



Where families worship,  
serve and raise their  
children

# Belt Line Road Church of Christ

“...churches of Christ salute you” (Rom 16:16)

Established 33 AD

December 3, 2018  
Volume 10 Number 45

1202 N. Belt Line Road  
Irving, TX 75061  
972/790-8606

Web site:  
www.beltlinechurch.com

## Schedule of Services

### **Sunday:**

Bible Class ..... 9:00 a.m.  
AM Worship ... 10:00 a.m.  
PM Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

### **Wednesday:**

Bible Study .... 7:00 p.m.

### **Tuesday:**

Ladies' Bible Class (Sept.–Apr.)  
Class meets at 10 a.m.

## MINISTER

Randy Reagan

Email:

randy.reagan@beltlinechurch.com

## ELDERS

Jerry McKey  
Richard Renfro  
Dean Webb

## DEACONS

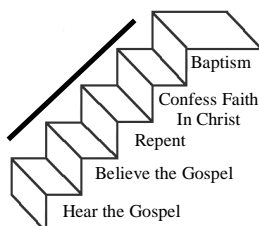
Darrell Allen  
Glen Kelly  
John Mayer

## SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham  
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

## **THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION**

Hear - Romans 10:17  
Believe - John 8:24  
Repent - Acts 17:30  
Confess - Romans 10:10  
Be Baptized - Acts 22:16  
Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



## Someone to Complete Me

I was recently reading an interview with a woman who wanted everyone to know that she absolutely did not need anyone to make her “complete.” The main point of the article was that she could be a complete person without having a man in her life. Biblically, this is true.

At creation, God determined that it was not good that man should be alone (Gen. 2:18). Throughout all creation “there was not found a helper comparable” to Adam. (Gen. 2:20), so God created woman specifically as a comparable helper for man (Gen. 2:22-24). This was the plan from the beginning (Matt. 19:4-6). Many of us could not imagine being complete in this life without our spouse as marriage makes us “one” (Gen. 2:24). When one loses their spouse and does not remarry, they can never be complete again because half of them is gone.

However, the Bible readily recognizes and acknowledges that not everyone desires to be married. When teaching His disciples about marriage/divorce/remarriage, the disciples concluded that the best for all concerned might just be to not get married (Matt. 19:10). Jesus’ response indicates that marriage is not for everyone. ...”For there are eunuchs who were born thus from their mother's womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He who is able to accept it, let him accept it.” Matt 19:11-12)

Paul would likewise address the same subject in his letter to the church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 7:32-38. “ .... He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord—how he may please the Lord. ...But he who is married cares about the things of the world.” We should respect those who make the decision not to marry. It is certainly preferable to pushing someone into a marriage they do not want.

The conclusion then is that Biblically, a person does not have to be married to live a complete life. However, spiritually complete is a different situation. We can never become complete spiritually by ourselves.

We become spiritually complete by being in Christ Jesus the Lord (“you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.” Col 2:6,10). We are never spiritually complete until we are in Christ Jesus. It is in Him and Him only that we are made complete. Paul prayed that “you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.” (Col. 4:12). Paul exhorted the Christians at Corinth to “become complete” (2 Cor. 13:11) as they served God. The Hebrew writer prayed that God would “make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ.” (Heb. 13:21). So as Christians, we strive every day to be “perfect and complete, lacking nothing.” (James 1:4)

While we do not have to have someone to “complete” us in the flesh, we can never become complete spiritually without Jesus. Yes, I do need someone to complete me.

**Randy Reagan**

## FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

Call in your information to the office at:  
972-790-8606 by Sunday evening

### DECEMBER ASSIGNMENTS

#### **GREETERS:**

**Dec. 9** – Front Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England  
Back Foyer – Glen Kelly & Nancy Pond

**Dec. 16** – Front Foyer – Richard & Carolyn Renfro  
Back Foyer – Thomas Rathbun & Elizabeth Garrison

**Communion Preparation:** Bobby & Brenda England

**Contribution Counters:** Glen Kelly & Kenny Mayer

### SERMONS

**Dec. 9** – a.m. “Something Faster Than The Lions”

1 Peter 5:6-11

p.m. “A Little Child Shall Lead Them”  
Matthew 18:1-6

**HAVE YOU INVITED  
SOMEONE TO WORSHIP  
THIS WEEK?**

**Ongoing Health Concerns:** Carol Swinney, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Ezra Castro, Nellie Melvin, Grady Fowler, Paul Kelly, Beverly McKey, Barbara Reagan, Alice Worthy, Sherry Hodge, Polly Roses, Anne Herriage, Bill & Linda Matthews, Laura Jenkins, Dale Cox, Don Walker, Clyde Beard, Billie Prince, David Porter, Elaine Neill, Jennifer Sassano, Donna Davis

