

# Belt Line Road Church of Christ

“...churches of Christ salute you” (Rom 16:16)  
Established 33 AD

March 30, 2015  
Volume 7 Number 13

1202 N. Belt Line Road  
Irving, TX 75061  
972/790-8606  
972/790-3897 (fax)

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.... 7:30 p.m.

#### **Tuesday:**

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

#### Evangelist

Don Hatch  
Email:  
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

#### ELDERS

Jerry McKey  
Richard Renfro  
Dean Webb

#### DEACONS

Darrell Allen  
Glen Kelly  
John Mayer

#### SECRETARIES

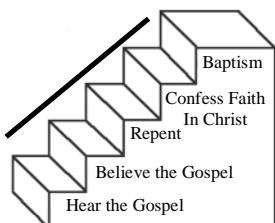
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham  
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

#### CUSTODIANS

Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

#### **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)



### Courage- Mounts With Courage

Don Hatch

**There is a need for courage** in Christianity. Standing for the right takes strength. Opposing forces can use every pressure possible to tumble righteousness. The courageous Christian is distinguished by personal stamina which sustains them in the battle for right. Each successive step observes that the tempering of the soul and perfecting of moral practices are built upon preceding victories. Pretentious faith develops moral cowardice instead of courage. Lack of courage develops spiritual blindness, license to indulge in pleasure and is void of purity. Stubborn adherence to evil in place of maintaining goodness manifests a lack of moral courage. **Misanthropy**, the hating of humanity, is a fertile ground where pseudo-practices or false teaching scales back a love for purity. Spiritual and moral blindness is offset by self-control. Hatred of God's children, instead of love for all mankind, pessimistic distrust of others is expressed in behavior that is raw, rancid, foul and hateful being used as a means of attack by the ever present foe. Through the help of God we can be more than conquerors (Rom 8:30-38).

**Goodness and excellence** of any kind takes strength from the Lord. Showing forth an excellence of moral character after being baptized is tantamount to deliverance from the power of darkness (Col 1:13-23). The reflection of a godly character is strengthened by courage. The natural activity of trusting faith is moral vigor. If the efforts for Christ met with little opposition, then courage would be of little value or pointless. Encountering danger and worldly conflict by a strong opposition is because Christians have the Spirit of glory and of God resting upon them (1 Pet 4:12-18). Partaking of Christ's sufferings allows the Christian to rejoice with exceeding joy. Let no one be a meddler in other men's affairs, a murderer, thief or any immoral practice. When judgment comes the house of God will be saved but the ungodly and sinners will perish. The attitude which is inclined to the Christian life guards itself with a proper clarity of why holiness is so essential. As soldiers of Christ the battlefield is where bravery is tested (Eph 6:10-20). A true hero courageously faces the foe with mounting strength content that the Savior goes into the fray as the Lord. Relying

on the strength and skill of the Lord grants endurance. With courage one dares to take a risk, have the strength to stand for right and use wisdom to discern. Humility prompts choices in life. Spectacular courage is moral courage. It is to this action true religion owes its strength. The stamina of faith is devotion to God.

**Examples of courage abound** in the Bible. **Abraham** faced various trials with a steadfastness of purpose and will. He quit the land of his nativity to wander in a strange land obeying God's will, not knowing the conclusion of the matter (Rom 4). He became the "father of the faithful" and even after death his character in history remains resolute. Moses chose "By faith ...when he was grown, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to share ill treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; accounting the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt: for he looked unto the recompense of reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible (Heb 11:24-27). **Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach** and **Abednego** demonstrated their courage as mere youths (Dan 1:8-16). No one could question their resolve to serve God throughout the remainder of their lives. Wealth, power, prominence in government did not sway them from their appointed faithfulness. They are joined by a host of others, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets (Heb 11:32-40). Their faithful courage guided them in the world by right thinking, warred and winning great physical and spiritual battles for God. The actions of these courageous men and women from weakness were made strong. Women were given divine insight into the power of God by the resurrection of their loved ones. Trials which beset the servants of God strengthen their resolve to honor and glorify Him (Jas 1:3-12).

