



BLODGETT CHURCH of CHRIST Bulletin

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BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Time of Services:

Sunday: 10:00 A.M. class, 11:00 A.M. worship, and 6:00 P.M. worship

Wednesday: 7:00 P.M. class

Preacher:

Larry Black (cell) 903-588-4253 email: lblk@peoplescom.net

Benevolence – Rick Toland: 903-452-1887

Evangelism - Heath Hines: 903-717-1423

Edification - H. L. Robertson: 903-856-5461

Building Maintenance - Dwayne Porter: 903-285-5548

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

Finance - Larry Reynolds: 903-767-0742

Wednesday Devotional Speaker: Heath Hines



BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST

PUTTING YOU ON THE RIGHT PATH

Membership Has Its Privileges

We frequently hear people talk about being church members. Just what does that mean? There's a bank card that reminds us that "membership has its privileges." They call us members. Many have been named to honor societies. They become members of those societies, but that's usually as far as the relationship goes.

We can be members of a team or members of a club. A mathematical set has members. We have family members. We can come up with many definitions of the word "member."

So what are we saying when we talk about being a member of a church? Is it like being a member of a society or club? No. Writing to the church in Rome, the apostle Paul said, "*For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: (5) So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.*" (Romans 12:4-5) He told a group of Ephesian Christians: "*We are members of his body.*" (Ephesians 5:30)

Church members are members of a body, i.e. the body of Christ. Just as a hand withers and dies when disconnected from the body, so believers face spiritual death if not connected with Christ's body.

It's been rightfully said that the church isn't an organization; it's an organism. Membership isn't optional. If we are in Christ, in a saving relationship with Him, then we are members of His body. Christians don't choose to belong to the church; if they belong to Christ, they also belong to His body.

The apostle Paul wrote something similar to the Corinthian church, saying, "*For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. (13) For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, ...*" (1 Corinthians 12:12-13) Christians have been born again, and their new life is lived in relationship with the body of Christ.

Christ is the head of the church, His body. We can't be in a vital relationship with the head without being connected to the rest of the body. Are you living as a member of Christ's body?

The hand that rocks the cradle usually is attached to someone who isn't getting enough sleep.

The Meanest Mother in the World

We had the meanest mother in the whole world! While other kids ate candy for breakfast, we had to have cereal, eggs, and toast. When others had a Pepsi and a Twinkie for lunch, we had to eat sandwiches. And you can guess our mother fixed us a dinner that was different than other kids had too. Mother insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You would think we were convicts in a prison. She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing with them. She insisted that if we said we would be gone for an hour, we would be gone for an hour or less. We were ashamed to admit it, but she had the nerve to break the child labor laws by making us work. We had to wash the dishes, make the beds, learn to cook, vacuum the floor, do laundry, and all sorts of cruel jobs. I think she would lay awake at night thinking of more things for us to do. She always insisted on us telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. By the time we were teenagers, she could read our minds, and life was really tough. She wouldn't let our friends just honk the horn when they drove up. They had to come up to the door, so she could meet them. While everyone else could date when they were 12 or 13, we had to wait until we were 16. Because of our mother, we missed out on lots of things other kids experienced. None of us have ever been caught shoplifting, vandalizing others' property, or ever arrested for any crime. It was all her fault. We never got drunk, took up smoking, stayed out all night, or a million other things other kids did. Sundays were reserved for church, and we never missed once. We knew better than to ask to spend the night with a friend on Saturday. Now that we have left home, we are all God-fearing, educated, honest adults. We are doing our best to be mean parents just like our mom was. The world just doesn't have enough mean moms anymore. – Steve Heese

Family News

- **Sharon Fields** continues to have severe sciatic nerve pain.
- The HRR pantry item for May is vegetable soup.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

The time of Sunday services will be changing effective next Sunday, May 21. This change will be re-evaluated after a month to decide if this should be a permanent change. We want what works best for the congregation and welcome your feedback. There is a suggestion box in the foyer for your comments. The new interim times are:

Sunday morning class: 9:00 a.m.; Sunday worship: 10:00 a.m.; 5:00

HANNAH -- THE HEART OF A PRAYING MOTHER

As we study the life of Hannah, we are impressed that she was a patient, faithful, devoted, and sacrificial mother. But perhaps the thing about her that impresses us the most is that she was a praying mother. Let us observe some truths concerning her prayer.

- HANNAH PRAYED TO THE RIGHT SOURCE. "*She prayed. .. unto the Lord*" (1 Sam. 1:10). Hannah recognized God as the divine source of all life, the Creator of all things, the sustainer of all life, and the giver of every good and perfect gift (Gen. 1:1; Acts 17:24-8; James 1:17).
- HANNAH PRAYED A SPECIFIC PRAYER. "*Wilt thou give unto thine handmaid a man child*" (v. 11).
- Hannah prayed not only for a child but for a son. She was specific in her petition to God. Prayers today should be specific and definite.
- HANNAH PRAYED AN EARNEST PRAYER. "*I .. have poured out my soul unto the Lord*" (v. 15). She wept as she prayed (v. 10b). Any mother who can pray before the Lord as Hannah did will reach the heart of God (cf. Is. 5:16b).
- HANNAH PRAYED A PERSISTENT PRAYER. "*She continued praying before the Lord*" (v. 12). Hannah multiplied her prayer to God. Persistent prayer is one of the keys to unlocking the throne-room of the Almighty (Luke 18:1-8).

Happy Mothers Day