

**August 18, 2008**

## **SERMONS FOR SUNDAY**

**August 24, 2008**

a.m. *"Baptism Is Not Enough"*

Scripture: Acts 2:42

p.m. *Fifth Sunday Singing*

### **Bible School Teachers**

Don Hatch

**Teaching truth** to a thoughtful mind is the foundation and superstructure upon which God's eternal will is substantially and consistently passed from one generation to the next. No building can be stronger than its foundation and no superstructure will last that is not planned well. "Except Jehovah build the house, they labor in vain that build it..." (Psm 127:1). Indispensable in the progress of Christian teachings is God. The work of a teacher is like a gardener. The seed must be sown, watered and the ground tended but the results are God's (1 Cor 3:1-9). The teacher, like the gardener, works with God in all the necessary things which will nourish and prosper the growth of the seed. Being an instrument of God the teacher yields to Him. Many forces combine to help a seed grow in the heart of individuals. Sowing means to spiritually make the seed grow and is of great importance.

**Religious training** emphasizes character. To have a worthwhile results, the Christian character "shows how to do" what is being taught. Teaching is helping others set down a distinctive foundation, recognizing that the relationship with God is eternal whereas the world is temporal (2 Cor 4:16-18). Christian teaching brings a consciousness to learners that they need Jesus Christ as their Savior (Mat 1:18-20). Moreover learners require guidance in understanding the Bible and all things spiritual (Acts 8:31). Leading individuals to have a consecrated life in service to God is indispensably interrelated to reaching a goal of the high calling in Christ Jesus (Phil 3:13-16).

**Teaching demands preparation.** Ability in teaching is gained through actual study and experience. Teaching presents that others may learn. One can know facts and principles but only by teaching is it helpful. In Christian education there is more than mere form. The content is emphasized and requires mastery by the teacher and student. Success to a large degree asks of the teacher or student to work hard at mastering the principles and precepts of The Word of God. One cannot really gain mastery over any subject except by starting with certain axioms or facts which are proven to be true. Tracing out the effects of Christianity upon lives demonstrates that what is introduced about spiritual control over life produces character and develops fundamentals which cannot be easily shaken (Gal 1:6; 5:1).

**Teaching the divine message** requires attending to the smallest detail and is the measure of the stature of the teacher's work. Teaching is training the novice, grounding the faithful and establishing a well-rounded and edifying program of progress. The importance and welfare of the church is carried out in the Bible class. The greatest curse upon mankind is aimlessness. The world is full of people who aimlessly meander carefree and carelessly toward where they will spend eternity. They have not set goals with redemptive values. Bible classes help set clear goals defining reasonable and worthy aspirations. Clear mindedness has a reward of arriving at a goal with a quality and commitment to the spiritual life. Christians are not machines but co-workers with God (Eph 3:1-13). By being endowed with a conscience which must be trained it characteristically finds such training in the Bible and augments personal training with time spent listening to Bible Class Teachers, Preachers and other instructors. Aims imply an active direction in an orderly manner toward accomplishing a specific spiritual end. Bible School Teachers facilitate a student's progress by considering aims which have eternal consequences. As a consequence of such aims the situation is enriched and results are reaped in terms which realize an effective smoothing of the way for the growth and education of a soul.

**Bible School Teachers** are not graded on tests given, rather on lives lived and the eternal life of a student in the celestial city of God. Learning is continuous and progress is well-defined as the pupil experiences an active life with a desirable personal performance. Courageously and energetically Bible School Teachers find contentment and satisfaction watching a student fix their eye on the goal of the high calling in Jesus (Phil 3:13-16). Emphasizing such things as the virtues, fruit of the Spirit and choosing the most excellent awakens personal values. Leading a student to a knowledge of God's word, accepting Jesus as Lord, developing a Christian character, worthy worshipful habits, building a strong foundation of faith and influencing a soul to deny ungodliness, worldly lust and living soberly, righteously and godly in this present world is unmatched by any other education (2 Pet 1:1-11; Gal 5:16-24; Tit 2:1-14). Only the truth found in the Bible has the power to transform and build a Christian character.

**Bible School Teachers** have an inclusive aim "that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim 3:17). All Christian teaching is directed to the final end of building up those taught in holy faith and helping them to perfect a godly character.

**Christian Bible Teachers** are often called upon to teach their entire lifetime, being relieved seldom for a quarter, but to them it is an honor to influence generations of children and adults. They are worthy of praise for their work sake. Each congregation of the Lord's people should frequently praise such worthy servants. The wellbeing of a congregation depends on these faithful servants

## FAMILY CARE

### A Message from Our Shepherds

Our prayer is that all members will help spread the “Good News” to their friends and love ones. “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.” Matthew 28:19, 20. The elders’ prayer is that this congregation continues to carry out this scripture at home as well as abroad.