**Being mocked**, scourged, incarcerated, stoned to death, dismembered and every disgraceful act against holiness was performed to prevent honoring God. The means of supporting a family or sustaining a life was denied them. Many became destitute and denied by their families. Free concourse with the community was denied and they had to live in deserts, mountains and caves. "...and these all, having had witness borne to them through their faith, received not the promise, God having provided some better thing concerning us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect" (Heb 11:32-40). "Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus" (Heb 12:1-4). Courage!

**FAMILY CARE**  
**A Message from Our Shepherds**

Last week we were talking about the passage in **Philippians 4:13** “*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*” In looking at the various parts of this verse we see many great truths. Last week we talked about the “I” and “Can Do” of this great scripture. I would now like to look at three more parts of this great text. \

**“ALL THINGS”** - In the Greek word order comes first. The obvious contrast would be that Paul did not say, “I can do a few things” or even “some things.” The context of the verse we are studying is found in **Philippians 4:10-20**. Paul is thanking the brethren for their monetary gifts. In fact according to **vs. 16** this was not the first time he had assistance. No other church shared with him “concerning giving and receiving” except the one in Philippi (**v. 15**). For some reason they lacked the opportunity to help him for awhile, but they had recently resumed giving to him again (**v. 10**). Apparently, he does not want them to feel bad for their lapse in supporting him; so he makes various comments to assure them that everything is all right (see **vs. 17**). So here is a question. **Is there anything that we cannot accomplish—if it is God’s will?** It is obvious from God’s Word that the answer to our question is **NO!!**

**“THROUGH CHRIST”** - We stressed the “I” part earlier; now it is time to emphasize the source of our power. **In other words, we accomplish God’s purpose with God’s power.** The New Testament teaches that, if we abide in the vine, we should be able to bring forth much fruit; we ought to be very productive if we are abiding in Jesus, and without Him we can do nothing (**John 15:5**). We never stand alone; there are two of us—if we are walking in the light. How simple it sounds; how difficult it is to practice. We cannot always discern what God is doing or what He is allowing to happen. Neither are we always confident of our role, but **if we abide in Him and know that He abides in us, it is sufficient.**

**“WHO STRENGTHENS ME”** – This phrase is easy to comprehend so far as what it explicitly says: Christ is the one who strengthens His followers. Unfortunately, not everyone would be in agreement as to the **means** He causes us to be strengthened. However when Paul went to Corinth, He says He was with them “*in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling*” (**1 Cor. 2:3**). But the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: “*Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; <sup>10</sup> for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city*” (**Acts 18:9-10**). Certainly, there is ample precedent for Paul being strengthened through words and not a direct operation on his heart. **My point is, there is quite a difference between saying that God strengthens us by means of His Word and saying that He does so directly—without the medium of words.**

So let us be assured we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. **Let’s roll up our sleeves and go to work.**

Jerry McKey

“...For which cause I suffer also these things: yet I am not ashamed; for I know him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to guard that which I have committed unto him against that day” (**2 Tim 1:12**).

**Satan-The Old Serpent**

**Satan is described** as the Devil (*diabolos, set at variance*), which means he endeavors to break the peace by slander. The Devil is used as an epithet (**1 Tim 3:11; 2 Tim 3:3; Tit 2:3**). His general objective is to break the bond between God and man. He destroys truth and love which bind God and man by setting each at variance with the other. Thus, Satan reduces the state of peace to one of self-will and selfishness. Twin ingredients for forging such a disregard are pride and unbelief.

