

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"So... You Say You Believe?"

By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church, Norton

A. W. Tozer wrote, "Fortunately only a few things are matters of life and death, such as a compass for a sea voyage or a guide for a journey across the desert. To ignore these things is not to gamble or take a chance; it is to commit suicide. Here it is either be right or be dead."

A person's relationship with Christ is a matter of eternal life or spiritual death. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You are saved by faith in Christ alone altogether apart from good deeds or religious works of merit.

Many have convinced themselves that just believing in God and believing that Jesus died and was resurrected automatically saves you. James tells us that even the demons believe that there is one God and shudder. (James 2:19) Demons believe, but they will not be in heaven. How does the individual man come into a saving relationship with Christ? That was the anxious question presented to Paul and Silas by their jailer, "...Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

There are at least three ways to describe the only answer for the eternal salvation of any person:

1.) Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31); 2.) Receive Christ as personal Savior (John 1:12); and 3.) Accept Christ. Acts 11:21 tells us that a great number "...believed and turned to the Lord."

To believe in the Greek means to put trust in, to be convinced of, or have no doubt and be certain of. The important grammatical form of the word "believe" is continuous action. In other words, you must believe and

keep on believing. Minds believe doctrines; hearts trust persons. A child will run to his father for help, direction, and provision when he truly believes in his father's loving care. A patient will go to his physician when there is belief in his doctor's abilities to help.

A true believer in Christ orbits his life around Jesus like the earth orbits around the sun. Just as the earth needs the sun, believers need the Son of God to perfect holiness within them. "... Without holiness no one will see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14)

True believers accept God's friends as their friends, they reject what He rejects and they adopt the Lord's lifestyle as their own. Jesus said "Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness..." (John 8:12) meaning not purposely living in sin.

So... you say you believe. Does your belief in Him affect the way you live? To ignore what the Bible says about true belief is not to gamble or take a chance, it is to commit spiritual suicide.

The Bible says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus..."

Thread



Clouds of velvet fabric, sparkling buttons of diamond and pearl, smooth satin lining, lace for a hem... all pieces patterned for a lovely creation. What could be missing? There is no thread.

It doesn't matter that there's an abundance of fabric or plenty of buttons and lace. Without the thread to hold it together there is no creation, only scattered pieces of possibility.

It's the same with life. All of us are born with possibility. What is the thread that can bind us together as we grow? How amazing is God's Word is present as the thread to weave through the fabric of our lives as we grow. If we grow centered in His love, we can become a divine creation! "From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work" (Ephesians 4:16).

Worship together as a family this week, grow together in God's loving presence.

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Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Genesis 19	Genesis 28.10-22	Exodus 19.1-25	2 Samuel 7.1-17	2 Samuel 7.18-29	Psalms 89.1-37	Psalms 31

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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LONG ISLAND

By WILMA VAHLE

The executive board of the Long Island United Methodist Women met in January to discuss program booklets and the calendar for the coming year. President Sue Cox conducted the meeting.

The group held their regular meeting on Feb. 6 with Vice President Roxanne Cox presiding. Wilma Vahle served refreshments.

Roxanne Cox will give the Easter lesson at the March 5 meeting. Pauline Holterman and Connie Kay Cox will be co-hostesses. Guests are always welcome.

The Long Island American Legion Auxiliary met Feb. 4 at the Community Center with President Mary Tubbs presiding. Eight members answered the roll with

"Remembrance of a Valentine date". Irma Lee Gebhard gave a greeting card report and Wilma Vahle reported on Girls State information. Poppies for May will be ordered. It was decided to ask Dakota Hilburn and Britney Larison to help sell poppies in Long Island. Brooke and Kailey Hammond will be contacted to sell in Prairie view.

Members filled out District and Department reports for 2007.

It was learned that the Legion is still taking donations for the planned memorabilia cabinet. Glass and hardware are still to be purchased.

