

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY

REMINDER

Volume XVIII

January 13, 2013

Number 2

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Bertha Segebart
 Cradle Roll 2: Janet Bridges
 6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
 Cradle Roll 2: Charity Crawford
 Wed. Evening Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Kayla Quinnelly
 Cradle Roll 2: Derek Quinnelly

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of January 6, 2013

Sunday School ----- 18
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 32
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 25
 Wed. Eve., 01/09/13 Service ----- 14

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of January 6, 2013

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,054.01
 Insurance Fund ----- \$ 53.00
Total Received for Week of 01/06/13: \$ 1,017.01

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00



CRADLE ROLL

OUR VERY NEWEST :

Harrison James White

Born to Nathaniel and Rebekah White
 January 4, 2013
 7 pounds, 15 ounces

Trevor Wayne White

Born to Seth and LeAnna White
 January 12, 2013
 8 pounds, 7 ounces

INSURANCE FUND REPORT FOR DEC., 2012:

Monthly Requirement ----- \$ 273.08
 Amount Received in Dec., 2012 ----- \$ 273.08
Amount Needed by 01/05/13 = \$ - 0 - !!!

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. **Admit that you are a sinner.**
2. **Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.**
3. **Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.**
4. **You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).**
5. **By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.**



Please Remember To Be Faithful To Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today* - OK? Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Shayne Hooper, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford,
 Dwayne English, Shayne Hooper ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Shirley White



How to Honor Your Parents

by Paul Chappell, Pastor
 Lancaster Baptist Church - Lancaster, California

“The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother” (Proverbs 10:1).

Abraham Lincoln was well known for total abstinence from alcohol. According to one well known story, he was once offered a drink by a military officer. Lincoln responded by telling the man that when his mother was on her deathbed, she had summoned him as a nine year old boy and asked for his promise that he would never take a drink. He then said, **“I promised my mother that I never would, and up to this hour, I’ve kept this promise! Would you advise me to break that promise?”** Lincoln honored his mother by keeping his promise to her.

We most commonly think of honoring our parents in terms of obedience; and for children in the home, obedience is definitely an important aspect of honor. However, there are two separate commands given in Ephesians 6:1–2. First children are instructed to obey. Despite the fact that it may be out of style to say so, God holds young people accountable for obedience. While the obligation to obey ends with adulthood and the assumption of responsibility, there is another obligation that does not. The command to honor our parents is open-ended and remains in effect for all of our lives.

This command is also **“the first commandment with promise” (Ephesians 6:2)**. While we are to obey every command of God, there are some commandments which carry particular rewards and blessings for obedience. The very first of those given by God is the command to honor our parents. One of the best ways in which we can do that is to live according to the principles of Scripture. Becoming wise through seeking God’s wisdom brings us blessings, but it also delivers our parents from the grief and heartbreak that comes when a child goes astray.



Dr. Vance Havner
1901-1986

Doing Something About It!

“They hear thy words but they will not do them”

- Ezekiel 33:31

“But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves”

- James 1:22

The prophet Ezekiel ministered in an evil time. It was his lot to

prophesy to a generation that listened after a fashion, likened him unto one having a pleasant voice, told others about his preaching, but did nothing about his message. They heard his words but did them not.

Ezekiel was not the only man of God whose sermons fell on unresponsive ears. Earlier, God had advised Isaiah well in advance that his message would blink eyes and shut ears and harden hearts lest the hearers convert and be healed. And those words show up later in each of the four Gospels and still later in Acts and Romans to explain the poor response of Israel to the ministry of our Lord and of Paul. Israel heard but did nothing.

James warns against the same evil. Invariably we do not quote the entire verse. We say, *“But be doers of the word and not hearers only,”* and there we stop. But there is a most solemn further word, *“deceiving yourselves.”* That is the worst thing about it: *hearing and not doing, we delude ourselves.*

Our Lord constantly warned against doing nothing about it. *“Everyone that hears these sayings of mine and does not do them, shall be likened to a foolish man who built his house upon the sand.”* *“If you know these things, happy are you if you do them.”* *“You are my friends if you do what I command you.”* *“Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and don't do the things I say?”* In the Great Commission, we are told to go *“teaching them TO OBSERVE”* the things commanded.

Chief among the besetting sins of the saints is hearing without doing. And it is a grievous sin, for *“to him that knows the good he ought to do and fails to do it, it is sin.”* In Ezekiel's day they heard the preacher, complimented him, told others about him, but did nothing about the message. The centuries have passed, and today we listen to preachers, invite others to hear them, congratulate them with that very doubtful compliment, “I enjoyed your sermon.” But we do nothing about it.

Let it never be forgotten that, although we may do nothing about the Word we hear, the Word will do something to us. The same sun melts ice and hardens clay, and the Word of God

humbles or hardens the human heart. Truth heard and not acted upon is a dangerous thing. Spiritual impulses which are not translated into action have a disastrous reaction.

It is well known that many movie-goers who are continually being excited and stirred in the world of make-believe become emotional drunkards. But there are also religious drunkards and Bible-conference drunkards and church drunkards, who go from meeting to meeting, constantly being stirred but doing nothing about it, until their souls become fed-up, their moral muscles deteriorate and they lose their capacity for being aroused. Presently they suffer from a moral let-down, a religious hangover. They delude themselves. They have heard the best preachers, they have read the best books, they have had their ears tickled and their emotions thrilled, but as with a stimulant the doses have to be increased and after awhile there is no effect, no matter what they read or hear. An alarm clock that fairly blasts us out of bed on the first morning may eventually fail to arouse us. Something like that happens to those who hear and take no action upon it.

