

# University Heights Messenger

Volume 4--Number 35

August 19, 2012

## GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

- Hear the gospel (Romans 10:17)
- Confess faith in Jesus (Romans 10:9-10)
- Believe Jesus is the Christ (John 3:16)
- Be baptized for remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
- Repent from sins (Luke 13:3)
- Live worthy of the calling (Ephesians 4:1)

## IN NEED OF PRAYERS

### Recent Additions:

**Taylor Osterling** is home as he and his mother continue to recover from their operations. **Julie Patton** continues to rest as she and Frank await the birth of the twins. Each day passing day is better for the babies. **Kathy McKibben** (wife of Danny) had successful back surgery at Central Baptist last week. She will be sore for some time and facing some rehabilitation.

### List:

**Our members:** Jeff Howerton, Glenn Kimberlin, Paul Atkisson, Louis Harrod, Amy Sims

**Others:** Lenny Shepperson, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Lala Whitson, Rita Pagan, Vina Krassow, Courtney and Aubrey Reeves, John Bennett, Robert and Sarah Brundige, Donald Dawson, Jean Gartland, Gail Stein, Michael Poynter, CJ Nash, Sandy Childress, Nilma Covington, Mary Wilson, Charlie Little, Doris Baker, Edith Tirey

### WEEKLY READING

**Sun:** SS 2:8-17, Ju 2:1-3:6, Jer 18, Heb 1  
**Mon:** SS 3, Ju 3:7-31, Jer 19, Heb 2  
**Tue:** SS 4:1-8, Ju 4, Jer 20, Heb 3:1-6  
**Wed:** SS 4:9-5:1, Ju 5, Jer 21, Heb 3:7-4:13  
**Thu:** SS 5:2-9, Ju 6, Jer 22:1-23:8, Heb 4:14-5:10  
**Fri:** SS 5:10-6:3, Ju 7, Jer 23:9-40, Heb 5:11-6:20  
**Sat:** SS 6:4-12, Ju 8, Jer 24, Heb 7

### LEADERSHIP

<b><u>ELDERS</u></b>	<b><u>DEACONS</u></b>
Garry Banks	Troy Antle
David Collins	Richard Brundige
John Thompson	Neal Erickson
	Adam Litmer
<b><u>EVANGELIST</u></b>	Bill Morelan
Adam Litmer	Jim Parsons
	Pat Seabolt
	Matt Thompson

### SERVICES

**Sunday**  
 Bible Study: 9:45 AM  
 Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM  
**Wednesday**  
 Bible Study: 7:30 PM  
**1st Fri. of Month**  
 Singing: 7:30 PM  
**3rd Fri. of Month**  
 Bible Study: 7:00 PM  
 (Ask for location)

### **There's A Lesson Here**

“Regard your good name as the richest jewel you can possibly be possessed of -- for credit is like fire; when once you have kindled it you may easily preserve it, but if you once extinguish it, you will find it an arduous task to rekindle it again. The way to a good reputation is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear.” — Socrates

Socrates was a pretty smart fellow, but he was not the first to make known the value of a good name. Solomon predated Socrates by 600 to 700 years. He wrote, “*A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.*” (Proverbs 22:1) The value of a good name is also expressed in Ecclesiastes 7:1, “*A good name is better than precious ointment.*” Solomon’s wisdom and inspiration came from God who predates everyone. God desires his people to be people of good report. Let’s consider the importance of a good name or a good reputation.

Barnabas was a man with a good reputation. His real name was Joseph, but the apostles called him Barnabas which means “son of encouragement.” Barnabas had a reputation for encouraging others (Acts 4). Apollos was another man with a good reputation. Upon his arrival in Ephesus he began preaching Jesus boldly in the synagogue. He became known for his eloquence, for his competency in the scriptures, and for his fervor in the spirit (Acts 18). Cornelius, a centurion in the Roman army that occupied Palestine, was a man with a good reputation even among the Jews. He was known as a devout man who feared God with all his household. He gave alms to the poor and prayed continually to God (Acts 10). Tabitha was a woman with an outstanding reputation. The Bible says that she was full of good works and acts of charity. Her acts of charity were not simply occasional happenings; she did not do a good work when the mood struck her. She did them for a living, not that she earned an income from them, but that she used her life in the performing of good works. When she died and Peter was taken to the

### **Reminder**

Check out the sample songbooks in the back and offer your feedback to the elders. Their decision is imminent.

## **UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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room where her body was laid out, he was shown the tunics and other clothing she had made. What a wonderful reputation she had (Acts 9).

God desires men who might be chosen to be elders to have a good reputation. 1 Timothy 3:7 says that “*he must be well thought of by outsiders,*” and Titus 1:6-7 states that an elder must be above reproach. How does one get to the point of being above reproach? He must have been working at acquiring and maintaining a good reputation, a good name, throughout his life. God desires women to have good reputations. “*Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear—but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands,*” (1 Peter 3:3-5) The wives of deacons “*must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober minded, faithful in all things.*” (1 Timothy 3:11) Simply put, one cannot be a faithful Christian if one is of bad repute among others.

Most importantly, God demands that we be of good repute in His eyes. “*But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: “The Lord **knows those who are his,**” and, “Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity.”*” (2 Timothy 2:19)

The Elders

### A Thought On David

“*Then David arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he went into the house of the Lord and worshipped. He then went to his own house. And when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate.*” 2 Samuel 12:20

The events described in the passage above took place immediately following the death of the child born of the adultery committed by David and Bathsheba. For seven days David fasted and prostrated himself on the ground before God, begging that the life of the child be spared. God said no. The child died, David rose, cleaned himself up, and marched directly into the house of God to worship. That’s incredible, isn’t it?

It occurs to me that David could have turned several places besides God to seek comfort. Let’s consider where he *could* have turned.

David could have sought comfort in the world. He could have pursued every pleasure and succumbed to every temptation. He could have drowned himself in all that the world had to offer in an effort to escape the pain of his child’s loss. He could have, as many do, spew invectives at God as he destroyed himself through reckless, prodigal living. But the world held little pleasure for David. Too many of his nights had been spent hiding in caves and wondering lonely, barren ground for him to love the world. He could never turn to it for comfort.

He could have turned to his fellow man. He could have built his faith upon man’s advice and wisdom. He could have found those who would have gladly pointed to the unfairness of God. He could have found men who would massage his ego and assure him that such a catastrophe should never happen to one as mighty as the king. However, men had disappointed David too often for him to find lasting comfort there. Certainly he lamented on more than one shoulder and felt some respite in doing so. However, there was no lasting comfort there. David needed something more, something *sure*. He couldn’t find it in man.

He could have turned inward. He could have decided that from then on he was going to keep his own counsel. But David realized that it was his own fault that all of this had happened in the first place. So how could David find comfort in himself when it was his own selfishness that had led to adultery, dishonesty, conspiracy, murder, and the death of the child? No, David certainly could not retreat inward to find comfort.

For David to find lasting, *true* comfort he had to turn to the Comforter Himself. So too must we. The pleasures of this world are fleeting (Hebrews 11:25). Even the best of people will disappoint us (Acts 15:36-39). Keeping our own counsel is a sure path to spiritual ruin (Jeremiah 10:23). Let us find our comfort where David found his. Let us flee to the arms of God.

AL

### SERMON

AM “Love Does Not Insist On Its Own Way”

PM Frank Patton

### READING

Luke 3:23-38

Luke 4:1-15