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| <div><div><div>Schedule Of Services</div><div>Sunday</div><div>Bible Study 9:45 A.M.</div><div>Worship 10:30 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.</div><div>Wednesday Bible study 7:00 P.M.</div></div><div><div>Website</div><div>Beaconcofc.com</div></div></div> <div><div><div>Preacher</div><div>Chase Green</div><div>318-608-7418</div></div><div><div>Elders</div><div>Bill Schooley 318-396-7296</div><div>Tim Green 318-547-4026</div></div></div> | <div><div>BEACON CHURCH OF CHRIST</div><div>2326 JONESBORO ROAD</div><div>MAIL: P.O. BOX 3057</div><div>WEST MONROE, LA 71294</div></div> <div><div>WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED</div><div><div>1. Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17).</div><div>2. Believe (Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6).</div><div>3. Repent (Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30).</div><div>4. Confess Christ (Matt. 10:32, 33).</div><div>5. Be baptized (immersed) (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).</div><div>6. Continue faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).</div></div></div> <div><div>Mailing Address</div><div>PLACE STAMP HERE</div></div> |
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| <div><div>By the Numbers:</div><div>Week of 12/22/19</div><div>Contribution – \$2951</div><div>Attendance:</div><div>Sunday Bible Classes – N/A</div><div>Sunday Worship * – 49</div><div>Wednesday Night – 29</div><div>*Total for the day</div></div> | <div><div>WORKS SUPPORTED:</div><div>Ronnie Gootam - India</div><div>Marlon Retana - Panama</div><div>Brad Harrub - Focus Press</div><div>The Gospel of Christ TV Program</div><div>Sundays:</div><div>6:30am - Ch. 8.2 (CW) 7:00am - Ch. 39.1</div><div>Listen to our radio station!</div><div>FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth</div><div>Available online 24/7</div><div>at beaconcofc.com</div></div> | <div><div>Sermon Spotlight:</div><div>AM — Commendation & Concern</div><div><div>1. In what ways have we done well this year?</div><div>2. In what ways can we improve for 2020?</div></div><div>PM — Four Things Never Satisfied</div><div><div>1. From which text is this found?</div><div>2. How is the grave never satisfied? The barren womb? The earth? The fire?</div><div>3. What lessons can we learn from these?</div></div></div> |
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| <div><div>THE BEACON OF TRUTH</div><div>December 29, 2019</div><div>“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17</div></div> | <div><div>Why I Attend Every Service of the Church</div><div>Curtis Cates</div><div>Often, the question is asked, "Must I attend every service of the church?" Some feel that attending each week meets the criterion of faithful membership (Note: In other words, faithful attendance is not the SOLE criterion, TCG). But, the problem is one of heart. The question should be: "How much do I love God; how much do I love the brotherhood; how much do I love my soul and the crown of life awaiting the faithful?" The Christian, therefore, will reason thus: One, I will assemble regularly, for to praise God demonstrates and proves my love for Him and my gratitude for the marvelous sacrifice of Christ (John 14:15). To the Christian who lives in great anticipation of serving God day and night in His presence in Heaven, the privilege of serving Him in the assembly cannot come often enough (Rev. 5:19-14). To have to miss the Bible study/worship brings deepest regret. Why, the Christian will die for Christ, and certainly he will assemble faithfully in His presence with the brethren! Two, I will assemble regularly, for this helps me to be my brother's keeper (Gen. 4:9). It helps to strengthen my marriage (Song of Sol. 8:6; Matt. 19:6-9; Heb. 13:4). It helps me bring up my children in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). It helps me lead the lost to Christ (Matt. 28:19, 20; Rom. 7:4). It helps me restore the erring (Jas. 5:19, 20). It helps me love the brotherhood (Heb. 13:1). And, it helps me bear fruit (John 15:1ff), without which I shall be cut down (Luke 13:6-9). Three, I will assemble regularly, for this helps me to be faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10). I do not which to be lost; my spiritual carcass must not litter the path of life. I attend, for it brings edification and encouragement, fortification and conviction. The knowledge gained and associations experienced enable me to overcome temptation. Studying at home, though vital, cannot substitute for the strength derived from sharing the like precious faith with my brethren. That "tie that binds" is strengthened and my resolve is enhanced. I am human; I require the encouragement and brotherhood of others. I can then bear fruit and win the lost. I realize I am not alone; others are working for the Lord, as well. Four, I will assemble regularly, for this enables me to function as a priest (Rev. 1:6). I realize how unbecoming it is for a priest not to have a sacrifice of praise on every possible occasion (Heb. 13:5), for I am a part of that "royal priesthood," the church which was purchased by the precious blood of Christ (I Pet. 2:9; Acts 20:28). I am not my own, for I have (cntd. on pg. 2)</div></div> |
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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, Joy Skipper, Kaitlyn Wilson, Tim Green, Debbie Grice, Virginia Wainwright, Stetson Ortega, Bettie Young, Wendy Traweek, Dewey Young (recovering from surgery), Marcia Green, Martin Hattaway, Scarlet Schooley (recovering from surgery), Judy May (recovering from surgery last week), Dewey & Bettie Young (traveling in Branson, MO)

OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Several have expressed interest in a game night for New Years Eve (Tuesday, Dec. 31). Please let Chase know if you would like to attend!
- Youth & Young Adults: Be on the lookout for monthly get-togethers. If you would like to help host an event in the future, please let Chase know!
- Monthly Fellowship Meal: 4th Sunday each month unless otherwise noted.

