Larry's Lines....

Absolute Truthfulness

Some men are very careless about the truth. The fabulous showman, P.T. Barnum, made a fortune on deceit and guile. He related that on one occasion when he had been on vacation his assistant manager, John Greenwood, Jr., an Englishmen, had spent twenty-five dollars to purchase from a farmer a "cherrycolored cat." When the curious cat had been delivered, Mr. Greenwood had been dismayed. But, added Barnum, "I thought he had received his money's worth." Barnum signaled to an assistant, who opened the bag and plucked from it an ordinary, scrawny, frightened black cat. The audience looked on blankly. Barnum continued. When the farmer had promised a "cherrycolored cat," he had meant, of course, "a cat the color of black cherries," and here it was. Instead of threats of lynching, the audience greeted the fraud on Mr. Greenwood and themselves with a sudden burst of laughter, and nicknamed the cat "Black Crook."

Perhaps because we have been "taken in" so may times in the past, we also tend to shade the truth a little. We have seen large business firms weasel out of guarantees through fancy wording, corporations reap large profits by falsehood, goods represented as being of the highest quality, fall apart in the hands of the consumer. Deceit is in vogue, and we go along for the ride.

In contrast to the prevailing climate, one of the attributes by which the Most High especially desires Himself to be known in His intelligent universe is absolute and unchanging veracity. Whatever God reveals to us He would have us receive it as the pure and simple truth. Whatever He has promised He will perform. "God is not a man that he should lie." His "word is true from the beginning." And the apostle Paul affirms, "We are sure that the judgement of God is according to truth."

Regardless of guile being a trademark of our culture, the Christian must be an imitator of the God of truth. As Jeremy Taylor has said, "Lie not at all, neither in a little thing nor a great thing, neither in the substance nor in the circumstance, neither in word nor deed, that is, pretend not what is false, cover not what is true.'

Truthfulness is more than a trait with the Christian. It is a part of his very life. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer has said, "The commandment of absolute truthfulness is really only another name for the fullness of discipleship."

> **HAVE A GREAT WEEK!** Larry

NOTICES

DON'T MISS OUT!

LTC sign-ups will close August 13, 2016. If you have not signed up, please take time to do so. You can return your forms to David Shew, Chesley Martin, or simply put it in the envelope provided on the board.

Get More Involved!

If you are new to our family and would like to get more involved, please fill out an opportunity to serve sheet located in the foyer. You can always call the office at 479-541-3410 or email the secretary and one can be sent to your email or home.

The Malawi project is completed. Thanks to all of those who helped. Now we are collecting pill bottles for Mathew 25 Ministries. Because of the overwhelming response we are requesting that the labels be removed before donation. The box is located in the library.

Teachers are Needed!!!

It's time to sign up for the fall guarter. Check out the sign up book and find out what classes are available.

> Directory Update Norma Williams 672 Jones Road #206 Springdale AR 72762

Upcoming Events

If your child is registered to go to Day Camp August 1-4, 2016, Janice Jones and Lauren Mayhew will be driving the church van, please let them know today if you will be sending your child with them. They plan to leave the building every morning by 7:45 and return around 5:00 or 5:15 depending on traffic.

🞉 Let's get our ACTS together! 🎉 All youth, adults, and anyone in-between: Below are the timelines for studying the book of Acts. - LTC uses NIV August: Chapters 1-6 September: Ch. 7-10 October: Ch. 11-16 November: Ch. 17-23 December: Ch. 24-28 January-March: each student participating in bible bowl and/or bible quiz will have a section assigned to them for further independent study to become the team "expert". We will have notebooks with Acts NIV version printed and ready for dispersion August 6, 2016.

Happy Birthday August 2nd Kylie Keeter

Dawson Whitted August 5th Stephanie Henry

August 4th

August 6th Renee Basinger

August 7th Mary Ella Harriman

Happy Anniversary

August 2nd Joe and Rita Harriman

August 4th Tom and Doris Williams

August 5th Dan and Teena Gobb



We are so happy to have Hayden Van Landingham join the family of God. Hayden was baptized on July 21, 2016 at Green Valley Bible Camp. He is the son of Greg and Paige Miller. Please help and encourage Hayden in his daily walk with God.

Let's Play Ball

Johnson is heading up their own men's softball team. The cost is \$5.00 and they will play Monday nights.

"Let's be friends!" Keep us informed by joining our Facebook group.

"The Sign Up Book"

Please check this for teacher sign up, nursery, Wednesday Night Devotions, and other events.