In a sermon a few years ago, I heard about the four C’s to remember; COMMITMENT of our obedience to Christ, COMMENCEMENT of obedience now, CONTINUOUS obedience forever and CONFIRMATION of God’s Word. (Romans 12:1-3). We need to always remember that OUR PURPOSE IS TO GLORIFY GOD!!! “That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;” Colossians 1:10.

Be good examples and be fruitful! In Matthew 20:25-28 we read, But Jesus called them to *Himself* and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave — just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

We have a great congregation of obedient workers for the Lord. Keep up the good work and have a wonderful week in the Lord.

#### **God Is Not Mocked**

**“Do not be deceived,”** said the apostle Paul in Galatians 6:7, *“God is not mocked.”* In other words, man cannot laugh at God or make fun of Him without consequences. Because God has appointed for every man both death and judgement (Hebrews 9:27), and no one can avoid either (2 Corinthians 5:10), all who mock God will face a fiery judgement. How does man mock God?

**First, those who do not believe in God mock Him.** They do not realize where everything comes from: what we see in the sky and on the earth, the sun, the moon, the stars; the vegetables, flowers, fruits; and all kinds of creatures – and man himself, with such a wonderful body! We see design in everything. Is there no designer? Man cannot successfully deny the existence of God, *“Because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even, His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse”* (Romans 1: 19, 20). The Bible therefore rightly says, *“The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’”* (Psalm 53:1).

**Secondly, there are those who seemingly believe in God, but instead of believing and following the one true God, they try to change His truth into an image made like corruptible man, birds, or four-footed animals and creeping things.** They bow before such things and honor and worship them, instead of honoring and worshipping the one true God. They are making a mockery of God. Addressing such an audience, the apostle Paul said, *“Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s devising”* (Acts 17:29).

**Thirdly, they mock God when they believe, accept the Bible as the true word of God, yet practice such things that God has not authorized in His Book.** Speaking of them, Christ said, *“These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”* The Lord became so disgusted with such people that He asked, *“But why do you call Me Lord, Lord, and not do the things which I say?”* (Luke 6:46).

Men need to remember that God will not be mocked, that those who do will reap destruction from what they sow (Galatians 6:7).

~ Sunny David; Gospel Preacher in India

## **SOWING THE SEED OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IN 2008**

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### **New Testament Christians**

The New Testament is a fulfillment of the Old Testament (Mat 5:17). It stands as a document wherein a faithful follower of Christ finds the blueprint for the church of Christ. Everyone should have working knowledge of the power of God found in the New Testament which can help us present our lives acceptable to God. Not being fashioned by the world, transforming our minds, hearts and souls by renewing them, proving what is the good, acceptable and perfect will of God is fundamental for mankind. In the 21st century all can become New Testament Christians, learning and doing in the spirit of unity.

The proclamation of the New Testament is the power of God unto salvation (Rom 1:16, 17). Realizing Christ came and is coming again is profound. Christians are made Christians by adopting the New Testament plan of salvation. Do you have a working knowledge of the New Testament plan of salvation? All are welcome to worship with us and learn the first principles of the oracles of God or to ground and root your faith.

~ Don Hatch; article to appear in the August 22, 2008 issue of the Dallas Morning News

## **GREETER ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Sunday, August 24, 2008**

**Front foyer:** Mike & Elizabeth Garrison; Max Melton

**Back foyer:** Robert & Cathy Taylor

### **Sunday, August 31, 2008**

**Front foyer:** Ilene Ashworth, Carol Swinney,

Jamie & Megan Little

**Back foyer:** Bill & Linda Matthews

## **Family News:**

### **MISSION PRINTING**

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

### **MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL**

The **Monday morning** gathering will meet at 6:00 a.m. in the Annex.

### **SUMMERTIME GOSPEL PREACHING**

Our theme this year is "Give Me the Bible, Holy Message Shining". The final Wednesday evening lesson is entitled "**There is A Church**" & will be brought to us by our Brother Henry Seidmeyer. Scripture reference: Ephesians 1:15-23.

### **LADIES**

We will meet on **Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. in the Annex to work on bears. Please join us!

### **HOUSE to HOUSE. HEART to HEART**

Pick up a new copy of House to House, Heart to Heart from the front foyer.

### **BIBLE CLASS FALL QUARTER**

**Correction:** Due to Leap Year, the fall quarter Bible classes are scheduled to begin on **September 7<sup>th</sup> for Sunday** morning and **September 10<sup>th</sup> for Wednesday** evening. Teachers, let Brother Hatch know if you need supplies.

