lisa Wilson	Is undergoing chemo for lung lining cancer.	Healing 09/30/2025
Christine, granddaughter of	Clara Boudreaux	Discovered she needs a tumor removed and does not have health insurance.	The ability and circumstances to have the surgery and that the tumor is benign 09/18/2025
Oren Fryer	Chuck and Julie Meyer	Has bladder cancer which will involve the removal of the bladder on October 22	Strength, healing, and quick recovery 09/18/2025

NEW BABY

CONGRATULATIONS!

Ezlyn Rae Tunnell
October 1, 2025
5 pounds 18 ½ inches
Congratulations to Cassidy and Danton and
proud grandparents Robert and LaRue Bow

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

Paula Williams recently had hip surgery and it has been a challenge for her to cook meals. If you would be willing to provide meals for them, please see Sharon Pippin.

FROM ROSS TOMLINSON

REGARDING THE 2026 BUDGET

If you oversee a particular ministry and you wish to adjust the budget amount for 2026, please see the deacon that directs that ministry. Thank you.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASSES

10:00 AM
Ladies'
Fellowship Room
Paula Pauley
The Dash In Between

Men
Library
Milt Birmingham
12 Part Video Series
Bible Warfare
Mike Mazzalong
Followed By
Christian Religions And Islam

FOOD BANK STATS

September
189 Families Served
\$645.10 Cost To WHCOC
5,839 Pounds Estimated Weight Of Food

SMALL GROUP NEWS

Small Groups meet on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of every month unless otherwise announced.

FALL BIBLE CLASSES

SUNDAY MORNING:

Auditorium
Geoffery Rodman
Study Of The Psalms

WEDNESDAY:

Auditorium
Les Keele
Fruit Of The Spirit
Galatians 5:22, 23

ATTENDANCE QR CODE

Attention:
All Members And Visitors
We Invite You To Use The QR Code For Attendance Which Is Located On The Last Page Of The Bulletin Right Next To The Giving QR Code.

TRUNK OR TREAT

**JOIN US FOR FUN AND TREATS, LAUGHS AND SMILES WHILE MAKING
MEMORIES AND CONNECTIONS WITH OUR COMMUNITY.**

Decorate Your Car, Play games, and Hand Out
Candy!



OCTOBER 31ST FROM 6:30-8 PM.

8800 CHAPIN ROAD

FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116

October Celebrations

Adult Birthdays

1 Bouathong Chansombath30 Bob Riley

1 Les Keele

31 Vickie Bowers

2 Pheng Vilaysack

31 Lisa Wilson

6 Sharon Pippin

6 David Birdow

8 Roxann Whitacre

Children's Birthdays

10 Betty Baumann

1 Lyndon Watson

10 Jimmy Bolt

6 Tahlia Witherspoon

16 Melinda Markum

11 Layton Meyer

17 Barbara Adams

21 Claire Meyer

17 Tom Pauley

26 Luke Meyer

18 Rob Donahue

ANNIVERSARIES

20 Sabrina Vilaysack

13 Jay and Amanda Garner

20 Tiffany Witherspoon

20 Gary and Lisa Williams

25 Courtney Meyer

23 Robert and Jennifer Scott

25 Suzan Ward

25 Robert and LaRue Bow

26 Amanda Garner

26 Carl and Fern Green

29 Jodi Gentry

29 Patricia Neislar