It is a serious thing to trifle with any emotion and not carry it through to its proper and legitimate conclusion. And it is most dangerous to play with the holy stirrings of God's Spirit through His Word. I had rather take chances with forked lightning any time. For the Word of God is dynamite, it is a hammer, a fire, a sword; messengers of the Word are a savour of life unto life and of death unto death. The man who habitually hears the Word of God and does nothing about it is the greatest of fools, for he fools himself.

Americans are a generation of spectators. They sit, thousands strong, in a football stadium and watch twenty-two men strive for the mastery down below. Then they go to the movies and thrill to the sham of Hollywood. On Sunday some of them go to church, and once again they are spectators before whom the minister is expected to perform. Many of them have no more intention of doing anything about the sermon than they intend to act out what they experienced at the movies. **They are spectators, not participants.**

Modern Christians find it easy to hear the Word and do nothing about it. Preaching may be had on every hand, at church, at the turn of a radio dial. Sermons have become so commonplace that we take the truth for granted. But where much has been given, much shall be required. God forbid that we should go out of our churches merely comparing one minister with another; like the listeners of Ezekiel's day, complimenting the messenger without conforming to the message, passing it up as just another sermon, “enjoying” it when God meant that our consciences would be pricked by it. The task of the preacher is “to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable” and we are comfortable enough. God help us if we let the fowls of the air snatch up the seed which should produce thirty-, sixty-, an hundredfold; if we behold ourselves in the mirror of the Word and straightway forget what manner of persons we are!

The great and holy themes of Scripture are always joined

with a call to do something about it. The first part of Ephesians shows us our exalted position in Christ, but right out of those heavenly glories we move from doctrine to duty, to the believer's vocation, which too often is regarded as a vacation. There are those who enjoy a dissertation on *“The Lord knows those who are his”* but who resent an application of the rest of the verse, *“And let every one who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”* It is possible to revel in prophetic lectures, *“seeing that all these things shall be dissolved,”* without going on to do something about what manner of persons we ought to be. The coming of our Lord is a certainty, a coming certainty, a comforting certainty, and a challenging certainty, and if we hold properly this hope we shall do something about it, we shall purify ourselves even as He is pure. Alas, it is too often the case that the same brother who shouts “amen” — **and well he may!** — through the fifteenth chapter of First Corinthians, the resurrection chapter, shuts his mouth as tightly as his pocketbook on the sixteenth chapter, **the collection chapter!**

From start to finish, the Word of God joins creed with deed, and if **“cursed be he that handles the word of God deceitfully,”** let us remember that one way we can do that is by hearing it and not doing it. “Sin will keep us from the Book and the Book will keep us from sin,” and it is not the Word hidden in the head but in the heart that keeps us from sin. **You can have a head full of Scripture and heart full of sin! You can backslide with a Bible under your arm!**

It is possible to mistake a familiarity with Bible terms for a knowledge of Bible truth. We are not suffering from a lack of sermons. Maybe we have too many sermons. There is enough of the Word of God stored in the heads of Christians, if it were obeyed, to set America on fire and set off enough Divine power to put atomic bombs to shame in comparison.

But something has to be done about the Word. It is true, gloriously true, that God's Word will not return unto Him void. Ezekiel was assured that although the people would not heed his message, they would know that a prophet had been among them. Many a preacher, in an unresponsive day, has encouraged himself with that blessed truth. But that God's Word will not return void is no lollipop to roll under our tongues while we evade personal responsibility. **The preacher has a responsibility to preach the Word, but his hearers have a responsibility to heed it.** There is another verse about the Word not profiting Israel long ago, “not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.” There must be a volitional response, **“faith taking hold of the word.”**

We may have faith, but is it **OBEDIENT** faith? **“By faith Abraham OBEYED.”** Are you obedient to the truth you know? Let me confine myself to the book of James and ask you a few pointed questions from that brief letter whence came our text about being doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving ourselves. And don't put these verses in a dispensational cubbyhole, **they are for us all!**

“Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Cleanse

your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” This is to Christians. Have you done anything about that lately?

“When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.” Have your prayers been unanswered because of sin?

“Let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger.” Have you done anything about your tongue and temper lately?

“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.” Have you been proud? We want to have a revival and still save our faces, but the first thing we lose in a revival is our face!

“Speak not evil one of another, brethren . . . Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed.” Are you critical? Is there someone to whom you owe an apology?

These are only a few verses, chosen almost at random. **Think what would happen if the Church did something about one little book, the book of James!**

God help us to do something about it, lest we hear God's words and do them not, deceiving ourselves. “Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them” (John 13:17).

For over 70 years, the church was blessed and challenged by the prophetic ministry of Vance Havner. The “Amos” of the modern era, his style and burden was prophetic and similar to the ministry of A.W. Tozer, calling the Church to revival. His influence extended to a national level, but Dr. Havner's approach was always to minister where God directed, regardless of the size of the church. His appeal and influence transcended denominational lines, and he spoke to many different groups of people.



Dr. Havner's perception and communication skill is evidenced in quotes such as the following:

“We are the salt of the earth, mind you, not the sugar. Our ministry is to truly cleanse and not just to change the taste.”

“Too many churches start at eleven o'clock sharp, and end at twelve o'clock dull.”

“Plenty of church members are shaky about what they believe, while not many are shaken by what they believe.”

“Some preachers ought to put more fire into their sermons, or more sermons into the fire.”

“The church is a hospital for sinners, and not a museum for saints.”

Throughout his ministry, Vance Havner lived and preached that a Christian should exhibit faithfulness to Jesus in all areas of life. He taught that the Christian should attend to, “the outliving of the inliving Christ.”

Havner wrote, “To some, Christianity is an argument. To many, it is a performance. To a few, it is an experience.”