

THE FRIEND OF TRUTH

Greensboro Road church of Christ

2008 Old Greensboro Road
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401

“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

ELDERS

Dan Nichols
Randy Oden
Jody Pickens

DEACONS

Gary Bearden
Mike Felts
Kevin Foust
Aaron Honeycutt
Marshall Lands
Kelly Rowe

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee
Bill Willard

MISSIONARIES

Kendall Aldrich
Dhanaraju Bonthu
Mark Brewer
Michael Hughes
Arnold Kelley
Will Sadler
Johnny Robertson
Joe Spangler

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God
Romans 10:17

Believe the Word of God
John 8:24

Repent of your sins
Luke 13:3

Confess your faith in Jesus
as the Son of God
Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for the remis-
sion of your sins

Acts 2:38

Live faithfully

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KeepNotes

As I say every week, being together on the Lord's Day makes this a good day. I rejoice at every opportunity to come and be with my brethren as we together worship God. It is truly a blessing to be here each Lord's Day.

We are always humbled when we find brethren who are suffering with sickness and working hard to overcome their trials. Remember all of our sick and let them know we are thinking about them, praying for them and here to do whatever we can to help them through their trials and troubles.

This past week I was blessed to be with the good brethren at Des Arc. They are small in number but strong in spirit and working hard to overcome all the obstacles Satan places in their way. Mark has been having a rough week (health wise). His blood numbers have not been good and they are working to correct these by changing his meds. We ended up sending \$7000 to them to help with the flood relief. These funds have all but been used up. They are presently helping some with sheetrock and other materials as they are trying to get back to some semblance of normal. This has opened up some doors and one family has been restored to Christ. A family, no one was aware were even Christians, had moved into the community and was needing help. Because of the generosity of brethren like you a door was opened and they came back to the Lord. Remember all our brethren in Des Arc as they work to keep that work alive and growing.

Several things are about to heat up and get into gear. *Pewpackers*, Bible Bowl, back to school, new college age classes, and much more is intended to help us open some doors of opportunity in the coming weeks. Remember to always make everyone who comes in our doors feel welcomed and needed by the Lord. We rejoice at every opportunity to meet and grow closer as a congregation of God's people. We all need to work harder to build, renew and/or restore strong relationship with one another as we work together in Christ. What are you doing? What will you do? What can you do to help us grow closer to God and one another?

Elder's Corner "Sodom and Gomorrah were husband and wife."

By Dan Nichols

When graduating high school seniors were recently quizzed about the Bible, this was the answer a large number of them chose. Less than half of all adult Americans can name the first book of the Bible or the four gospels of the New Testament. Almost two-thirds of Americans can't name at least five of the Ten Commandments. One in ten adults who participated in a Bible literacy poll, believe that Joan of Arc was Noah's wife. All of these incredible facts are mentioned in the book *The Rise and Fall of the Bible*. The sad fact is biblical literacy is at an all-time low. However, there is a real paradox here – the Bible is the top-selling book in western society especially in the United States. The Bible is BIG business. Bible publishing is a highly competitive and lucrative industry. Would it surprise you to find out that most Bible publishing companies are not owned by the deeply religious that are concerned with biblical accuracy but are rather owned by media empires such as Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation – the parent company for HarperCollins who bought Zondervan (a company that sells over 500 different kinds of Bibles) in 1988.

Bible sales remain high during times of war and financial crisis as recent data reveals that Bible sales exceed \$800 million per year. Buying it is all the rage. Using it . . . well, that's another matter. The Bible appears to be the most revered book never read. The stark reality is that just having a Bible doesn't do anything for anybody. Many people now refer to the KJV as a cultural icon. Unfortunately, what that actually means for most people is that the Bible has become a religious statue or symbol - some leather covered god gathering dust on a shelf.

