

BLODGETT
CHURCH of CHRIST
Bulletin
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No. 5

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Time of Services:

Sunday: 10:00 A.M. class,

11:00 A.M. worship, 6:00 P.M. worship

Wednesday: 7:00 P.M. class

Wednesday Devotional Speaker: Eugene Stone

Preacher:

Larry Black (cell) 903-588-4253

email: lblk@peoplescom.net

Youth Leaders:

Heath & Carla Hines 903-717-1423

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Benevolence - Rick Toland: 903-220-9825

Building Maintenance -

Mark Sharpin 903-573-3993

Dwayne Porter: 903-563-7161

Grounds & Van - John D. Porter: 903-563-5945

Finance - Larry Reynolds: 903-767-0742

Family News

- The Mt. Vernon church is having a "Make Me A Servant" workshop on Sat., Feb. 7 beginning at 10:00 a.m.
- **Jean Martin** has started her cancer treatments.
- **Jennifer Boyd**, Carol Vandiver's sister-in-law, is critically ill.
- 7-year son of Larry Renold's co-worker has been diagnosed with cancer.
- HRR pantry item for Feb. is pasta sauce and dry spaghetti.

PRAYER LIST:

Vicki Dodson, Mark Sharpin,
Lisa Fields, Robert Ballard, Steve
Newman, Clem Williams, Nina
Wharton, Jean Martin, Robert & Pat
Slone

"A Letter to an Aspirin Company"

I've used this following before but ran across it again and decided to include for your thought. ~Larry

Dear Sir:

You manufacture aspirin tablets that relieve suffering, colds, and fevers. The mixture used in your tablets makes it possible for people to get out of bed and fight off headaches, muscle spasms, and bad nerves.

However, I have noticed an amazing phenomenon. Your little magic tablets work wonders on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. **BUT**, people who take them on Sundays seem to get little if any relief. Usually the pain is so severe and unremitting on Sundays that they cannot make it to worship and can't even consider Bible classes. Generally, Sunday illnesses are aspirin-resistant.

I have been puzzled by this mystery. Is it possible that you might

be able to examine the chemical formula for your tablets and put in an ingredient that will work on Sundays?

We sacrifice and "get up" to go to sporting activities, work, to the deer lease, to the lake or golf, but the slightest excuse keeps us away from Bible study, worship, fellowship, and spiritual responsibilities. Let's remember the words of the Hebrew writer, "*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*" (10:25)

Yours for Better Aspirin,
A Puzzled Preacher

As you leave the building today, you are entering a mission field.

The Most Difficult Command

If someone should ask you what the most difficult command of God is, what would you say? Would you say it has something to do with loving one's enemy? Or being a liberal giver? Or 'keeping one's thoughts pure?' While these are difficult, let me suggest that the most difficult command is the command to repent. Acts 17:30-31 says, *"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance to all men, in that he raised him from the dead."*

J.H. Thayer in his Greek English Lexicon of the New Testament says the word translated "repent" means to change one's mind for the better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins. He also says the word is used especially of those who, conscious of their sins with manifest

tokens of sorrow, are intent in obtaining God's pardon.

When the prodigal son got ready to leave home, he said *"Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me"* (Luke 15:12). When he was getting ready to return home, he had decided to say to his father, *"Father...make me as one of thy hired servants."* The difference between "give me" and "make me" is what we call repentance. When we lay aside our selfish desires and turn our lives over to the Lord to make us what he wants us to be, we have repented.

Being baptized for the remission of sins is not at all difficult for the one who has genuinely repented. Neither is loving one's enemy, giving liberally, or keeping oneself pure. That is why we say repentance is the most difficult command; once one has repented, that is, made up

his mind to do right, all these things are much easier.

Because Paul genuinely repented, he was able to say, "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them all but dung, that I may win Christ" (Philippians 3:7-8).

A fair face may fade, but a beautiful soul lasts forever.

Disagreement Resolved!

The story was told of two Christians who had a disagreement. One heard that the other was talking about him derogatorily. Whereupon he went to him saying, "Will you be kind enough to tell me my faults, so I

may profit from your Christian candor and strive to rid myself of them?" "Yes," replied the other, "I'll do that."

The two men went aside and the former said, "Before you begin telling what you believe is wrong with me, let us kneel and pray that my eyes may be opened to see my faults as you reveal them to me. Will you lead the prayer?"

When the prayer was over, the man who had sought the interview said, "Now, proceed with what you have noted wrong in my conduct." At that time, the other answered, "After praying over it, it looks so little that it is not worth talking about. I realize now that by going around and talking about you I have been serving the devil myself and have need that you pray for me and forgive me the wrong I have done you." The disagreement was dissolved from that hour. *This is good advice for us all!*