Also, all teachers for ages Cradle Roll through High School are encouraged to attend a meeting scheduled for **Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>** in room #116 at 4:45 p.m.

### **IN APPRECIATION**

I want to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for the recent cards, food, and visits in my time of sorrow. And for the wonderful lunch the day of the funeral. You all are such wonderful people; I love you all. Ann Ryon

### **SOMEONE HAS MOVED** (again)

Please note a new address (effective now) for Ilene Ashworth: 8622 Forest Glenn Dr.; Irving, 75063. New phone number (effective 8/21): 972-506-3299. Please continue to use her PO Box for mail.

### **WITH SYMPATHY**

**Linda Nichols** (Tim McAlister's mother-in-law & Lyda's dear friend) passed away on Wednesday; services were held last Friday in Arkansas.

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

- **Bob Bingham** had a pet scan done on Friday; pray for good results.
- **Jane Easter** was released & is now home recuperating.
- **Hank Henry** underwent a successful procedure to open blocked stints.
- **Juanita Melton** was able to be in worship yesterday (8/17).
- **Drew Battistelli** (Julie Roses' nephew) had surgery for problems due to crone's disease.
- **Debbie Gomez** (Linda Head's daughter) underwent surgery to remove tumors from her head; they're waiting for pathology reports.
- **Brenda Lowery** (Lotah Franklin's friend) is disabled & struggles with health & personal problems.
- **Dorothy McCullom** (mother of the Webb's niece) suffers with cancer; she was taken to an ER in MS yesterday.
- **Don Morgan** (Gwen Bingham's son) continues to struggle with headaches & arthritis.
- **Virgil Thomas** (friend of Bill & Linda Matthews) is in Las Colinas Medical with a serious infection. No visitors please.
- **Linda Woodruff** (the Webb's neighbor) will have surgery to replace a pacemaker & defibrillator.

Continue to remember those who are recuperating or suffering with long-term illnesses, including: Fauna Garrett, Jack & Frances LaFerney, Garldean Latham, Jan Smithson, Frances Tipton, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Frank Garrett (Fauna's husband), Joy Gilliam (the Gilliam's daughter-in-law), Percy Henry (Hank's brother), Mildred Pennington

(the Gilliam's sister-in-law), Chelsea Sutton (the Garrison's granddaughter), Bette Yearwood (Becky Henry's sister), & our shut-ins.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Be sure and mark your calendar -**

- Aug 24: Bible School Teachers meeting in Rm. 116 @ 4:45pm
- Aug 26: Ladies work on bears in Annex at 10:00 a.m.
- Aug 27: Wed. Night Summertime Preaching, Henry Seidmeyer
- Sept. 13: Ladies' 'Intreat" at Keller Church of Christ; speaker, Beverly McKey
- Oct 26-29: Fall Gospel Meeting, Robert Dodson

## **NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

### **Sunday morning:**

- Shellie Pearce

### **Sunday evening:**

- Samantha Harvey

## **LORD'S TABLE/MORNING**

### **Front Table**

- Mike Batot
- Glen Kelly
- Thomas Rathbun
- James Gilliam
- Bill Matthews
- John Mayer
- Ty Harvey
- Rob Farmer

### **Rear Table**

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Max Melton
- Bobby Bowen
- Virgil LaFerney
- Keith Vaughn
- Bill Paschall
- Jeremy Hardegree

## **SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS**

- Richard Renfro
- Henry Seidmeyer
- Jerry Baker

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

- Brandon Thomason  
Acts 2:42

## **SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS**

- Bill Matthews
- Melvin Armstrong

## **LORD'S TABLE/EVENING**

- Darrell Allen
- Garl Latham

## **COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS**

- Mike Batot

## **FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET**

	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Avg.</u></b>	<b><u>Goal</u></b>
Sun. Class	95	87	95	125
A.M. Worship	150	160	167	210
P.M. Worship	94	93	94	112
Wed. Class	103	115	95	110
Ladies Bible Class	-	-	28	35
Contribution	\$4871	\$5184	\$5402	\$5400

## **MISSIONS**

21<sup>st</sup> Century Global Missions

Charlie & Mary DiPalma - India

Roland & Rose Mohsen – France

JB & Ivy Paul – Bitragunta, India

Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine

Glen & KuinTattersall – Australia

Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko - Russia

Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions

Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX

Foster's Home for Children – Stephenille, TX

Ian & Mabel McPherson – Tasmania Australia

Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web

Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia

Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

Terry & Pam Laurence – Bear Valley School of Preaching

Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India