**Satan (to oppose, be an adversary, tempter)** is described as being in opposition, as a tempter and adversary (**1 Chron 21**, tempted David; **Gen 3**, beguiled Eve; **Zach 3**, challenged Joshua the High Priest; **Mat 4**, tempted Jesus Christ, **Acts 6**, instigated a lie; **1 Thes 2:18**, hindered Paul and Barnabas). As an antagonist, his kingdom is against Christ’s. He conducts a spiritual warfare opposing the spirit and intent of Christ’s kingdom (**Eph 6:10-16**). He accuses man (**Rev 12:10**) and opposes God’s forgiveness of man’s sins. Three instances where the word “devil” is used in the epistles (**1 Tim 3:11; 2 Tim 3:3; Titus 2:3**) have to do with “slander”. It is noteworthy that Elders can fall into the condemnation of the Devil (**Acts 20:29, 30**) and false “ministers” are described as being under the direct control and consorting with Satan (**2 Cor 11:12-13**). Satan is an extraordinary being, whose influence upon the human race is great and leads the unwary into mischievousness and sin (**Rev 12:9**).

**Satan’s determination** and criteria is to tempt man into resisting God’s ways. His enticement is to make men feel they can outthink God (**1 Cor 1:18-25; 2:15**). Thus, men falsely claim “rights” to change the Bible, the church, the doctrine and other items because of “changing times”. Hence, it is implied that God faltered and was not capable of foreseeing and forging a scheme of redemption worthy enough to last throughout the last dispensation. Such is blasphemy because it suggests sluggishness, deficiency and is a defamation of God.

Satan’s **delusion** makes **an approximation of the truth sufficient**. Contrariwise, by allowing the Scriptures to speak with authority the truth will grant a positive means of meeting error. The scriptures maintain that all authority in religion belongs to God. Man practices with permission, under the all encompassing purpose of God, acts of worship which bring perfect results pleasing to Him. All acts other than God’s plainly stated design are irreconcilably false. Even when they seem to be similar in the mind of man, they are in direct violation to God. Such violations oppose, are adversarial, set at variance and tempt others to follow apostate action. These violators are “sons of disobedience”, workers of darkness. Satan’s forces work in false religion and attack true religion (**2 Cor 11:13, 14; 1 Tim 1:18-20**). Who are some of these workers of iniquity withstanding the living God? Brokers of Change!

**Satan is the author** of “apostasy” and adhering to apostasy is described as belonging to Satan (**2 Pet 2; Jn 8:44; Gal 1:6-10**). We are to prove what is well-pleasing unto the Lord and have no fellowship with unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove those (**Eph 4:3-14**). **Don H.**

# Family News:

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

## GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

**April 5, 2015**

*Front foyer:* Nancy Pond & Myrtle Wade

*Back foyer:* Donna Davis & Jerry Grantham

**April 12, 2015**

*Front foyer:* Robert & Cathy Taylor

*Back foyer:* Robert & Betty Ruckman

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## Sermon Titles

**April 5, 2015**

a.m: "Founder Of Christianity"

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-20

p.m: "Good Man's Hell"

Scripture: Jeremiah 15:1-6

**April 12, 2015**

a.m: "Jacob's Ladder"

Scripture: Genesis 28:10-15

p.m: "Shrewd Fool"

Scripture: Luke 12:13-21

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## Contribution Counters For April

Glen Kelly & Purman Cofer

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## Communion Preparation For April

Dorris & Janie Walker

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## MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet *Sunday* at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate booklets. Please come help us and enjoy the Christian fellowship.

## PRAYER LIST

### *Ongoing Health Concerns:*

Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, J.C. and Dessie Ross, Joann Hatch, Don and Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton

### *Homebound Members:*

Roy and Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Gearldean Jones

### *Recovering at Home:*

**Henry Seidmeyer** is not feeling well again

**Linda Matthews** will be having tests done in June at UTSW. Hopefully they can get her in sooner as she is in a lot of pain.

**Mary Martini** had an ultra sound last Thursday.

**Billie Beverly** was in the hospital last week and is now home. She fell after she came home from the hospital.

**Bobby Allen** is home with an infection.

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

### *Nursing Home:*

Noma Myers – Northgate Plaza  
Dorothy Smith – Avalon  
Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

### *Military:*

Chris and Abigail Mathews

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## LADIES

**Ladies Class** will be **Tuesday March 31<sup>st</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. at the Annex. We will be studying about **Bible Women**.