Keep us on top by checking out our website johnsonchurchofchrist.com

Those Needing Our Prayers & Visits:

Those with recent health issues:

Jennifer Mooreland (friend of the Martin's) had back surgery and is in a lot of pain, Jimmy Shew (David Shew's father) has a spot on his lung, Chris Curlee (Hilma Curlee's son) is having eye surgery this next week, Mason LaFerney (grandson of Herb and Laura Hughes) recovering from a head injury. Charles Cosby is having treatments for cancer, Wanda Miller fell recently and has also lost her sister, Millie Hood is having some medical issues, Leslie Cones (niece of Alan and Trish Fortenberry) has breast cancer and is getting chemo every 3 weeks, Donnie Rice (uncle of Diane Murray)may be going home, Mike Fine (Ron and Barbara Parsley's son-in-law) has a brain tumor and is seeking our prayers that he finds a treatment, Kathy LaFerney recovering from surgery (Herb and Laura Hughes' daughter), Glen Parker is on Hospice.

Those who need your continual prayer and consideration!

Genevra Montgomery (Keith Montgomery's mother) is not doing very well. Keith Montgomery is having cancer treatments, Bessie Richey is on Hospice, Sibyl Stroup, Oma Leta Smith is on Hospice, Don Neal, Pearl Couch, Arlie Pennington, James Allen, Irene Matthews, Shirley Bates, Terrance Tewell, Roger and Shirley Gross, Roy Howard, and Emmett Windham.

The leaders of our community, our state, our country, and our troops.

We wish to express our sincerest sympathy to Keith and Sharon Montgomery on the passing of Kieth's brother-in-law, who passed away on Sunday, July 24th in Bryant Arkansas. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Pantry Items: Oatmeal and Canned Meat

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2016

Lord's Table

Brad Harriman Michael Marvin Paul Dickard **Charles Couch** Jared Cobb

Kevin Murray Lincoln Phillips **Bobby Hill** Terry Huffmaster

Richard Hutton

Joe Harriman Ronnie Burns Terry Wilson

Ushers

<u>Greeters</u>

Rodney Friend Julie Marvin

Eric Keeter Vicki Craft

Announcements Virgil Harmon

JP Bradford George Martin

Deliver Communion Jared Cobb

Nursery Attendants Audrey Hill Kristen Lee Pat Culbreath Pam Hill

Prepare Communion Betty Bailey Dixie Dalrymple

P.A. System

Randall Harriman

Song Leader Doug Goodpasture

THE LORD'S DAY **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

WELCOME

Announcements Alan Fortenberry

> **Song Leader Brad Harriman**

Hymn #100 **Holy Ground**

Hymn #15 Step by Step

Hymn #18 **Faithful Love**

OPENING PRAYER

Bruce Casada

Hymn #235 Let All That Is Within Me

COMMUNION SCRIPTURE Steve Martindale

COMMUNION PRAYER

Heath Huffmaster **LORD'S SUPPER**

OFFERING

Hymn #567 **Restore My Spirit**

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 9:57-62 Michael Marvin

AM SERMON

You Can't Follow **Looking Back**

Invitation Hymn #936 Lord, I'm Coming Home

Hymn #479 Peace, Perfect Peace

> **Closing Prayer** John Cobb



Welcome Visitors!

We are so happy to have you, and consider you our honored guest. If we can help you in any way, please don't hesitate to ask any of our members. We would love to help make your visit a pleasant one.

July EVENTS

July 31st Singing Devo Instead of Youth Led Devo 31st - August 6th Green Valley Bible Camp

AUGUST EVENTS

August 3rd **Summer Series** Singing Devotional August 9th Threads of Love August 10th Summer Series Speaker Craig Richardson **Tuttle Church of Christ** August 11th **Elders Meeting** August 14th **Deacons Meeting** August 17th Summer Series Speaker Nathan Jorgensen Mount Comfort Church of Christ August 23rd

"You Can't Follow Looking Back" Luke 9:57-62 OUTLINE

1. We must Keep Our Attention Focused Forward.

Threads Of Love

- 2. Abraham-A Man of Faith and Focus.
- 3. The Children of Israel Kept Looking Back.
- 4. The Past Can Cause Us to Look Back.
- 5. There is A Profitable Way to Use the Past.

Johnson church of Christ 5602 Elmore Street Springdale, AR 72762

Bíble Class: 9:30 AM Morníng Worship: 10:20 AM Eveníng Worship: 6:00 PM Wednesday: 7:00 P.M. СОМЕ WORSHIP WITH US

I decome to Johnson church of Christ



JULY 31, 2016