Schedule Of Services
Sunday Study 0:30 A. y Bible BEACON CHURCH OF CHRIS 2326 JONESBORO ROAD MAIL: P.O. BOX 3057 WEST MONROE, LA 71294 WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17). 3:3; 24:47; 1:16; Acts 18:8; (Matt. 10:32, 33). Mailing Address

## By the Numbers:

Week of 3/8/20

Contribution - \$2455

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Classes — 35 Sunday Worship\* — 59 Wednesday Night — 42

\*Total for the day

#### **WORKS SUPPORTED:**

Marlon Retana - Panama Brad Harrub - Focus Press

The Gospel of Christ TV Program
Sundays:
6:30am - Ch. 8.3 (CW) 7:00am - Ch. 39.1

#### Listen to our radio station!

FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth Available online 24/7 at beaconcofc.com

# Sermon Spotlight:

AM — Whatever it Takes: Radical Repentance!

- 1. What "radical" steps were taken in order to achieve repentance in Acts 19?
- 2. What aspects of your life are in need of radical repentance?

PM — Hebrews Chapter 11

PLACE STAMP HERE

 Looking back to chapter 10, what type of faith (as seen in chapter 11) leads to the saving of the soul?

### THE BEACON OF TRUTH

March 15, 2020

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." John 17:17

# **How Do You Start the Day?**

Dave Duggan

A recent newspaper article revealed the results of a national survey taken by Robert Krups, a manufacturer of small appliances and home electronics. The survey was entitled, "Morning Habits of America." The results of the survey listed the "Top 10 Morning Rituals."

The top 10 activities the participants say they "can't do without" each morning:

- 1. Personal hygiene (brushing teeth, washing face, showering) 84%
- 2. Listen to the radio -55%
- 3. Drink coffee 53%
- 4. Make bed 53%
- 5. Make breakfast 50%
- 6. Kiss spouse 49%
- 7. Read newspaper 35%
- 8. Watch television 30%
- 9. Exercise 22%
- 10. Iron clothes -11%

To a Christian, there are some things missing from that list. Not one word was mentioned about prayer or Bible reading – especially in a country where, according to a Gallup poll, 84% believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God; where 63% believe the Bible is the inspired word of God, and where 41% pray every day.

"How do you start your day?" is a valid question for every Christian to consider. Is there prayer and Bible reading at the beginning of your daily routine? Or, is there prayer and Bible reading anywhere in your daily routine? I know many Christians who have made these two things near the top of their "Top 10 Morning Rituals" for all of their Christian lives. (continued on page 2)

### <u>NEWS AND NOTES</u> 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, Scarlet Schooley, Judy May, Martin Hattaway, Marcia Green, Dewey Young, Kenzie May, The family of Cheryl McCormick (Phyllis' mother) who passed away last Tuesday night

#### **OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- Youth & Young Adults: We will have a devotional and game night at Chase & Lindsey's house Friday, March 20th. See Chase for details. If you would like to help host an event in the future, please let Chase know!
- Monthly Ladies' Luncheon: See Sharon for more details.
- Monthly Fellowship Meal: 4th Sunday each month unless otherwise noted.
- VBS & Gospel Meeting with Dr. Brad Harrub: July 19th to 22nd. Will be here before we know it! Be planning to attend and help support this great event!

#### (Continued from page 1)

David said, "My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up" (Psalm 5:3). He also said, "Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice" (Psalm 55:17).

In the quiet of the morning we can begin our day by setting our minds (our thinking) on things that are above. Paul urged his brethren, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:2). What better way could we start the day? We can equip ourselves just as our Lord did when He met Satan in the wilderness and resisted temptation by using the word of God (Matt. 4:1-11). We can be ready to handle the frustrations of life in a better way by beginning our day with the Lord.

#### Be of Good Cheer

Chase Green

The clause "be of good cheer" occurs seven times in the New Testament. With all that is going on in the world today (political turmoil, war, economic uncertainty, fears of global pandemic, etc.), I thought it would be appropriate to remind us that Christians should be of good cheer in spite of difficult circumstances.

The first instance of this clause occurs in Matthew 9:2: "And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." In this context, Jesus was healing a paralytic man. He was also dealing with the ultimate sickness — sin. We need to understand, in spite of physical infirmities, Christians can still be of good cheer! We may suffer greatly. We may know others who suffer greatly. But we must remember that we are headed towards a place where there will be "no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain" (Rev. 21:4). While we are certainly living in a sin-sick world today, and as we struggle to overcome sins ourselves, we must remember that, as the song says, when we all get to heaven, "just one glimpse of Him in glory will the toils of life repay!"

The next two appearances of the clause "be of good cheer" occur in Matthew 14:27 and Mark 6:50, both of which discuss Jesus' walking on water. The disciples in these passages were consumed with confusion and fear, but Jesus told them, "Be of good cheer." We must remember that the disciples' faith was still very young at this point in Jesus' ministry. They still had a lot to learn and a long way to go. They didn't fully understand how this miracle could have been. But Jesus was there to comfort them and remind them to be of good cheer. As Christians, we must remember that although we may not always understand what is going on in the world, God still works all things "together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28). This one verse is enough to give Christians peace during troublesome times.

Speaking of peace, in John 16:33, our clause appears in the context of peace during tribulation. "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Several verses prior, Jesus promised His disciples "Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy" (John 16:20). Jesus offered full disclosure to His disciples — they would face terrible things as persecution came upon them and would even be scattered abroad (verse 32), but in spite of all of this, they were still to be of good cheer. The world had much affliction to offer, but Jesus overcame the world!

Finally, notice three instances in which Paul was comforted with these same words, "be of good cheer." In Acts 23:10-11, we read of Paul being taken by force to a Roman garrison as his preaching had caused an uproar. The next night, Jesus appeared unto him and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome." Paul still had work to do! It wasn't his time yet (even though many people were plotting to kill him — see verse 12)! A few chapters later, we read again of the Lord comforting Paul (via an angel) with these words, "Be of good cheer," this time in the midst of a shipwreck (Acts 27:22, 25). Again, Paul still had work to do! We too need to remember that as long as the world remains and as long as we are still in this world, we too have a job to do — evangelism!

As we consider these seven passages, let us truly "be of good cheer." Being of good cheer doesn't mean that we never have a thought of sadness, an emotion of sorrow. It doesn't mean that we will never experience pain. It does mean, however, that IN SPITE of the sadness, the sorrow, and the pain, we can still look past these temporary afflictions with cheer, knowing that one day we will enter the heavenly realm, where only good things exist, where there will be only bliss, eternal joy in the presence of our God!

With love, Chase

#### THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

Matt. 5:13