Does this information concern or scare you – IT SHOULD!! Why? If we as New Testament Christians are not fully grounded in the Biblical truths and able to "rightly divide the truth" then we are poorly prepared to enter into battle with Satan. The Bible reveals that Satan is well versed in altering and corrupting the truth in very subtle ways to mislead and deceive. The devil began this effort with Eve by talking to her directly. However, today, he has organized his own brand of Christianity, leading it with his own teachers (2 Corinthians 11:13-15 – a carefully thought-out and well-planned counterfeit of God's Church. Be warned. Satan knows Scripture, and he will twist it to trip you up. Matthew 4 shows that he tried that trick on Jesus Christ, and he will work the same way against us. Remember, Jesus Christ came into a world of religious confusion much like our own and when confronted with doctrinal controversy, Jesus always went to scripture for the answer. He was known to ask; "Have you not read?" (see Matthew 12:3-5; 19:4; 21:16, 42; and 22:31)

As we are instructed in, 2 Timothy 2:15 – "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." The Bible must become our only source of religious instruction. We need to study our Bible's diligently so that we can be correct teacher and help those who are ignorant of Biblical truth or of the good news of the Gospel. Why – because not only their salvation but our salvation depends upon it!!

Just a thought.

Satan is willing for a person
to profess Christianity as long
as he does not practice it.

I Corinthians 9:18-27

(The answers to the questions taken from this passage are found in the word search puzzle.)

Q P R T F C H S O M E E T Y L
 S Y A B N T V P X N R J H R A
 D N X R E A R E O O G H E E W
 L X W T T E V I M O J P P T K
 R L A O A A T R D J E L R S Q
 A E O C R C K B E M E V I A N
 B Y H K E C I E M S R W Z M H
 C E K J A N H R R A F F E E G
 D R B I B E Y A W A T S A C C
 L U P R E A C H R E W O P H M
 S T E M P E R A T E B U R A W
 S I L L A Q Y E E I W I E R O
 X Z Z E K Q U V K Y S A A G P
 S K Z B S K Y O M T W S R E X
 M Z K I E D D N O K N C V D V

What is my what then? When I do what to the gospel? I may make the gospel of Christ without what? Paul did not want to abuse his what in the gospel? Paul had made himself what from all men, and yet he was what unto all, in order that he might gain the what? Unto the Jews he became a what in order to reach the Jews? And unto those who were under the law he became as one under the what that he might save those under the law? One is not without law to whom? He is under law to whom? He became all things to all men that he might be able to save who? He did this for the gospel's sake that he might be what with you? Those who run in a race run what? But only one receives what? One who strives for the what is what in all things? They do this to obtain a corruptible what? Paul fought as one who did what to the air? Paul kept his body and brought it into what? Lest Paul had done what to others and he himself should be a what?

BIBLE READING FOR THE WEEK:

July:

30. ◇◇◇ Ezra 7-8 Ps. 29 Mark 8
 31. ◇◇◇ Ezra 9-10 Ps. 30 Mark 9

August:

1. ◇◇◇ Neh. 1-2 Ps. 31 Mark 10

2. ◇◇◇ Neh. 3-4 Ps. 32 Mark 11
 3. ◇◇◇ Neh. 5-6 Ps. 33 Mark 12
 4. ◇◇◇ Neh. 7 Ps. 34 Mark 13
 5. ◇◇◇ Neh. 8-9 Ps. 35 Mark 14

NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Al Jaress had a bone scan to pin-point the spots for surgery. He will be scheduled for surgery in the near future.

Marshall Lands is scheduled for heart surgery tomorrow.

Steve Stoker had out-patient gall bladder surgery on Thursday.

Phyllis Whistle will have surgery to remove a tumor on Tuesday at St. Bernard's.

Please also remember in your prayers: Brother Bonthu, Ed Caldwell (Hilda Wilcox's cousin) in Healthsouth, room 227 **and those listed on the bulletin boards.**

Seek The Old Paths are on the tables in the foyer.

The **August Van List** is also on the tables.

There are several **area wide Gospel Meeting** to begin in August. They are posted on the bulletin board by the front door.

Remember our **Coat Drive**

The **Bible Bowl** schedule is listed on the main bulletin board.

Scripture of the Week: I Cor. 9:27 *"But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."*

Wednesday Evening Devotional
August 3, 2011
Kevin Nix

Our Record for July 24, 2011

<i>Sunday A. M. Worship</i>	<i>183</i>
<i>Sunday P.M. Worship</i>	<i>122</i>
<i>Wednesday Bible Study</i>	<i>117</i>
<i>Contribution</i>	<i>\$4521</i>
<i>Mission Fund</i>	<i>—</i>

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED