

THE BEACON OF TRUTH

November 18, 2018

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

Where to Turn When You Don't Know Where to Turn Chase Green

Life can be very difficult sometimes. Bills, heartaches, relationship struggles, depression, health problems, unfortunate circumstances — all of these and more tend to pile up on us sometimes. Painful situations know no age, color, culture, gender, or social status. The truth of the matter is that all of us face something difficult in our lives, sometimes more than our fair share!

And when difficulties do pile up, one after another, sometimes we become numb. Sometimes, we want to give up. Even the most mighty among us in the faith have had weak moments of distress, discomfort, disconnect and doubt. When this happens to us, to whom or to what do we turn? I want to propose four answers to this question that all of us have asked at some point in our lives.

- **We must turn our head** — When faced with life's struggles, it can be tempting to keep our eyes forward, business as usual, as if we can get through this on our own. What we need to do, however, is to look UP and then we need to look DOWN. “I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth” (Psalm 121:1-2). After acknowledging almighty God above, we need to bow down our heads in deference to Him and beg for His help, whatever come what may (Php. 4:6-7; 1 Pet. 5:6-7). “Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved” (Psa. 55:22).
- **We must turn the pages** — God has given us great comfort in His holy Word. “My hands also I will lift up to Your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on Your statutes. Remember the word to Your servant, upon which You have caused me to hope. This is my comfort in my affliction, for Your word has given me life. The proud have me in great derision, yet I do not turn aside from Your law. I remembered Your judgments of old, O Lord, and have comforted myself” (Psalm 119:48-52, NKJV).
- **We must turn around** — Sometimes, oftentimes in fact, repentance is what is needed. There are many consequences for our sins, and these consequences have a way of affecting every aspect of our lives. Like the prodigal in Luke chapter 15, we must look at our present circumstances and realize that we (cntd. on pg. 2)

By the Numbers:

Week of 11/11/18

Contribution — \$2466

Attendance:

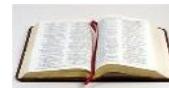
Sunday Bible Classes — 24

Sunday Worship* — 44

Wednesday Night — 26

*Total for the day

Bible Trivia Question



Last Week's Answer: No (1 Cor. 2:1).

Q: What three things were evidence of the Corinthian church's carnality?

Answer to be given next week!

Sermon Spotlight:

AM - The Church — The Bride of Christ

- 1) What name does a bride wear?
- 2) Should we submit to Christ just as a wife is to submit to her husband?

PM - A Christian's Adornment

- 1) How should a Christian clothe himself, spiritually speaking?
- 2) What happens to your influence if you are not wearing your spiritual garments?

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

BEACON CHURCH OF CHRIST
2326 JONESBORO ROAD
MAIL: P.O. BOX 3057
WEST MONROE, LA 71294

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 — Regina Simmons — Wanda Hendrix — Marcia Green — Jerry Tippen — Ruby Weaver — Wendy Traweek — Tim Green (has received good results of his medical test. Please continue to keep him in your prayers as he plans further actions) — Harold Myers (will be taking radiation treatments over the next several weeks) — Joy Skipper — Ruth Coston — The family of Herm Langston

OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Monthly Fellowship Meal — 4th Sunday of the month unless otherwise noted.
- Youth & Young Adults — Be on the lookout for monthly get-togethers (If you would like to help with or host a get-together, please let Chase know)

(Continued from page 1)

were so much better off when we were faithful than when we fell away. Although faithfulness doesn't automatically make all of life's difficulties disappear, it does make them much more bearable, because we realize that we have something more to live for, and we have hope.

- **We must turn to our brethren** — We must never forget about the importance our brethren play in helping us cope with the difficulties of life. Although we may be tempted to bottle things up and bear our cross alone, we need to realize that even Jesus had someone to help carry His cross (Mat. 27:32). If Jesus could receive help in this way, then certainly so should we! Our brethren are here for us to exhort us (Heb. 10:25), to be a listening ear as we confess our faults (James 5:16), to pray for us (also James 5:16), and to help us bear our burdens (Gal. 6:2). If that's not the definition of spiritual teamwork, then I don't know what is! Sometimes the very people we should turn to first (after, of course, turning to God), our spiritual family are the last to know about the difficulties we face. Why is that? Perhaps because we are not as close to them as we ought to be.

Oh the heartache we could spare ourselves if we would just follow this advice! Easier said than done sometimes, though. If you are currently facing difficulties in your Christian walk, I would encourage you to — no, **IMPLORE** you to — think beyond the struggle itself, that is, seek the "higher plane" by seeking God, rather than trying to deal with this yourself. Furthermore, I would implore you to find Scriptures to read that are applicable to your situation, to turn from any sin that may be in your life, and to seek out help from your brethren. Know that you have a preacher and elders who are willing to listen. Find another trusted brother or sister, and just talk to them. Let them know about your struggles. But don't go at it alone anymore!

With love, Chase

Doing God's Will

Ron Boatwright

(Scripture taken from the NKJV, bold added for emphasis by original author of article)

How do we make sure that we are among the few who are saved and not among the many who are lost (Matthew 7:13-14)? Jesus says in Matthew 7:21-23, "Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, **but he who does the will of my Father** in heaven. **Many** will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, and cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name? And then will I declare to them, I **never** knew you, depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness". If we believe and call Jesus, "Lord, Lord", we are still lost if we have not done God's will.

On Judgment Day **many** will be pleading with Jesus, calling him Lord, Lord, and reminding him of the many wonderful works that they had done in His name, but He will say unto them, "I **never** knew you, depart from Me you who practice lawlessness". Why? Why? They had **not done the will of the Father** in heaven. The worst thing that will ever be said to an individual is when the Lord on Judgment Day says to the majority of people, "Depart from Me, I **never** knew you". There will be no appeal to this decision. We have to get it right the first time.

These people in the above scripture seemed to be honest, but they were honestly mistaken as the majority of people are today. Apparently they were good people, because they had "done many wonderful works". But they had not done the will of the Father, which is in heaven. No single condition, that God imposes, can be ignored. **God has no non-essential commands**. When we fail to obey a command of God, we have just broken it. We must obey God by doing what God says to do, when God says to do it, how God says to do it, and for the reason God says to do it. Nothing is more important than pleasing God by doing His will so that we can go to Heaven. God's will is found right in our Bibles.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

1 Pet. 3:21

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