

WHAT DOES THE "SUNDAY MORNING ONLY" CHRISTIAN MISS

Neal Pollard

It is an eclectic club. Some of its members have only ever come one service per week, whose perceivable spiritual progress has been hard to measure. Others, perhaps more tragically, have waned from greater faithfulness in the past to the more tepid attitude toward the assemblies at which God is always present. The Bible makes it clear that those who fail to put Christ first have put something in that place. This is an unenviable position to be in. Yet, these who neglect faithful attendance deprive themselves of so much.

They miss information. Bible classes, sermons, table talks, and mid-week devotional talks all help increase our knowledge and strengthen our conviction in what we already know. This information is like a flashlight for the journey in a dark, dark world (Ps. 119:105). If we take heed to that word, we do well (2 Pet. 1:19). To identify the enemy, you must know all about him.

They miss association. The people dearest to God are there. Christ, our Savior, friend, older brother, King, Shepherd, Door, and Mediator, is there. The earliest Christians were steadfast in fellowship with each other, a fellowship contextually shown to be spiritual in nature (Acts 2:42). Paul reminds us we should prefer one another, something we fail to show when we give preference to some other place and event (Rom. 12:10).

They miss inspiration. We need our spirits lifted. Others need us to lift their spirits, too (Heb. 10:24; cf. Phil. 2:3-4). In worship we can get our spiritual batteries charged. Coming together helps us each face the world. We are to be renewed in the spirit of our minds (Eph. 4:23-24). The assemblies aid us in this.

They miss provocation. Often, we do things we know we should not do. As such, we need to be provoked or stimulated to do what we already know is right (Heb. 10:24). At the assemblies, we lift each other up and hold each other's hands in our common life (cf. 1 Thess. 5: 14).

They miss edification. We have a responsibility to be here and build up other Christians. Remember, love edifies (1 Cor. 8:1). You cannot do that as well from a remote location. We are to use our abilities to help perfect the saints, to work in ministry, and to build up the body of Christ (Eph. 4:12). That's a "done together" activity in which those withholding their presence cannot engage.

They miss immunization. The world is infected with sin and it is often hard to live for Christ (cf. 1 John 5:19). We can and do "inject" ourselves with strength at every service, an injection that will help us fight off the cancer of sin (cf. Jer. 7:18). Attending all the services strengthens our spiritual health (Psalm 42:11). Who thinks he or she is better equipped to fight alone than with the collective help of the church as well as the special strength available as by God's design when we assemble together?

They miss jubilation. There is nothing as seemingly miserable as the Christian who feels that it is his "duty" to come to the services (look at David—Psalm 122:1). It is a shame that "S-M-O" Christians miss the excitement of baptisms and others who come forward for prayers, the encouragement of seeing new Christians participate in worship or young people demonstrating their faith, and the example of others whose words, actions, and attitudes make us glad we are Christians. Few whose hearts and minds have been fully engaged in an assembly will walk away regretting it or being more depressed than when they arrived.

They miss obligation. We are mutually accountable (Rom. 1:14; Heb. 3:13; Col. 3:13; etc.). We are indebted to God (Rom. 8:12). We are commanded by Him to come together (Heb. 10:25). None of these obligations comes with an expiration date. We consider those who shirk their obligations to be irresponsible. What obligation outweighs the one laid upon us by the Lord?

The many, many principles of scripture lead to an unavoidable conclusion. We should want to be together with Christ and His people at every opportunity. If we do not want this enough to make it happen, maybe something is terribly wrong with our "affections" (cf. Col. 3:1-2).

What Kind Of Bulb Are We?

Matthew 5.14-16

Intro:

Some thoughts about lights:

- People are _____ to lights
- Lights often generate _____
- Light was the very first _____.
- Light is a characteristic of _____ and _____.
- Jesus passed on this _____ to us.

What kind of spiritual _____ are we? Are we a . . .

1. _____ bulb? Eph 2.1; Eph 5.14; Rev 3.1

2. _____ bulb? 2 Pet 2.20-22; Prov 5.22

3. _____ bulb? Rev 3.15; Jam 3.10-11

4. _____ bulb? Eph 5.13-14; Job 12.22; Rom 2.19

5. _____ bulb? Acts 18.24-26; Acts 9.36-39

6. _____ bulb? 2 Cor 8.1-2,8,14; 1 Thess. 3.12

C O N N E C T I O N

C Isn't it a great morning to be together with your church family! It is my favorite time of the week. This week, our Connection Corner features Jim Gilbert.

R Jim was born in Seguin, Texas but after a couple of years his family moved to Hobbs, New Mexico. Jim graduated from Hobbs High School where he played the cornet in the Concert Band and for parades. Following his graduation, Jim went to work in the oil industry with his father as a land surveyor. Jim and his dad were involved in the Cortez pipeline project, which ran a pipeline from Hobbs all the way to Cortez, Colorado. During the year long project of surveying land for the pipeline, Jim said he probably walked the entire 562 miles or more of the pipeline run. He enjoyed surveying (except the very cold days in Colorado, or the very, very, hot days in New Mexico) until the oil business "dried up" in the 1980's.



