

THE BEACON OF TRUTH

August 12, 2018

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17

The Lost Sheep

Chase Green

One of the most interesting (and difficult) things about the English language is the incredible amount of variation in word structure; namely, the English language has a very large number of homonyms (words that sound or are spelled the same but have different meanings) that make English very confusing. Similarly confusing is the presence of a handful of words that are the exact same spelling in both singular and plural form.

One such example is the word “sheep.” For example, I could say, “Here is my pet sheep (singular), Zeke,” or I could say, “Here are my pet sheep (plural), Zeke and Dave.” When we consider the lost sheep, we can think about Jesus’ Parable of the Lost Sheep in Luke 15:3-7. Although the parable specifically mentions one lost sheep (singular), we must realize that there have been countless numbers of lost sheep (plural) throughout history.

Jesus gave this parable to emphasize the importance of seeking the lost sheep. It can become very routine and easy to place all of our focus on the ones who are saved. It is much more difficult to reach out to those who are lost. We must go out of our comfort zones to reach out to people who have left the faith. We must have uncomfortable conversations with people who have never obeyed the Gospel. We must lovingly break down the doctrinal barriers of denominationalism. We must practice church discipline in situations of unrepentant sin. All of this can make us feel uneasy, but ...

“What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance” (Luke 15:4-7).

How many Christians who were once associated with this congregation are now roaming the fields of sin? How many people associated with this (continued on page 2)

By the Numbers:

Week of 8/5/18

Contribution – \$2494

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Classes – 35

Sunday Worship – 56*

Wednesday Night – 41

**Total for the day*

Bible Trivia Question



Last Week's Answer: Peter (Acts 5:3ff) .

Q: What did Jesus eat after His resurrection?

Answer to be given next week!

Sermon Spotlight:

AM: Imperfect, but Faithful

- 1) What sins did the people in Heb. 11 commit?
- 2) But did those people REMAIN in those sins?
- 3) Compare this thought with 1 Cor. 6:11.

PM: A Look at Miracles

- 1) What are some categories of miracles?
- 2) What was the purpose of miracles performed by men (through the power of the Holy Spirit)?

Schedule Of Services

Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible study 7:00 P.M.

Website

Beaconofcfc.com (under construction)

Preacher

Chase Green
318-608-7418

Elders

Bill Schooley 318-396-7296
Tim Green 318-547-4026

Missions Supported

Ronnie Gootam - India
Marlon Retana - Panama
Brad Harrub - Focus Press

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2326 JONESBORO ROAD
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WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED

1. Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17).
2. Believe (Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6).
3. Repent (Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30).
4. Confess Christ (Matt. 10:32, 33).
5. Be baptized (immersed) (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).
6. Continue faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).

Mailing Address

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

NEWS AND NOTES

TO OUR GUESTS—A WARM WELCOME

Thank you for coming today and please come back soon and often. If you have questions about the church of Christ, what is taught here, or the way we do anything please feel free to ask. Please fill out the Guest Register on the table in the foyer so we may have a record of your visit.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Margie Tippen (Still at GRMC recovering from her foot injury) — Regina Simmons — Wanda Hendrix — Marcia Green — Kenneth Hendrix — Jerry Tippen — Ruby Weaver (Now at Alpine Rehab in Ruston) — Bill, Neal, Xander Schooley & Andrew Brown (traveling to Arkansas this week; leaving tomorrow)

OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Monthly Fellowship Meal — Every fourth Sunday of the month, unless otherwise noted
- Youth & Young Adults — There will be a get-together at Chase & Lindsey's house tonight from 4:00 to 8:30. The Address is 105 Jennifer Lane, West Monroe.
- Michelle Brasher came forward last Sunday confessing her sin, demonstrating repentance, and asking for forgiveness from the Lord and the church. She wants to be a faithful member of this congregation again. Please welcome her back and keep her in your prayers!

(Continued from page 1)

congregation have never even obeyed the Gospel? It is our Christian duty to reach out to these people. We must be concerned about their souls.

What if someone is pondering coming back to the Lord, but he or she wonders why no brethren have reached out to him/her? He or she may wonder, "Do the Brethren even miss me? Do they even realize that I am gone?" I certainly hope that Satan won't be able to use that kind of fuel to keep lost souls from returning to the Lord!

As the wonderful chorus reminds us, "Bring them in, Bring them in, Bring them in from the fields of sin! Bring them in, Bring them in, Bring the little ones to Jesus!" May we all take these words to heart, and realize that each one of us possesses the power to influence a lost soul to return to Christ!

With love, Chase

What Your Empty Seat Says

Wendell Winkler

Note: The following was taken from page 44 of the book *Toward Spiritual Maturity*, by Brother Wendell Winkler. Please ponder the following as you think about the importance of your attendance (Heb. 10:24-25). This is written from the following perspective: What if a church pew could talk? What would he say when members willingly miss worship services?

- 1) "My occupant found greater joy in something else."
- 2) "My occupant did not seek the kingdom first."
- 3) "My occupant is not concerned with building up the local church."
- 4) "My occupant does not love God."
- 5) To the preacher it says, "Your sermon is not worth very much, your preparations are useless, and your efforts are not appreciated."
- 6) To the visitor it says, "There is not much interest here."
- 7) To the other members it says, "Someone found something more interesting than this service."
- 8) To the nonmember it says, "Regular attendance is neither necessary or worthwhile."
- 9) To the elders it says, "Some of the sheep are out of the fold."
- 10) To God it says, "There is something more important than worshipping Thee."
- 11) To Christ it says, "Someone does not appreciate Your sacrifice."

Note: May we all realize the ramifications of our church attendance, and how it either positively or negatively affects the Lord's work here at the Beacon church of Christ. — TCG

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."
Matthew 11:29

BE SURE TO TUNE INTO OUR RADIO STATION!
FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth
Available 24/7 on FM radio and at Beaconcofc.com