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## LADIES

**Ladies ½ Day** will be on **April 25<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to help with the gift bags, please see Joann Hatch or bring your items

to the church office.

There are **Ladies ½ Day invitation cards** in both foyers. Please pick some up and pass them out to your friends and neighbors.

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## TEEN WORK DAY

**April 18<sup>th</sup>** will be a teen work day. Please contact **Darrell Allen** if you have anything that you need help with.

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## SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to **Frances Tipton's** care giver **Tammy Jones**, as her 7 year old granddaughter passed away last week. Tammy wanted to thank everyone for the prayers on their behalf.

We also extend our sympathy to the **Paul Hart** (former member) family. **Paul** passed away Thursday morning. Services were held last Saturday in Tyler. Please keep Virginia in your prayers.

**Jerry Grantham's** daughter-in-law's dad passed away last Friday. Please keep this family in your prayers.

We extend our sympathy to the **Kent Houchen** family. **Kent** is a cousin of **Debra Alonzo** and was killed at his work office Wednesday evening. The funeral service is today in Hugo, Oklahoma. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Also, please remember **Sissy Allen** in your prayers as her sister passed away last week in Arkansas.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

4/7/15 – Ladies Bible Class – 10 a.m.

4/25/15 – Ladies ½ Day – 9 a.m.

**APRIL BIRTHDAY'S**

Glen Kelly – 4/1  
 Mary Wise – 4/2  
 Jerry Grantham – 4/2  
 Joann Hatch – 4/2  
 Sabrina Howard – 4/3  
 Vern Lundquist – 4/6  
 Billy Beverly – 4/7  
 Sissy Allen – 4/12  
 Bobby Allen – 4/16  
 Henry Seidmeyer – 4/16  
 Nelda Bell Newton – 4/17  
 Tom Head\* – 4/18  
 Roy Thomas – 4/19  
 Jeanene Heilman – 4/19  
 Alice Worthy – 4/20  
 Thomas Rathbun – 4/21  
 Mary Walker – 4/22  
 Don Hatch – 4/25  
 Faye West – 4/30

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

Bobby &amp; Sissy Allen – 4/18

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,  
 please contact Scot Allen:  
 (214)724-6400*

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**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY**

<b><u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u></b>		<b>4/5/15</b>	<b><u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u></b>
<b><u>Front Table</u></b>	<b><u>Rear Table</u></b>		· Richard Renfro
· John Mayer	· Curtis Vaughan		· Mike Garrison
· Nathan Allen	· Alex Mayer		· Don Herriage
· Dorris Walker	· Ethan Howard		
· Alex Perry	· Robert Taylor		<b><u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u></b>
· Brandon Howard			· Alex Perry
· Purman Cofer			Matthew 1:18-20
			<b><u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u></b>
<b><u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u></b>			· Darrell Allen
· Glen Kelly			· Ken Lee
· Thomas Rathbun			<b><u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u></b>
<b><u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u></b>			· Kenny Mayer
· Darrell Allen			Jeremiah 15:1-6
<b><u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u></b>			<b><u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u></b>
· Jerry Baker			· Jerry McKey

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

	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Avg.</u></b>	<b><u>Goal</u></b>
<b>Sun. Class</b>	60	61	63	100
<b>A.M. Worship</b>	100	116	105	150
<b>P.M. Worship</b>	61	87	67	80
<b>Wed. Class</b>	52	57	59	85
<b>Contribution</b>	\$4542	\$5770	\$5562	\$5098

**MISSIONS**

Glen Tattersall – Australia  
 Roland & Rose Moshen – France  
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine  
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia  
 Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa  
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT  
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions  
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web  
 Christ's Haven Children's Home – Keller, TX  
 Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, TX  
 Ted Lingren – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia  
 Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa  
 Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon  
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution  
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo  
 Mike Batot – Southwest School of Bible Studies – Austin, TX  
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 AT IRVING, TEXAS**