As a young man of 21, Jim moved to Texas to look for work, arriving with nothing but a suitcase and his pillow (which wouldn't fit in the suitcase; he said he got some strange looks carrying his pillow around!) He had a friend here that gave him a place to sleep, and he took whatever odd jobs he could find until he found a surveying job with Carter & Burgess in Fort Worth. Jim credits his father with teaching him a strong work ethic. That ethic enabled him, when the surveying work ended in Fort Worth, to find work with apartment complexes, painting, learning electrical work, as well as any other skill someone would teach him. These acquired skills helped him into the Commercial Maintenance business with Central Bank & Trust, followed by Industrial Maintenance at the Sealy Company. Jim was then able to transition to Hulen Mall, where he has worked for the past 19 plus years.

Jim has blessed us at WH over the last 10 years by donating his time and skill to helping maintain our facilities, especially with the electrical and HVAC systems. Jim has one daughter, Bella, who is a member of our youth group. Bella participates in the LTC program, as well as mission trips. Jim, along with many of our parents, supports and helps the teens in these efforts. I encourage you to reach out and get to know Jim, you will be blessed!

Les Keele



Meeting

Please be advised that our **ANNUAL CORPORATE MEETING** will be on **January 14, 2024 at 5:00 PM.** We ask that all attend this event.

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:	662-321-3208
<i>Pulpit Minister</i>	
Les Keele:	817-808-0566
<i>Associate Minister</i>	
James Bowie:	817-944-4492
<i>Youth Minister</i>	
John Boundtaroth:	817-891-2132
<i>Laotian Minister</i>	

DEACONS

Jon Bartee	817-889-2686
James Bowie	817-944-4492
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 - Layton Garner

Song Leader - Matt Sloan

Song - O Come, All Ye Faithful

Song - O Holy Night!

Song - What Child Is This?

Prayer - Robert Scott

Scripture - Matthew 5:14-16

Song - Why Did My Savior Come To Earth?

Lord's Supper - John Walton

Prayer for Contribution - John Walton

Song - Jesus, Hold My Hand

What Kind Of Bulb Are We? - Les Keele

Song - What Shall It Be?

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal - Ross Tomlinson

Donate by QR Code?
Here is ours:
Thank You!



Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years. There is also a cry room available if needed.

For our members and visitors with hearing difficulties, we now provide single side in-ear mono earbuds with a personal receiver for your convenience. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for one.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, December 18

James 1 - 3

Tuesday, December 19

James 4 - 5

Wednesday, December 20

I Peter 1 - 3

Thursday, December 21

I Peter 4 - 5

Friday, December 22

II Peter 1 - 3

Saturday, December 23

I John 1 - 5

Sunday, December 24

II John - Jude

Last Week

Bible Class:	137	Wednesday:	82
AM Worship:	202	Contribution:	\$ 8,258.03
PM Worship:	48	Budget:	\$ 12,978.00

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Members

December 17, 2023

NAME	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Randy McCoy <small>12/13/2023</small>	His father passed away on Wednesday, December 13. 3957 West Spurgeon Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76133	Comfort and peace
Chris and Kham Intharansy <small>12/12/2023</small>	Both have COVID. Chris is concerned for his mother. Chris: 1800 Fuller Wise Road, Apartment 633, Euless, Texas 76039 and Kham: 7137 Bob Hanger Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76179	Healing and recovery
Nancy Wright <small>12/11/2023</small>	Is in Harris, Downtown, Room 622, with stomach issues. 8600 Vista Royale Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Healing
Jeff Swan <small>12/03/2023</small>	Has been moved to Southwest Rehab, Room 421. 1717 High Ridge Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76126	Healing and rehab
Jimmy Bolt <small>12/03/2023</small>	Sister passed away last week. 3243 North Cardinal Road, Azle, Texas 76020	Comfort and peace
Brandon Duncan <small>12/04/2023</small>	Great aunt, Beth, passed away on Friday, December 1. His grandfather, Danny Wampler, has stopped eating and drinking. 9928 Farmington Drive, Benbrook, Texas 76126	Comfort and peace
Gail Willmington	Is having great pain in her knee causing leg and back issues. She can't have surgery until February, 2024. 1603 Tierney Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76112	Reduction in pain

All prayer requests will remain on the list for 30 days. Following that time, the request will be removed unless the office is notified differently. Thank you.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Family & Friends

