
WESTHILL

STAND

FIRM

1 THESSALONIANS 3:8

Westhill Church of Christ

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Corsicana, TX 75110

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Sunday 9:30a, 10:30a, 6:00p

Tuesday 10:30a

Wednesday 6:30p

Wednesday Benevolence 8:30a

October 15, 2017

Hard Lesson For Sowers

Dan Jenkins

When I was a young preacher, I had an important lesson to learn about people responding to my teaching and preaching. In those years, I tended to measure the impact of my efforts by the numbers who responded immediately. I failed to see the many different ways the Bible describes how individuals respond when they are taught.

In the parable of the sower, Jesus describes some who turned to the Lord when they first hear the gospel. Jesus spoke of the seed, the word, which fell upon this kind of listener. "But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles" (Matt. 13:20-21). We have all seen this happen in His kingdom. Immediate response is not always a blessing. The truth is that it takes longer to plant the seed and have a hundredfold response.

Mark records a parable of Jesus which is not found in the other gospel accounts. Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head" (Mark 4:26-28). The spread of the kingdom involves far more than just sowing the seed. It involves sowing the seed and the waiting day and night before it begins to grow.

However, even after it begins to germinate there is first the blade, then the head and then later there is the grain fully grown and ready to harvest. Paul described the planting of the church in Corinth as him sowing and Apollos watering. Time is so often involved in these matters. Then Paul adds, "God gave the increase" (1 Cor. 3:6).

Sometimes we get frustrated when we try to teach others and there is no immediate response. We need to spend more time meditating on this parable in Mark. Our work is to sow the seed and remember that it is God who gives the increase. The power of conversion does not lie in us. Inherent in the seed is the power to change the lives of those we teach. The increase comes from God and not from us.

This is not to say that we should not think there will never be times when individuals immediately obey the gospel. How wonderfully fulfilling is this event when we teach others. But may we never forget that God does not measure us by whether individuals respond to our teaching. The point is that God did not send us to be harvesters, but to be sowers!

Standing With Balance

1 Thessalonians 3:6-8

“But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you, for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith; for now we really live, if you stand firm in the Lord”

How are you Standing?

What is Spiritual Balance?

1. Balance will help you get through the _____

2. Balance will help you against _____

3. Balance will help you with fellow _____

One Word: The Gospel

Introduction:

What can you learn from Eugene H. Peterson’s redefining experience? Have you had an experience that redefined your purpose, career path, or any other segment of your life? In this lesson we will study together the use of the word Gospel in the book of Romans. We will take note of the way the good news directed Paul’s life and consider the way he urged the Romans to allow it to shape their lives as well.

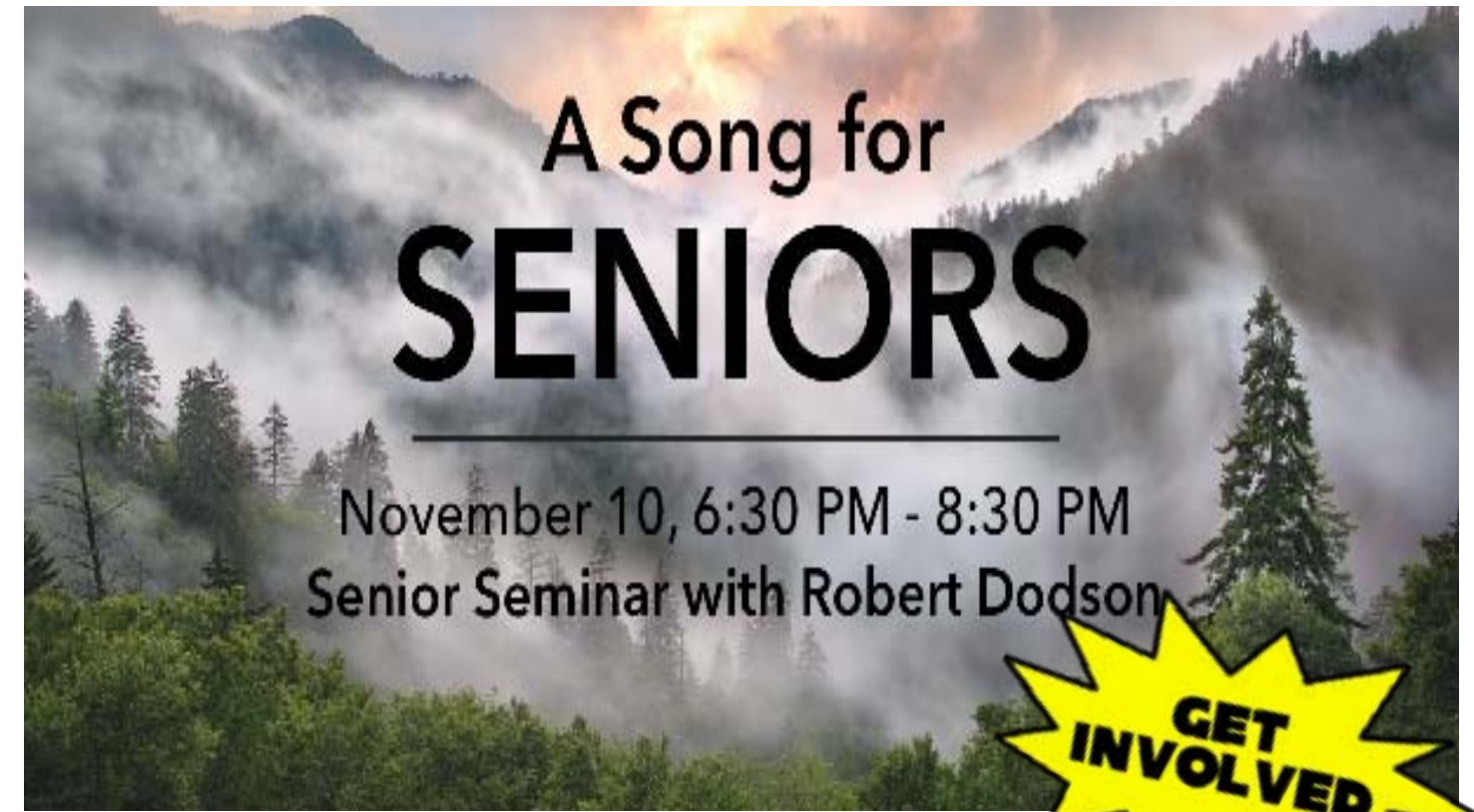
I. The Gospel – _____
(Romans 16:25)

II. The Gospel – _____
(Romans 15)

III. The Gospel - _____
(Romans 11:28)

III. The Gospel – _____
(Romans 2:16)

III. The Gospel – _____
(Romans 1)



Weekly Service
@ TriSun

Every Sunday
@ 8:30 AM

Lads 2 Leaders
Events

Bible Bowl
Song Leading
Oral Speech & more...

Youth Activities

Open Door 10/17
Fall Party @ Hadens 10/21
M.S. Devo 10/22
Trunk or Treat
Halloween 10/31

WESTHILL
THANKSGIVING
LUNCH
Nov. 23 @
NOON.

WesthillWORKS!

Community Outreach

Benevolence Program
Habitat for Humanity
Food for Fitness

Local Missions

Cherokee Children’s Home
In Search of the Lord’s Way
Southwest School of Preaching
Brown Trail Spanish School of Preaching
The Truth in Love *ttil.tv*
WVBS Online School
school.wvbs.org
La Poynor Prison Ministry
(Steve & Carrie Handley)

Foreign Missions

Four Seas Bible College, Singapore
New Zealand Harvest Missions

Leadership

Elders

Don Ivy - 214.695.5276
Percell Milton - 903.673.1819
Paul Slaughter - 903.872.1228
Paul Stewart - 903.872.3464
Darwin Thomas - 903.695.0176

Deacons

Scott Barham - 903.641.0133
David Baumgartner - 903.654.4057
Zach Drain - 903.521.6055
Joshua Haden - 903.602.9645
Micah Haden - 903.673.1177
Michael Jones - 214.803.5984
Greg Olsen - 903.654.1406
James Olsen - 903.874.8918
Rusty Owens - 903.695.0095
Billy Roughton - 903.654.4032
Dickie Russell - 903.874.4457
David Shastid - 903.257.6464

Brent Stewart - 903.641.9052
Justin Williams - 903.875.8288

Ministers

Anthony Warnes - 430.775.0196 (Pulpit)
Cory Myers - 512.627.6672 (Family)
Tim Cooke - 903.641.5515 (Seniors)

Staff

Jay Mahoney - 903.467.9093 (Office)

Prayer List

Billie Thomas is scheduled to have a spot of melanoma under her cheek removed this week.

Connie Benishek is recovering well from day surgery last week.

Barbara Moore had a fall last week which resulted in a concussion and an injured shoulder.

Carolyn Milton's brother, Homer Brown, continues on Hospice Care, and his time is very short. Please pray for Carolyn and her family.

Vianna Spears, former member whom recently had been placed on Hospice Care, passed away Thursday morning. She was living in Katy, TX.

Continue to Remember: Wanda Horner, Don Bowen, Royce Bunch, Aline Barrett, Wanda Brown, Melba & Eleanor Bower, Jerry Cockerham, Velma McDougald, Gerald Armstrong, Pat Wheat, Joyce Barfield, Homer Brown, Gould family, Stewart family, Wardlaw family, Robert Harper Jr.

Announcements

A **Baby Shower** in honor of **Afton Aldama**, daughter of Kenneth & Lillian Brown, will be Sat. 10/21 to welcome baby Jackson. Please see flyer in hallway to RSVP and learn of more details.

Eric Olsen & McKenzie Rash are very excited to announce their **engagement!** They are to be married on Dec. 9.

Westhill Family, Thank you so much to all of you for your love, concern, visits, and prayers during my mom's illness and death. I know at some point, everyone faces these difficult events in their lives. However, I am not sure how one survives without the promise of heaven, the power of prayer, & the love of a wonderful church family. You are all a blessing to me & my family. -Love, **Debbie Wylie**

Disaster Relief: Funds collected at Westhill are being pooled with collections from Eastside, North Beaton, & Bloom Grove to aid in relief efforts along Texas Gulf Coast. Weber Rd. church of Christ in Corpus Christi has an evaluation panel (including their elders) to provide funds to those impacted by Harvey based on need and circumstances. Because of their location near affected areas and establishment of an evaluation panel, we have decided to ask them to distribute our collections to the areas in most need. Church members from Port Lavaca, Vidor, & Port Aransas are some of the areas with the most needs. We want to thank all who contributed to this effort and would be glad to answer any individual questions you might have. -**Elders**

Birthdays This Week

- October 15 - Bruce Shore
- October 16 - Vera White
- October 17 - Pamela Blaylock
- October 18 - Cooper Olsen
- October 19 - Aline Barrett & Carl Max Bennett
- October 20 - Addie Shastid
- October 21 - Christie Beamon

Next Week

Bible Class *The Life of the Apostle Paul*
AM Sermon *Standing Against the Devil*
PM Sermon *One Word Study "Worry"*

Records for October 8, 2017

Bible Class	183
AM Worship.....	271
PM Worship.....	170
Wednesday.....	167
Contribution	\$9,428

Military: Clay Bayes, Jason Book, Alston Compton, Robert Johnson, Ryan Payne, Douglas Ramsey, Ryan Stewart, & Blake Barrett

Privileged to Serve

Song Leader	Mark Blaylock
Opening Prayer	Dan Gibson
Communion Leader	James Olsen
Communion Servers	
Casey Hendrix	Mark McWherter
Jimmy Horn	Nicholas Tooley
Thomas Saunders	Rusty Owens
Rusty Owens	Phil Pillans
George Schmidt	Wade Braly
Don Ivy	Jim Haden
Dalton Shastid	Darwin Thomas
Closing Prayer	Darrell Olsen
Nursery	Carolyn Milton & Claire Haden
PM Song Leader	Blake Thompson
PM Opening Prayer	Darrell Olsen
PM Closing Prayer	Darwin Thomas
Wed. Song Leader	David Baumgartner
Wed. Devotional	Brent Stewart
October Contact Elder	Don Ivy