

TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: Daniel Balch /Opening Prayer by: Ken Coleman

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Danny Balch

#286 Wonderful Story of Love

#509 I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

Scripture Reading by: Matthew Girard

#342 We Saw Thee Not

Lord's Supper and Contribution

#470 Victory in Jesus

Sermon: "Life Begins at Eighty"

Exodus 3:7-10

#904 Have You Been to Jesus?

#453 Love Lifted Me

Closing Prayer by: Andre Jones

Welcome by: Daniel Balch

Evening Assembly Song Leader: Danny Balch

#742 When Upon Life's Billows

#538 My Hope is Built

Scripture Reading: Rock Cary

Prayer by: Don Taylor

#886 On Jordan's Stormy Banks

Sermon: "One Word: Righteousness"

Romans 3:10-11

#852 When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder

#716 Sing to Me of Heaven

Closing Prayer by: Wayne Noonkester

Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth

Sunday: 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 6:00pm — Worship

Wednesday: 10:00am — Ladies Bible Class, 7:00pm — Bible Study Classes

March 31, 2019

"Stand Firm in...Liberty"

Galatians 5:1

Living Until We Die

On Friday evening, a memorial service was held for Ronnie Rubit in this building. I never had the pleasure of meeting Ronnie. But I know that many of you were close to him, and, not only in the church but out in the community, numerous people have told me what an inspirational figure he was. It reminds me again that we have experienced a great deal of loss recently in this church. It's difficult sometimes in such situations to know just what to do. Where do we go from here?

I think of a story I have heard my father tell about the passing of his grandmother, just a few years before I was born. She departed this life on the Lord's Day. She attended services that Sunday morning, though she did not feel well. When she laid down that afternoon for her nap, her clothes were neatly laid aside to be put back on to return that evening. But she never had the opportunity to attend that service. That evening, friends came to call and to attempt to comfort. One who knew her well made the observation: "well, she lived until she died."

On the surface, you might say, well...yes. Obviously. That sounds like a tautology. It's true of all of us, isn't it?

Is it? Most people never really live. Most of us are so full of what we are going to do that we never get around to doing it. We never really live today for today.

You see, it is one thing to plan for the future. It is quite something else to live in the present. We all know the necessity of looking forward, but it is extremely dangerous to do that while neglecting the present. Jesus warned us of this in the Sermon on the Mount. *Therefore do not be anxious, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. (Matthew 6:31-34)*

Extreme daydreamers never live today. They are always living tomorrow. Therefore, they never get around to real living. Most of us are like that.

Our Sick

Mark Wilcox will be having surgery next week.

Phillip Cottle is in Methodist Hospital

Pauline Taylor is in Liberty Dayton Hospital with pneumonia.

Continued Prayers

(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, Gary Nielsen, Harold Cryer, Steve Ward, Jackie David, Frank & Tina Garcia, Eric Davis, Dayla Hale, Tim Watts, Minny Owen, J. P. Williams, Doris Trahan, Willo Dean Ellis, Jo Edd Stifflemire, Tem Meigs

Shut Ins

(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Pauline Taylor, Winona Angelle, Myrtle Sheffield, Ronnie Rubit, Joe Leonard, Dr. Ronald Davis, Larry Hicks

Our Missionaries

Aaron & Marisa Bailey in Mwanza, Africa, Rod Kyle in the South Pacific

New Phone Directory

We are in the process of updating our directory. Please check the list on the bulletin board to make sure your address, phone number and email are correct.

Upcoming Activities

Elders, Minister meeting Monday at 7:00pm.

We will be having a Houston Food Bank truck on Tuesday, April 2nd at 8:00am.

Primetimers will be going to the Ranch Hand Café on Tuesday, April 9th at 4:45 pm. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Thank You

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ

We want to thank each of you for all of the acts of kindness shown to us during Joe Edd's hospital stay and now his recovery. Your phone calls, cards, & visits were truly uplifting during a difficult time. We especially want to thank each of you for the prayers. God blessed us greatly by answering those prayers. Your thoughtfulness & kindness are appreciated. Thank you again.

Love, Cathy & Joe Edd Stifflemire

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Ronnie Rubit. He passed away last Saturday night and the funeral was yesterday in Houston.

Communion Preparation: Abbey Perkins

Nursery Attendants: Debra Faneros, Melony Hicks

Communion Preparation for Sunday, April 7th: Patsy Pierce

Nursery Attendants for Sunday, April 7th: Marsha Rader, Lynette Ward

continued from front page

This kind of existence brings a lot of misery. The friend we intended to visit died before we could get over to see him. We intended to say something kind to someone we thought deserved it, but they moved on before we got around to it. We never found that right time to invite our neighbor to church with us to learn about Jesus.

I imagine we are walking on familiar ground as you read this. We see it. The question is: what are we going to do about it? The answer lies within us individually. It is not something beyond our grasp, but something we must make up our minds to do. That is not to say it is easy. It requires a change of mental habits, but it will bring surprising results. Satisfaction that we have never realized will be ours.

We must stop allowing the future to absorb today. *Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.* There are certain tasks that are ours every day. They may seem like small matters compared to what we intend to do, but what we intend to do depends largely on how well we take care of these things. God requires something of us every day. He calls us to offer up the best of ourselves as a living sacrifice to him (**Romans 12:1**). It is easy to tell God what I intend to do when I make my fortune, but God wants the service I can give him today. If I don't do it when the opportunity comes, the chances are I will never get around to it. There are people in our world who need to be brought to Jesus. For them to find him, I must make it possible. Then let me be busy doing what God would want me to do today.

We don't need to look for some great service we can perform in some far off tomorrow. You and I will never be needed more in the Lord's service than we are today. It is possible that the service you can perform today will contribute to success where otherwise there would be failure. It is possible that the Lord's church will never need you more than it does now. Let's not wait to do what needs to be done now. What we plan to give, let us give it now. What we plan to do, let us do it now. What we hope to be, we can be only by being all we can for the Lord today.

Bryant Perkins

"Stand Firm in...Liberty"

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Office Phone Number (936) 336-2213; Fax (936) 334-8280;

Minister's (Bryant Perkins) Cell Phone Number (903)407-5737

Website: libertycofc.org Facebook page: Liberty Church of Christ