



## 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](mailto: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: Larry Reynolds



**BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST**

PUTTING YOU ON THE RIGHT PATH

# BLODGETT CHURCH of CHRIST Bulletin

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## **Pray and Read Your Bible**

A man was in prison and was in need of some money. He wrote his mother and asked her to send five hundred dollars immediately. Soon after, he got a package in the mail. It was a Bible. On the top of the Bible, there was a letter that said, "Son, I love you. Pray and read your Bible." The man was mad. He got on the phone and called his mother. "Mama, I appreciate the Bible, but what I need right now is five hundred dollars." She told him over the phone, "Son, pray and read your Bible." This made him madder and hung up on his mother.

He then wrote a letter. "Mother, I know you believe in God, but that's the problem with you Christians. You are so heavenly minded that you don't know how to function in the real world. When I need five hundred dollars, I don't need a Bible. I need a check for five greenbacks! If I need money, don't send me a Bible and tell me to pray!"

He got a letter back that said, "Son, pray and read your Bible." He was so irritated at his mother, that for the six months he was in jail that Bible stayed in the corner. After a long while, he finally got out. His mother was there to meet him. He could hardly speak to her. "Mama, you let me down. I needed you as my mother and you let me down."

She said, "What do you mean, son?"

"I wrote you. I called you. I begged you for five hundred dollars and every time you gave me this same old line to pray and read my Bible."

"Well, son, did you pray and read your Bible?"

"Yeah, I prayed and read my Bible, and I'm still as broke now as I was when you told me the first time to pray and read my Bible."

"Son, do you have your Bible?" He reached in his bag and he handed her the book.

"Son, let me ask you one more time. Did you pray and read your Bible?"

"Yes, Mama. I told you I prayed and read my Bible."

"Son, you neither prayed nor read your Bible." She opened up the Bible and at every major divisional section within the text, there was a hundred-dollar bill taped inside of it. If the boy would have just read his Bible he would have understood that the thing he was looking for was in the text. Because he didn't take seriously the Word of God, what the Word of God had to offer he never received, he failed to receive the blessings that he was seeking.

### One Special Puppy

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the 4 pups and set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard. As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls.

He looked down into the eyes of a little boy. "Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of your puppies." "Well," said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat off the back of his neck, "These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money."

The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a handful of change and held it up to the farmer. "I've got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough to take a look?"

"Sure," said the farmer, and with that he let out a whistle. "Here, Dolly!" he called. Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by four little balls of fur. The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence. His eyes danced with delight. As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse. Slowly another little ball appeared this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up.

"I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt. The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, "Son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would."

With that the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers. In doing so, he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe. Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see, sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands."

With tears in his eyes, the farmer reached down and picked up the little pup. Holding it carefully, he handed it to the little boy.

"How much?" asked the little boy. "No charge," answered the farmer, "There's no charge for love." The world is full of people who need someone who understands.

### Family News

- We extend our condolences to the **Campbell/Fields** family in the death of **Pauline Campbell**. She was the last chartered member of the Blodgett church.
- We rejoice in the response of **Chris Reese** last Sunday evening asking to be restored to the church.
- **Betty Berry** is to have heart stint implant on May 1.
- **Tom Reynolds** has been admitted into the nursing home in Mt. Vernon.
- **Jana Williams**, friend of the Caldwell's, is in Baylor rehab recovering from extensive surgery.
- Next Sunday evening following the evening service there is a men's business meeting scheduled.

### Advice For Grieving

It is acceptable for men to cry. The Bible does not discourage weeping. Romans 12:15 even encourages believers "*to weep with them that weep.*" Jesus did not hold back His tears at Lazarus' grave (John 11:35). Joseph and David, two heroes of the Old Testament, wept in public (Genesis 45:2; 2 Samuel 12:22).

The first mourning recorded in the Bible is Abraham "mourning and weeping" when he lost Sarah (Genesis 23:2). What's the difference in mourning and weeping? Weeping is a personal response to grief, while mourning (lamenting) at that time was frequently a ceremony that involved rending clothes, beating the breast, and the tearing of hair. We do not know how long Abraham mourned, but at Jacob's death, his children mourned for seven days (Genesis 50:10).

Weeping is natural, healthy, and necessary. William H. Frey of Health Partners Dry Eye and Tear Research Center in St. Paul, Minnesota, provided a revealing study on tears.

- Tears are caused by three sources -- 79% out of sadness, 20% out of happiness, and 0.5% out of anger.
- On the average, women cry five times a month, and four times more often than men.
- Only 4% of women say they don't cry at all, but a whopping 45% of men say they don't cry at all.
- For those who cry, 85% of women and 73% of men reported they feel better after crying. Women are more likely to cry when they are angry, but anger inhibits crying in men.

Tears, paradoxically, actually help a person pull together. Crying is crucial to the recovery process. Those who can cry get things off their chest sooner, get back on their feet quicker, and get on with their life faster than those who keep emotions bottled up. So men, it's alright to cry. (adapted from Alan Webster)