

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:
BIBLE CLASS 9:30 A.M.
MORNING WORSHIP 10:30 A.M.
EVENING WORSHIP 5:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M.

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Corinthians 1:21). This preaching is not just through the pulpit. It includes teaching, both public and private, but mainly private one-on-one teaching. The power to win souls is still with the common foot-soldier. The Lord's army is not a machine, directed by arm-chair generals, and fought by angels. Rather, it is fought by living men and women going from house to house teaching the word. See such passages as Acts 5:42; 8:4; 20:20.

God wants all Christians to enlist and fight. He asks for volunteers to *"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses"* (I Timothy 6:12). But, just remember the battle will not be an easy one. *"You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please Him who enlisted him as a soldier"* (II Timothy 2:3-4).

Have you enlisted in the Lord's army? If not, why not? If so, are you carrying your share of the battle?

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil ... Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand" (Ephesians 6:10,11,13).

Think About This

Opening and closing each day with prayer opens many doors.

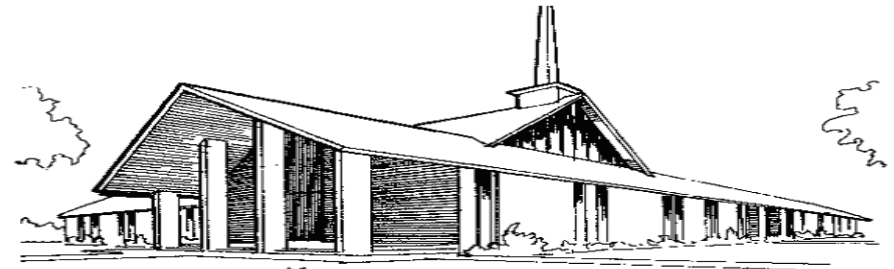
If you're far from God in life, you'll be far from Him in death.

When Satan reminds you of your past, remind him of your future.

Is your passport for eternity in order?

Welcome Visitors

We wish to extend a special welcome to each of our visitors. Please fill out a card and place it in the offering plate as it is passed. Our prayer is that our worship will be pleasing to God and uplifting to all.



Welcome to the College Church of Christ

3200 N. Ben Jordan Victoria, TX 77901 (361) 575-4788 collegechurchvictoria.org

"Knowing Him and making Him known" - Mk 16:15

February 19, 2012

God Needs More Foot-Soldiers

by Thomas Thornhill

God has a great arch-enemy, Satan, who is seeking to overthrow His rule in His own kingdom. God is seeking to keep His rightful place as King of kings in the hearts of men and women, even as Satan continually seeks to usurp this authority. Satan's war is not really with us. It is against the Holy One of this universe. But he attacks us, the children of God, because he knows God has set His love and affection and salvation on us. Thus, we are called to join with the forces of righteousness to do battle against this great enemy of God, who is striving to unseat our God.

To win this battle, God enlists Christians to become His foot-soldiers in this great warfare. God supplies the strategy and the tactics for this war, and His Son, Jesus Christ, is the "author" (captain-KJV) of our salvation (Hebrews 2:10). But, this does not remove the need for personal involvement. He needs people to fight for Him. An army general observed some time ago that there was always a need for a standing army of soldiers. He said "all the technology in the world will never eliminate the need for the foot soldier."

The same is true of the Lord's church. Strategy and tactics may be taught to reveal sin as the enemy to be conquered in men's lives. Programs have been developed to convert the masses, and experts are used to enthrone us to do it. But, none of these things will work, if there is no one to carry the battle. Enthusiasm, without personal involvement, is not enough. Enthusiasm in the pulpit helps, but commitment in the pew will help a lot more. There is a lot of difference between enthusiasm and commitment. Too often the church has come to depend on the pulpit, collection plate, and church building Bible classes to do the job of fighting. The common foot-soldiers are disappearing. All want to be officers and generals planning the strategy, rather than enacting it. The church shrinks when the members shirk their duty.

The Lord didn't give the task of evangelizing the world based upon programs, gimmicks, and machinery. He gave the commission to men, personally. We have all types of mass media, both visual and print, available to carry the word of God, and they are helpful aids. But, they will never substitute for one saint communicating the one saving gospel to one sinner. God has chosen the avenue of preaching to convert and save souls. *"It pleased God through the message preached to save those who believe"* (I

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Congregational News

Fellowship Meal Cancelled Today because head start is treating the fellowship hall with pesticide this weekend.

Trustees Election will be today after service. You may nominate any man who is a member of the congregation and has agreed to serve.

Evangelism Made Easy Workshop is scheduled for February 23rd, 24th & 25th. Details are posted on the bulletin board.

Men's Business Meeting for every man of the congregation today at 3:00 p.m. The 2012 budget is one of the topics.

3:16

THE NUMBERS OF HOPE



Remember in Prayer

"...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16

Evangelism Made Easy Workshop—Pray that we have good attendance at the workshop especially from area churches. Pray that those who attend may be able to put into practice what they learn and bring others to Christ.



Today's Bible Verse

Romans 8:35, 37 (NIV)

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

Men Serving in Worship Service

Today

Announcements & Prayer:
Song Leader:
Communion Thoughts:
Serving the Table:

Closing Prayer:

Next Sunday

Announcements & Prayer:
Song Leader:
Communion Thoughts:
Serving the Table:

Closing Prayer:

Today's Devotional

SERVING THE LORD

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."-- Rom 12:1.

THE FIRST thing for all of us to do is to present ourselves to God as alive from the dead, and our bodies as living sacrifices. The path of blessedness can be entered by no other gate. It is only as we refuse to be conformed to this world, and yield ourselves to be transformed by the free entrance of the Holy Spirit into our minds, that we can learn all that God will do for us. We are nothing; He is all. And He is prepared to be and do all things in us, if only we will He open to Him as the land lies open to the summer sun.

Those who really live the yielded life, do not need to ascertain God's Will by signs. They recognize it by the whisper of His voice and the touch of His hand. It is as we refuse to be molded by the world, and give ourselves up to the transfiguring Spirit of God, that we prove what is His good, acceptable, and perfect will. But more than that, we begin to live for others, and draw by faith from the fullness of God, that we may minister to them aright.

First, we understand what the Will of God is; then we present our bodies that it may fulfill itself through us; then we discover that it means goodwill to men, and we become the happy channels of heavenly ministry to those around us in one of the spheres enumerated in [Rom 12:6-8](#) of this chapter. It is impossible to cherish jealousy, because the Head may use this member or that; it is equally impossible to be proud, because we have nothing that we have not received. Let us always remember that each has a special ministry to fulfill, and that we shall find in our daily lot the opportunity of fulfilling it. How many resemble the landowner of the Eastern story, who sold his property in order to go in search of diamonds, and lo! the man who purchased his property found it full of diamonds. Indeed it was the famous Golconda region. In the daily drudgery of life you will find your heavenly opportunity. How many who are pining for a great mission, will never be permitted to enter it, because they despise the low and narrow door of humble service to those in their immediate neighborhood.

But we can never realize these divine ideals of service merely by an external obedience. We must be constrained by a holy love to our Lord and to one another. What a despair these ideals would be apart from the Holy Spirit. That holy love comes from Him.

By F.B. Meyer