

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements
Mark Davis

Song Leader
Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper
Clay Morris, Chris Stinson,
Randy Ellis

Prayers
Willie Standokes, Jack Calvert

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements
Cole Meador

Song Leader
Clay Morris

Prayers
Randy Ellis, Mark Davis

Invitation
Jack Calvert

ABOUT US

Elders
Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons
Jon Barry Mike Davis
Clay Morris

Evangelist
Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday
Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.

Monday (Zoom)
Bible Study7:00 P.M

Wednesday
Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

(2 Tim 2.11-13)



Volume XXVII**August 21, 2022****Issue 33**

89 Inspiring Ways to Know Christ...or So I Thought
Josh Blackmer

There it was in the magazine rack amongst all the juicy titles: “9 Practices for Better...,” “12 Ways to Know your Man is...,” “The Scandal Comes to Light, Interview with...” This particular title stood in stark contrast to those around it. Printed above a picture of a large towering cross against a cloudy background was this title, “Jesus: 89 Inspiring Ways to Know Christ.” I was shocked to find any “religious” materials in the grocery store checkout lane. After my initial shock wore off, I began to wonder, “How are they getting 89?” I was hooked. I had to pick it up. I did not buy it. At \$12.99, it hardly seemed like a worthy investment, but it warranted a thumbing through while the lady in front of me worked out her coupons.

Printed in its propaganda was this statement, “This special edition magazine exalts Jesus by giving an overview of 89 names and attributes described in the Bible.” Not what I thought. I expected 89 “inspiring” ways to get to know the Christ on a spiritual level. I

expected 89 denominational ideas on how to have a relationship with the Christ. Instead, it was 89 different ways the Bible refers to the Christ by name. You can come to know more about Christ through such a study. However, there is a more important issue at hand—to know and to be known by the Christ, the Savior.

I know that most people don’t know the Jesus of the Bible. They know the Jesus filtered through their own social and philosophical ideals. This filtered Jesus makes them feel good about themselves and their current state. How do I know this? I know this because people change the teachings of the Biblical Jesus. They change the message to fit their needs. They sanitize it, wrap it in plastic and put it on the shelf. To them Jesus has become an icon of their own spirituality. The real words in red, when read in context, make people feel uncomfortable and should shake us loose from conformity to the world. When applied, they convict the heart and move it to cry out

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember the health concerns of *Gerald Eaton, Joey Avance, Jerry Schnelle, Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan, Beth Ellen, and Pete Rowland.*

Mike, Gerald, Jerry, and Karen are recovering from surgery. Jerry is having some additional health concerns that need our prayers!

Joey's father is dealing with some serious health concerns. Please remember Joey during this time, too.

Nancy lost her nephew this past week.

to the Savior of the world, "My Lord and my God!" The heart that says this is obedient to His commands.

The other side of knowing Christ is to be known by Him. Matthew 7:20-23 introduces an uncomfortable concept of the Biblical Jesus. In verse 20, we are known by our actions or fruits. Verses 21-22 mention that on the day of judgment there will be people talking about all the things they thought were "spiritual" that they did. Jesus' response will be, "I never knew you" (v. 23). The key is in verse 21. It is not about doing what we think is spiritual but rather doing the will of the Father in heaven. There are not "89 inspirational ways" to know Christ. There is simply one inspired way—conform our hearts and minds to the will of the Father.

Reverencing God's Name Mike Riley

In today's digital world, it's sometimes difficult to keep up with the abbreviated

terminology that accompanies today's fast-paced, youth-oriented electronic communication. For example, in the "Instant Messaging" (IM) world, the text-message language, "laughing out loud" becomes "lol." The phrase, "By the way" becomes "btw." And regrettably, some people are using "omg" for "Oh, my God!"

This last phrase seems to be on the lips of many who receive startling news. But as Christians, we need to stop and think before we utter this or any other phrase that flippantly uses God's name (cf. Exodus 20:7).

When Jesus was teaching His disciples how to pray in Matthew Chapter 6, the first thing He told them to say was this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name" (Matthew 6:9). Clearly, God's name itself is special. It encompasses His holy nature (1 Peter 1:15-16; cf. Leviticus 11:44-45), His teachings (2 Timothy 3:15 -KJV; cf. John 5:39); His moral authority (John 17:1-3; cf. John 8:10-11; Mark 2:1-12;), and His moral character (1 Thessalonians 4:7; 2 Peter 3:11). To speak the name of God is to call on the Creator and Sustainer of the universe (Hebrews 1:1-3; cf. Acts 17:24-25; Nehemiah 9:6).

In every way possible, we should honor and protect God's holy name, preserving its use for those occasions when we are speaking of Him or addressing Him in faith (Psalm 111:9 KJV; cf. Luke 1:49).

Let's be careful never to turn the hallowed name of Almighty God (Genesis 17:1 KJV) into just another flippant phrase on our lips or in a digital text message.

"May all I am and do and say Give glory to my Lord always; And may no act of mine cause

shame Nor bring reproach upon His name." — Anonymous

Acting Like My Dog Jay Launius

We're dog people. For the past thirty plus years we've had a dog or dogs living with us. They have been mostly house dogs, a Beagle, multiple Chihuahuas, and Terriers. We enjoy our dogs (most of the time) and they entertain us and keep us company. Though all dogs have different traits, habits and personalities, most dogs have some good traits in common. In many ways Christians should act more like their dogs, for example...

* Dog are always glad to see you when you come home. "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another" (Romans 12:10)

* Dogs are satisfied with a little something to eat and a place to lay down. "Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content" (Philippians 4:11)

* If you're sick and feeling bad, dogs will lie in your lap or at your feet and give you quite comfort. "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing." (1 Thes. 5:11)

* Dogs are forgiving. Even after you scold, discipline or hurt them accidentally, they still love you. "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32)

Let's Just Get Busy! Michael W. McLemore

Too often we make excuses for why we are not able to do more or to be more effective in the Lord's service. Both Christians and congregations are heard to lament our circumstances or our inability.

If I just had more time! Oh, we find time to mow the lawn, read our favorite books, shop for necessities and a myriad of other things, but we just don't have time for spiritual demands. Isn't the real problem that we are simply not accepting God's work as premiere over all else?

If I just had more ability! Moses made this same all too common excuse, Exodus 3:7-4:12. But, when God provided a solution to every supposed challenge and deficiency, Moses finally got to the bottom line in pleading with God to just send someone else, 4:13. He was unwilling. Isn't that our bottom line when we lament about our inability?

If I just had the money! This would be laughable if it wasn't so blatantly untruthful. We are rich compared to our ancestors in the faith who accomplished God's appointed work. Isn't the real issue that many are reluctant to commit their own resources, which are in fact not their own, but are lent by God. Early Christians readily returned God's resources to meet His need, can't we?

Why don't we just get busy and stop with the excuses?