**Home Bound Members:** Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Denzil Myers

**Nursing Home:** Nellie Melvin – Avalon Memory Care

Dale Cox - Avante

**Military:** Chris & Abigail Mathews

Andrea Daniel (Air Force)

### EVENTS

**MISSION PRINTING** – Mission Printing will meet every **SUNDAY** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate and staple tracts to be sent all over the world. Please come help us and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

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#### LADIES

**Ladies Bible Class** is Tuesday morning **December 4, 2018** at 9:30 for the Meet & Greet and 10:00 for the lesson. This will be in the Annex. The lesson will be “**The Resurrection, Appearances and Ascension of Jesus**”. Please plan on attending and invite your friends and neighbors.

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#### PRAYER CONCERNS

**Dale Cox** has shingles.

**Billie Prince** will be moving back to Brookdale (which is now West Fork Village).

**Jan Smithson** was able to be at services yesterday.

**Vera Gleghorn** got a good report last week.

**Elizabeth Garrison** had a MRI last week and does not have a tumor.

**Denzil Myers** is in ICU room #14 at Baylor, Scott and White Hospital/Irving.

**Sandra Williams** mother **Delores Cumby** is in Baylor Irving as she has pneumonia.

**Jerry Grantham** will have a biopsy on Friday.

**Bobby Allen’s** son **Don** cancer has spread to his lymph nodes. Please keep him in your daily prayers.

There are many others who are dealing with short term health issues. Please remember them in your daily prayers.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### GROCERY LIST

Grocery bags with a list attached for the children at **Christ’s Haven** are in both foyers. Please take all you want and fill them up. The truck will be here to pick them up on Tuesday, **December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ADDRESS CHANGE

**Lotah Franklin** – This is a temporary **mailing** address:  
4928 Chaps Avenue  
Fort Worth, Texas 76244

**Annette Kaiser** - 3517 W. Northgate Dr. #813  
Irving, Texas 75062

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

12/17/18 – 39'ers – Annex – 6:30 p.m.

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Grady Fowler       | 12/1  |
| Lotah Franklin     | 12/6  |
| Virginia Stull     | 12/6  |
| Barbara Reagan     | 12/12 |
| Crystal Morris     | 12/13 |
| Elizabeth Garrison | 12/13 |
| Virgil LaFerney    | 12/17 |
| Linda Matthews     | 12/17 |
| Kim Mayer          | 12/20 |
| Carol Lee          | 12/24 |
| Kent Conner        | 12/27 |
| Brenda England     | 12/29 |
| Lovetta Smith      | 12/31 |

**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Bill* & Carolyn Montgomery | 12/22 |
| Mike & Sharon Haynes       | 12/24 |
| David & Judy Odom          | 12/31 |

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,  
please contact Alex Mayer:  
(972) 602-8480*

**Men** who serve on the Lord's Table on Sunday mornings, please go to room #116 **five minutes** before services.

**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY**

**LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)**

12/9/18

**SUNDAY PRAYERS**

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b><u>Front Table</u></b> | <b><u>Rear Table</u></b> |
| • Kenny Mayer             | Nathan Allen             |
| • Billy Joe Swain         | Glen Kelly               |
| • Purman Cofer            | Robert Taylor            |
| • Dean Webb               | Bobby England            |
| • John Mayer              |                          |
| • Thomas Rathbun          |                          |

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| A.M. | Jerry McKey<br>Richard Renfro<br>Alex Mayer |
| P.M. | Ken Lee<br>Darrell Allen                    |

**SCRIPTURE READING**

- |      |                               |
|------|-------------------------------|
| A.M. | Jerry Baker<br>1 Peter 5:6-11 |
| P.M. | Mike Haynes<br>Matthew 18:1-6 |

**LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)**

Alex Mayer & Don Herriage

**SONG LEADERS**

- |      |               |
|------|---------------|
| A.M. | Darrell Allen |
| P.M. | Jerry Baker   |

**COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS**

Kent Conner

**FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS**

|                     | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>This Week</u> | <u>YTD Avg.</u> | <u>Goal</u> |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>       | 50               | 57               | 61              | 100         |
| <b>A.M. Worship</b> | 76               | 95               | 95              | 150         |
| <b>P.M. Worship</b> | 53               | 57               | 67              | 80          |
| <b>Wed. Class</b>   | 46               | 57               | 58              | 85          |
| <b>Contribution</b> | \$4496           | \$6867           | \$5358          | \$5300      |

**MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED**

- Glen Tattersall – *Australia*
- Jose & Miriam Suarez – *Mexico*
- Roland & Rose Mohsen – *France*
- Gary & Nadya Workman – *Ukraine*
- Charlie & Mary DiPalma – *Australia*
- Willie & Del Gley – *Ghana/Togo, Africa*
- David & Paula Tarbet – *New Milford, CT*
- Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – *Lagos, Nigeria*
- Ted Lingren – *Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia*
- Rohan & Sandra Jones – *Cape Town, South Africa*
- Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – *Wotutu, Cameroon*
- Terry & Pam Laurence – *Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo*
- Dennis & Beth Johnson – *Chennai Teacher Training School – India*

**OTHERS SUPPORTED**

- Paper Pulpit – *Hurst, Texas*
- The Truth In Love – *Hurst, Texas*
- Wayne Jackson – *Christian Courier on the Web*
- Christ's Haven Children's Home – *Keller, Texas*
- Foster's Home for Children – *Stephenville, Texas*
- Willie Alvarenga – *Brown Trail School of Preaching*
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

**STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED**

- Brown Trail School of Preaching – *Bedford, Texas*
- Joseph Harris, Nathan Boyd, William Garcia
- Southwest School of Bible Studies – **Garrett English**

## A Message from Our Shepherds

**Can a Christian feel secure about his or her salvation?** Have you ever asked that question or ever thought it? It is told of a preacher who was visiting a Christian lady of ninety plus years who was ill, and the preacher was alarmed to hear her say that she doubted she would “make it to heaven.” “Alarmed” because he knew she had been faithful in attendance for all her life and had been an excellent helper to her husband (who served as an elder for forty some years) and an excellent and self-sacrificing mother for her numerous children (all of whom attend services and two of which are gospel preachers). Unfortunately, such is not an isolated incident in a preachers’ experiences. On numerous occasions he had heard Christians who were apparently very sincere and dedicated express doubts about where they will spend eternity. In some cases, it could be that those expressing doubts are guilty of some “secret sin” which is not apparent to fellow Christians, but it seems very unlikely that this is always the explanation for such unexpected doubts.

Such doubts bring us to ask some questions. How should the mature Christian feel about his or her salvation? According to the Scripture, what is the proper attitude? In the next three weeks we will discuss three attitudes about our salvation. They are undeserved security, unjustified doubts and blessed assurance.

What about **undeserved security**. In contrast with the lady mentioned in the above story, another conversation was made with a 45-year-old man who had been baptized into the Lord’s body as a teenager and had remained faithful for about 7 or 8 years and then, had followed the woman he married off into a denominational church. More recently, in the last ten years or so, as a result of having his own business, he had decided he had to work seven days a week because he was “too busy for church.” Yet when he was asked if he would go to heaven if he died, he said he had absolutely “no doubt” that he would. Hasn’t he forgotten that God’s word says “*not forsaking our own assembling together.*” **Heb. 10:25**. Hasn’t he forgotten that the inspired apostle said Christians are to “*be ready unto every good work*” **Titus 3:1**. Hasn’t he forgotten that the Christian is commanded to “*...lay by him in store*” as he “*may prosper*” on the “*first day of the week*” **1 Cor. 16:2**. Shouldn’t he remember that “*God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap*” **Gal. 6:7**. Surely his feelings of certainty about his salvation are undeserved.

Probably some people who have such undeserved feelings of security about their salvation are influenced by the Protestant doctrine of “once in grace, always in grace.” This doctrine is held and taught by many in America today. For example, there are ones who teach that if one has been truly converted and has therefore become a child of God, he cannot be lost. They might use Jesus’ words found in **John 10:27-29** to “**prove**” their doctrine— “*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand.*” However, this same Jesus (quoted by the same John) says if any man does not remain (“abide”) in a right relationship with Christ he will lose his saved status and be destroyed—“*If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.*” **John 15:6**.

Notice what Franklin Pack says in his comments on **John 10:27-29**— “What this passage teaches is that no one can overpower God and Christ and snatch believers out of their care, but men can willingly turn themselves over to evil, and not continue to follow Christ, and perish willingly.” Clearly the security given by many and others of his persuasion is an “undeserved security.” God does not take away our freedom of choice when we become Christians. We can still choose to desert God just as Demas “*deserted*” Paul and, as implied, “*deserted*” God also—“*for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica—Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia*” **2 Tim. 4:10**. Such “*deserters*,” whether they be persons who openly confess to desertion, or those who still claim to be Christians but relegate God to second (or third, or fourth) place in their lives, should listen to Paul’s warning in **Gal. 6:7-8** “*Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.*” Again, any feeling of security on the part of such people is clearly undeserved.

Next week we will discuss another attitude about our salvation. It is **unjustified doubts**. Everyone have a great week.

**Jerry McKey**

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