December 17, 2023

NAME	REQUESTED BY	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Ellen Dale		Has knee and blood chemistry issues.	Healing and recovery <small>12/12/2023</small>
Rebecca and William Stevenson, friends of	Betsy Strother	Will be moving to Oregon to live with their son, Will, following the unexpected death of their other son, John.	Strength and comfort during these trials <small>12/12/2023</small>
The sister of	Barbara Howard	Her husband is having some health issues.	Issues to be resolved <small>12/11/2023</small>
Dennis McConn, father-in-law of Auna's son-in-law	Auna Walton	Had emergency surgery the other day and is fighting infection.	Recovery and eradication of infection <small>12/08/2023</small>
Lauren Mulkelroy and family are friends of	Michelle Glenn	Was in a car accident in which her husband and children passed away at the scene.	Lauren's recovery, comfort, and peace <small>11/29/23</small>
Danny Wampler, grandfather of	Brandon Duncan	Is not doing well and his health is going down rapidly since he has stopped eating and drinking.	The family to experience peace and comfort <small>11/14/2023</small>
Christopher Lowrey, son of	Doug and Barbara Lowrey	Christopher and his shipmates are in the Mediterranean and are off the coast of Israel.	Their safety and their families at home <small>10/09/2023</small>
George Milhim, brother of	Betty Kille	Has a brain tumor, broken shoulder, and six cracked ribs.	Successful surgery, physical and spiritual healing <small>10/08/2023</small>

LOOK!

There will be NO Children's Church on **December 24.**

The Church office will be closed **December 25, 26, and 27** for Christmas as well as **January 1** for New Year's Day.

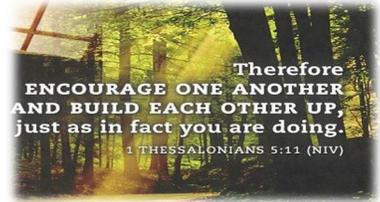
NO Sunday Evening Services on **December 24 or December 31.**



Missy Hall's new address is:
4020 Ridgelea Country Club Drive
Apartment 603
Fort Worth, Texas, 76116.

Please make these adjustments to your directories.

Betsy Strother's new address is:
8401 Tumbleweed Trail
Apartment # 2004
White Settlement, Texas 76108



Please send words of love and encouragement to Samuel Ahenkorah in Ghana. His email is samuelahenkorah1982@gmail.com.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT

JUNE 2 - JUNE 5

Please look in the foyer and sign up for all the areas in which you wish to work at VBS. Slots are going fast; so, sign up early to get your preferred spot!



Zach Brookshire would like to know all who would be willing and able to help with a church workday to fix things around the building. Please notify the office if you would be willing to participate.

November Food Bank Statistics
243 – Families Served
\$617.88 – Cost to WHCOC
6,232 lbs. – Estimated Weight of Food

Welcome

Please meet and welcome Tiffany Kocur to our family. Her phone number is 817-538-1824.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

On December 31, at 6:00 PM, there will be a New Year's Eve Fellowship in the fellowship hall. Please bring your games, cards, finger foods, and drinks for all to enjoy.



Youth Christmas Party
December 21st
@ the Garner's Home
6:30 PM or meet at the building at **6 PM** if you need a ride. Bring a wrapped ornament for a gift exchange.

Ladies, if you would like to share prayer time and gain strength by coming together with your sisters, come to the Library on Wednesday nights at 6:40 PM.



BYO Brown Bag Suppers continue on Wednesday nights. Please bring your family's meal and we will enjoy a time of fellowship before evening services and classes. The building will be opened at 6 PM.

Sundays:

Auditorium: Revelation: Russ Bartee

Young Married and Singles: 1 & 2 Peter: Robert Scott

Wednesday Nights:

Ladies' Class: Prayer: Deatra Keele and Lisa Williams

Men's Class: Step Up To The Plate: Les Keele

Join Us For Our Tuesday Morning Bible Classes At 10 AM.
Men's Topic: 10 Steps to the New Spiritual You - Milt Birmingham
Ladies' Topic: Angels - Marge Sager

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Kao Chanthanounsy

2 René Johnston

2 Melissa Montanez

2 Jeff Thiravong

2 Ross Tomlinson

3 Robert Bow

4 Jean Cox

4 Adam Powers

4 Bev Pratt

7 Kristie McLeroy

8 Lee Bradley

8 Thomas Chakrathouk

9 Dorothy Anderson

10 Christina Intharansy

12 Lorenza Fernandez

12 Martin Franz

12 Thonglouath Manyloun

12 Auna Walton

14 Wayne Gary

17 Jake Dekoker

17 Gloria Speak

18 LaRue Bow

19 Steven Johnston

20 Mary Jo Winters

21 Chuck King

22 Bob Willyerd

23 Ronny Tucker

24 Betty Adams

24 Lucille Patterson

26 Zach Brookshire

30 Jay Garner

30 Cassidy Tunnell

30 Karen Haas

31 Thienxay Manyloun

Children

10 Tanner Chakrathouk

12 Ian Thomas

27 Jonathan Everett

30 Jack Meyers