

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

December 4, 2023

Volume 15 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 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

MINISTER

Doug Post

Email:

doug.post@beltlinechurch.com

ELDERS

Darrell Allen

Richard Renfro

Dean Webb

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham

beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear - Romans 10:17

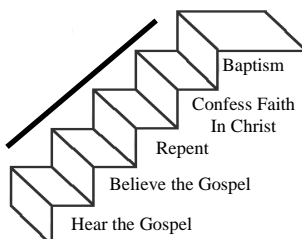
Believe - John 8:24

Repent - Acts 17:30

Confess - Romans 10:10

Be Baptized - Acts 22:16

Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



Principle over Desire

Doug Post

In order to do what is right, our conscience and will sometimes have to overrule the desires of the moment. Moses had more character than letting his life be driven by impulsive desires. In his choices, he elevated principle over impulse. Here was a man of integrity, willing to suffer affliction for a long-term good rather than indulge in the passing pleasures of sin. Because he “**was looking to the reward,**” momentary desires didn’t distract him (Hebrews 11:24–26).

There is much to be said for patiently learning the life-disciplines of godliness. If we’ve trained and exercised ourselves in these (1 Timothy 4:7-8), we will certainly find that God’s commandments are “**not burdensome**” (1 John 5:3). But no matter how strong we have grown, there will always be some difficult moments in life. In other words, doing the right the right thing and doing the easy thing are not the same thing. At such times, a choice must be made. We must firmly and decisively subordinate an impulse to a principle. If we aren’t willing to do this, then our character doesn’t have the thing that we call “integrity.” We aren’t true to our principles – principles shaped by God’s words.

No one could have been more prepared for the ordeal of Gethsemane than Jesus was. Yet it would be an insult to suggest His choice to do the right thing was easy. The decision was an “**agony**” in the most literal sense of the term (Luke 22:39–46). We are told He “**Offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears,**” and that He “**learned obedience through what he suffered**” (Hebrews 5:7-8). Whatever may have been the desires and impulses of those difficult moments, He chose to base His actions on the principle of love for the Father’s will. And this is the very essence of both obedience and character.

When we find ourselves having the desire or impulse to do something that’s wrong, we must say “no” to that impulse. We must deny our impulses to our principles. Like Jesus, we must be willing to say to our Heavenly Father, “**Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.**” Godly character consists of doing the right thing, both when it’s easy and when it’s not. Throughout the coming week, let’s work on clarifying our principles and then building up our commitment to those principles. Doing what is right in all things honors Christ and may He be given the glory for all we say and do.

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line Road Church of Christ

Call in your information to the office at:

972-790-8606 by Sunday evening



Ongoing Health Concerns: Grady Fowler, Polly Roses, Nancy Pond, Jerry Baker, Victor Rathbun, Katherine Cox, Myrtle Wade, Michelle Reed, David West, Charlotte Burrows, Carol Partridge, Dean Webb, Judy Odom, Patti Kidd, Kenneth Treadwell, Janice Daniel, Karen Rathbun,

Home Bound Members: Gearldean Jones

Rehab: Elma Lawrence (room #516) and **Fernando Ybarra** (room #510) – **Villages on MacArthur**
Polly Roses (room #206) – **West Fork Village**
Glen Kelly – **Christian Care** – (room #118) - (Mesquite, Tx.)
Virginia Stull – **Morada** – (room #B118) – (Grand Prairie, Tx.)

Military: Curtis Vaughan (Navy)

Major Chris & Abby Mathews (Air Force)

UPDATES:

Jackye Jewett is at home now. **Elizabeth** and **Nora** are taking turns staying with her.

Alice Worthy does not have pneumonia. She has been in the hospital this last week and she currently is in Avante room #311.

Fernando Ybarra's 37-year-old nephew passed away. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Thomas Rathbun's brother **Victor Rathbun** will be having heart surgery on December 5th. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Karen Rathbun has asked for prayers for various health concerns. She will be having knee surgery on December 14th.

We have many of our number who are experiencing various health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers. Daily prayers are also needed for our missionaries, military, first responders and weather-related victims.

5th Sunday Singing will be on Sunday, December 31st. There is a sign-up sheet in the front foyer for songs you want to sing.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON – Our luncheon for December will be on **Sunday, December 10th** right after morning worship services. Invite your friends to services and bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy the wonderful fellowship afterwards.

Greeters scheduled for **Sunday Morning – December 10, 2023**

Front Foyer: *Robert & Cathy Taylor*

Back Foyer: *Thomas & Karen Rathbun*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THOSE TO SERVE ON: December 10, 2023

*12/6/23 – Wednesday Night Bible
Study – 6:30 pm*
12/10/23 – Potluck Luncheon
12/31/23 – 5th Sunday Singing

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Grady Fowler	12/1
Virginia Stull	12/6
Elizabeth Garrison	12/13
Carol Lee	12/24
Brenda England	12/29
Dolores Bernal	12/30

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Sharon Haynes	12/24
David & Judy Odom	12/31

Announcements – Darrell Allen

Song Leaders – a. m. Darrell Allen
p. m. Nathan Allen

Prayers – a.m. Thomas Rathbun
Dean Webb
p.m. Darrell Allen
Richard Renfro

Scripture Reading – a.m. Joseph Paul
Matthew 4:8-10
p.m. Jerry McKey
Nehemiah 9:13

Lord's Table – (Both Services) Dean Webb & Walt LaHaye

ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>12/3/23</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday Class	38	33	100
A.M. Worship	61	59	150
P.M. Worship	33	35	80
Wed. Class	25	30	85
Contribution	\$5606	\$4380	\$4,871

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Willie & Del Gley – *Ghana/Togo, Africa*
David & Paula Tarbet – *New Milford, CT*
Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – *Lagos, Nigeria*
Rohan & Sandra Jones – *Cape Town, South Africa*
Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – *Wotutu, Cameroon*

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Christ's Haven Children's Home – *Keller, Texas*
Foster's Home for Children – *Stephenville, Texas*
Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED

Brown Trail School of Preaching – *Jose Mata*

Years ago, a friend of mine describe me as simple. Whether he meant it as a compliment I did not know or care. I liked simple. Simple meant good and straightforward. Who wants complicated, bad, and confusing? God doesn't. He made his word clear to us. Here are some of his simple words regarding our life of service to him.

*You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Deut. 6:5 NASB
Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. Col. 3:17 NASB*

*Do you not know that the one to whom you present yourselves as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of that same one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? Romans 6:16 NASB
"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. Mt. 6:24 ESV*

Therefore, whoever wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. James 4:4

He also who is lax in his work is a brother to him who destroys. Prov. 18:9 NASB

Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. Mt. 12:30

So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Rev.3:16 NASB

Here, not only at the end of the year, but throughout each day, let us exam our lives and the service we are giving our Lord. God Bless you all.

----Darrell Allen-----

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