Doris Hammond was the hostess. Members all brought cookies and had a cookie exchange.

BOWLING

Ladies Inter-City

Standings, Feb. 25 — Land Surveyors, 25-3; Animal Health, 13-15; Nelson Bros, 12-16; Gezeretts, 6-22. High Scratch Game: Land Surveyors, 491; Land Surveyors, 415; Animal Health, 412; Jackie Wright, 178; Helen Muirhead, 162; Lynn Nelson, 159; High Scratch Series: Land Surveyors, 1297; Animal Health, 1057; Nelson Bros, 1026; Kathleen Berlier, 447; Lynn Nelson, 443; Laura Leidig, 427; High Handicap Game: Land Surveyors, 621; Animal Health, 601; Nelson Bros, 576; Helen Muirhead, 232; Jackie Wright, 225; Vida Perrill, 215; High Handicap Series: Land Surveyors, 1687; Nelson Bros, 1629; Animal Health, 1624; Lynn Nelson, 602; Vida Perrill, 577; Jackie Wright, 564; Kathleen Berlier, 564.

Tuesday Night Mens

Standings, Feb. 26 — Affordable Classic Limos, 47-13; Budweiser Western Dist, 34-26; Don's Floor Covering, 33-27; D&M Service, 30-30; Norton Sports Center, 21-39; Trigard Vaults, 15-45. High Scratch Game: Mark Saintz, 202; Rich Hageman, 188;

Joel Duscher, 183; Tyler Rutherford, 174; High Scratch Series: Rick Green, 486; Joel Duscher, 473; Rusty Miller, 471; Bill LaSalle, 469; High Handicap Game: Affordable Classic Limos, 1005; Mark Saintz, 245; Rich Hageman, 232; Tyler Rutherford, 229; Joel Duscher, 228; High Handicap Series: Warren Francis, 622; Matt Rushton, 615; Tyler Rutherford, 609; Joel Duscher, 608.

Inter-City

Standings, Feb. 28 — Bailey Electric, 50-31; Select Seeds, 48-33; Hawks Depot, 46-34; Buff, 38-43; Ram Roofing, 37-44; JR's Creation, 36.5-44.5; Affordable Classic Limos, 32-48; No Clue, 31.5-49.5. High Scratch Game: Stan Miller, 212; Denny Leichter, 202; Rusty Miller, 201; Roger Cochran, 193; High Scratch Series: Rusty Miller, 534; Roger Cochran, 516; Bill LaSalle, 507; Cindy Wright, 499; High Handicap Game: Select Seeds, 846; Heaven Peters, 256; Stan Miller, 251; Cindy Wright, 246; Denny Leichter, 244; High Handicap Series: No Clue, 2416; Cindy Wright, 706; Heaven Peters, 644; Dennis Corbin, 637; Rusty Miller, 636.

The paper you read for the news you need!

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



CrossRoads

VICTORIOUSLY LIVING OVER THE FLESH

Truths to victorious living are:

One, recognize the need to be filled with the Holy Spirit so you can live a life that reflects being led of the Holy Ghost. The apostle exhorts you "...to be filled with the [Holy] Spirit."

Two, begin mortifying the flesh by confessing sins and claim Christ's purchased ownership on your life and body. Galatians 2:20 says, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

Three, saturate your mind with the Word of God and pray for Holy Spirit revelation and illumination so you can understand and live out God's will for you. Romans 12:1-2 says, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."

Four, recognize that every life produces fruit, surrender your heart over to the Holy Spirit's cleansing so you can express the fruit of the Spirit out of your life. Galatians 5:22, 23 says, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Five, recognize that your body is not evil, it is the sinful nature that is within you, therefore, present your entire body, mind and soul over as instruments to the Lord's use. Romans 16:12, 13 says, "Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather ... offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness."

Six, recognize that you must express a life that says, "I love you Lord." Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment." (Matthew 22:37-38)

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