Make Church a Part of Your Life WEEKLY SERMONETTE "Thy Great Salvation" By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church

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Christians, like the apostle Paul, are not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. God has chosen to offer a loving way to save man from the destruction of his own sins.

In the New Testament the word "gospel" never means a book (one of the four gospels); instead it always refers to the good tidings that Christ and the apostles announced. It is called "the gospel of God" (Romans 1:1); "the gospel about Jesus Christ" (Mark 1:1); "the gospel of peace" (Ephesians 6:15) and "the gospel of your salvation." (Ephesians 1: 13)

Salvation is a good word. It denotes the purpose of God by which He justifies His people, first by pardoning their offenses and accepting them as righteous in His sight. Then He progressively transforms Christians, little by little, through the Holy Spirit and the written Word of God, into the image of Christ.

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live selfcontrolled, upright and godly lives in this present age." (Titus 2: 11, 12)

The truths relating to the application of God's great

"I am not ashamed of derthree headings: 1.) Justi- to all who call themselves the three aspects of salthe gospel, because it is fication; 2.) Regeneration and Christians to examine themthe power of God for the 3.) Sanctification. The truths selves concerning their spirisalvation of everyone who relating to man's acceptance tual state. The Bible says to believes..." (Romans 1: of God's great salvation are "Examine yourselves to see reflected through repentance, whether you are in the faith; faith and obedience.

> belief in Christ and call them- you — unless, of course you selves Christians, yet they fail the test?" (1 Corinthians bring question to God's Word 13:5) and to true Christianity by

test yourselves. Do you not Many in the U.S.A. claim realize that Christ Jesus is in

The first step in examining the way they live. It is a duty ourselves is to understand

vation found in Christ Jesus. First is justification. Romans 5:1 says; "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." The Greek word for jus-

tified is a legal term taken from the courts. It pictures man on trial before an allknowing holy God. Man is seen as having committed the most heinous of crimes. He has rebelled against God and broken his relationship with God. The evidence is so overwhelming and true that the man, realizing that truth, confesses his sin to God. God then brings in our "Advocate," Jesus Christ, whose atoning sacrificial blood paid the price for the sins of the world. (1 John 2: 1, 2)

For everyone who accepts Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord, God in His mercy and grace gives them a "pardon," setting born again Christians free from the punishment of eternal death.

The first aspect of salvation is justification. You can be completely forgiven of every sin you have committed. God sent the gospel of Christ to you today so you can be saved. Repent and ask Jesus Christ to forgive you and invite Him into your life and heart. Receive God's pardon found in Christ.

ENNINGS NEW

By LOUISE CRESSLER

The Jennings community extends sympathy to the Alice and Wilferd Wagoner family. Alice's sister, Agnes Bollig, Collver, died March 27 as the result of a car accident.

On Monday, Jason and Ali Topliff, Joel and Jonah, Tonganoxie, visited Galen and Meme Carper. On Wednesday Charlene Mangus, Steve, Devin and Dani of Kanorado came to visit Galen and Meme Carper. Devin and Dani entertained the group with their musical talent. Steve, who attends Goodland Vo-Tech, Galen and Devin went for a tour of BCI.

Stan and Ramona Shaw visited over the weekend at the home of Tom Neff and Chris Gillespie, Marion.

On Saturday, Colleen Wagoner, Sharon Springs, and Chris and Ramona attended a baby shower for Rosa Ward, Granby, Mo. Colleen meeting on April 28.

was an additional overnight guest of Tom and Chris on Saturday night. En route home on Sunday, Stan and Ramona visited at the home of Ramona's sister, Mary Anna Dinkel, Hays.

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Brett McKenna and fiance. Tracy Weber, of Manhattan and Amy McKenna of Kansas City, Mo., were Easter weekend guests of Mike and Joan McKenna. They all attended the sixtieth wedding anniversary for Joan's parents, Keith and Maxine Sauvage in Oberlin.

Joan McKenna hosted the Jennings Book Club on March 27. Attendees included Lynn Tacha, Joan Metz, Sue Long, Terri Hanke, Patty Foster, Ruth Chance, Helen Rhodes and Carla Latimer. "The Lay Of The Land" by Richard Ford was discussed by the group.

Joan Metz will host the next

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It's traditionally a time for a thorough cleaning. Air out the house! Move all the furniture and clean every corner! Sort through the closets!

While we're cleaning house we can freshen up and sort out our spiritual life as well. Discard unwanted habits that clutter the soul. Begin a practice that will enrich life on a daily basis...start each day with a prayer, read from a devotional, relax with a quiet walk. The possibilities are endless!

How can we do these things? We can cleanse our souls and learn better practices at our house of worship. Our spirits will sparkle as we learn to trust in God's will for our lives.

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