

Vol. 7 No. 10, October 4, 2020



# East Columbus Bulletin

## Gospel Meeting Reminder

October 11- 14 Tim Stevens of Lindale, Texas will be conducting our fall Gospel Meeting to include singing and sermons. Services will be 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 11, and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. Let's all be praying for Tim and Vicki and for East Columbus as we dedicate a special time of study and praise to our Lord. Flyers are available in the foyer to help promote the meeting. Make plans to attend and support this effort.

## New Quarter of Bible Study

October means a new quarter and we will be entering into a new study in Genesis with Allen Jones leading the Adult Auditorium Class on Wednesday nights. The book entitled *Genesis – This is My Father's World: Volume I* is written by Wilson Adams. Our past studies from brother Adam's Bible class books have been insightful and we can look forward to a profitable study. Classes are available for all ages. And remember, you get out of a study what you put into it.

## Brief Lessons from Philippians

The little letter that Paul wrote to the saints in Philippi has many good lessons. In this article I want to briefly set forth four of them. **Find joy in a focus in life.** We see the focus that Paul had in 1:20, 21: "According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." In good

## Times of Services

### Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship only

### Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

## Study and Worship Opportunities

Gospel Meeting – Tim Stevens of Linwood, TX - Oct. 11-14

Sunday – 10:00 a.m.

Monday-Wednesday – 7:00 p.m.

## News and Notes

- **Home Bound Members:** Mike Butler, Willena Woods.
- **Prayer Requests:** Frank Butler, Jim Paschall, Sara Williams, Mike Lavender, Elbert Logan, Benny Parker.
- **Others to Remember:** Steve Coburn, Wade McCrary, Jim Ratcliff, Jerry Paschall, Elbert Logan, Mike & Marion Butler, Lee Gallop. Willena Woods is at Windsor Place Room 205.
- **Sick:** Allen & Carolyn Jones' daughter-in-law Leisha is undergoing post stroke therapy in Columbus. Mike Lavender will undergo hip surgery October 29 at Oxford Hospital. Jerry Paschall's brother, Jim Paschall in Florida, suffered a stroke on September 27th and is undergoing treatment. Ed Williams' mother, Sara Williams, is undergoing hospitalization and therapy at NMMC Eupora Hospital after a severe fall injury on September 28. Benny Parker is recovering from foot surgery and will begin physical therapy this week.
- **Deaths:** We extend our sympathy to Dolly Powell, whose stepfather, Joe Koelzer, passed away September 22, with services held October 2.

## Contact Information:

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times and in bad (now in prison in Rome) his aim was to be a living demonstration of what a disciple of Jesus should be.

**Find joy in serving others.** This is seen in 2:3, 4: **"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."** He used Jesus as an example and showed how much Jesus gave up in order to come to earth, be born of a woman, live and die for the benefit of others. He was not appreciated but he served. Many today refuse to serve unless they receive glory and think they are appreciated by those they serve.

**Find joy in spiritual growth and activity.** This is seen in 3:13, 14: **Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."** Spiritual growth is hard work. It demands serious study of the Bible (feeding on milk and meat—Hebrews 5:12-14) and application of the same. It demands changes in our personality and behavior. Being active in serving God means we will occasionally make a mistake and must repent and start over. Pride holds many back from such activity.

**Find joy in present personal circumstances.** This is seen in 4:4, 13: **"Rejoice in the Lord Jesus always: and again I say, rejoice...I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."** Remember, Paul is in prison unjustly, seemingly forsaken by the Lord. Yet, he was not despondent and was not dwelling on his personal problems. Many spend most of their time complaining about their circumstances and how they are worse off than others. Paul knew he was the only person he could control. Any personal improvements he made, or any backward turns, were due to his effort. We need the same realization.

The book of Philippians is a book filled with instructions to have joy in serving God in a sinful world. Here we find tribulation,

persecution, and temptation—but God cares. Let us find joy in those circumstances and show it in living!

**J. F. Dancer, Southside Informer (Houston, MS), 12-28-14**

### Facing Reality

"Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly" (John 10:24).

Although the above request was most likely in jest, it is nonetheless an interesting one. How often does anyone really desire straight-talk? In our day of soft diplomacy the desire for reality is rare. Most of our speech, especially in religious circles, is couched in diplomatic terms. We call a used car a pre-owned car, and we call sin something besides what it is - sin!

Politicians and celebrities try their best to cover up the blemishes. They try to remove the warts, birthmarks, and wrinkles. They try to cover up the lies and false promises. Remember President Clinton's "It all depends upon what is is"? Vanity dies a hard death.

Would you be drawn to the message of the Bible? There is no other book that tells it more like it is! Jesus skipped the diplomacy for the sake of truth! He called adultery, adultery and not an affair. He called wine a mocker and homosexuality an abomination. He condemned laziness and lying. He made no excuses!

About the only time most folks want plain talk is when they go to the doctor. If it is a life threatening disease and causes much pain, they are ready for the cure no matter what! Man's greatest threat is sin! Jesus, the physician, will tell you what the problem is and offer a solution.

So, open your life to the scrutiny of God's word. Acknowledge the transgression. Make the commitment to do whatever God asks to remove it from your life.

**George Slover, Moment with the Master, 3-19-13**