(Continued from page 1)

been purchased and redeemed (I Cor. 6:19, 20); I will thus glorify God. My privilege is great, for I can, being a priest, "...therefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16).

Five, I will assemble regularly, for this helps me put the kingdom first (Matt. 6:33). It shows steadfastness (I Cor. 15:58), offering my body as a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1, 2). I hunger and thirst after righteousness (Matt. 5:6); it will help me be filled. My presence tells the preacher, "Your study and sacrifices are much appreciated; I will give heed to the oracles of God" (II Pet. 4:1). It tells the elders, "You certainly can count on me in the work of the church; I love you for watching in behalf of my soul" (Heb. 13:17). It tells the Bible class teachers, "Your time of preparation will do me good" (II Tim. 2:2). I will show appreciation for the regular feeding time established by the shepherds in the local church, who rule under the chief Shepherd, Christ (I Pet. 5:4; Heb. 13:7; Acts 20:28).

I attend the services because it is a command, but that is not my main reason for doing so. It is certainly true that I am commanded not forsake the assembling (Heb. 10:25). But, I attend out of love for God and for the good it does for me. God will continue to be God, whether I worship Him or not. Note Psa. 50:12, where God observes, "If I were hungry, I would not tell thee; For the world is mine, and the fulness thereof." Yes, my attendance helps the cause of Christ, but it especially helps me. Indeed, whether or not I attend every service has never been a subject of debate — I will be present, if at all possible!

New Year, New You

Chase Green

Perhaps you, like me, have scrolled through the television channels at times and seen an infomercial advertising the "new year, new you." Oftentimes these involve fad diets, meal replacement shakes, and the newest exercise programs, in an effort to sell you their product. But what about the spiritual "new you?" Many people tend to set goals during this time of year. Why not make your goals of a spiritual nature?

While I can't offer you any products, here's what I can offer you: a steady spiritual diet of God's Word, replacing your life of sin with the fruits of the Spirit, and the spiritual "exercise" of putting your faith into practice!

Before we get into those three things, let me first point out that in order to be right with God, you must be "born again" (John 3:3). You must be born of **water** and the **Spirit** (John 3:5, emphasis mine throughout, TCG). This is not a physical birth, but a spiritual one (John 3:6). Acts 2:38 tells us when this takes place: "Repent, and **be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the **Holy Ghost**." It is at the point of baptism that one is placed "into Christ," (Gal. 3:27), and in Christ one becomes a "new creature" (Gal. 6:15).

As a new creature, a Christian needs to embark on this life long journey of faithfulness, and the three things mentioned in the second paragraph are crucial to the new Christian's success! First, he must consume a steady "diet" of God's Word. The Scriptures are able to make one "wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 3:15). The inspired Scriptures are "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction," and "for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). The Scriptures are able to make one "perfect," that is, "complete" in Christ (2 Tim. 3:17). The Scriptures must be studied in order for one to show himself approved unto God" (2 Tim. 2:15).

When one obeys the gospel, he makes a commitment to God. He has cast off his old life of sin, and puts on the new life of righteousness. Thus, he begins a life long journey of continuous growth. When a Christian comes up from the water, he is a babe in Christ (1 Cor. 3:1), but with the process of time he must continue to grow more and more spiritually. The key to this growth is to "desire the sincere milk of the word" (1 Pet. 2:2). Taking in the steady diet of God's Word that we talked about previously, one can add to his faith virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity (2 Pet. 1:5-7). One must also remove the works of the flesh from his life (Gal. 5:19-21), and instead add the fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23).

Finally, consider the spiritual "exercise" regimen of putting faith into practice. 1 Tim. 4:8 says, "For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." The most profitable exercise of life is godliness! Godliness is taking your faith, and putting it into practice! It's being a DOER of the Word, and not a hearer only (Jam. 1:22)! It is learning God's Word, and making application of it in your own life, and using it to affect the lives of those around you! Ultimately, it involves teaching others so that they too can be saved!

As you welcome in the New Year in 2020, why not welcome in the new you? If you are not a Christian, become one today! If you are a Christian, make up your mind to do better in 2020 than you did in 2019! Resolve to partake of the spiritual "diet" of God's Word daily, replace sin in your life with the Christian growth that is expected of you, and make habitual practice of the spiritual "exercise" of putting your faith into practice!

With love, Chase

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

Acts 20:28