

From Faith to Faith

Granbury Street Church of Christ

Caught Up in the Moment

Kevin W. Rhodes

Big moments tend to linger in our minds. The great moments we want to linger—as long as possible. We cherish them and dwell upon them. They bring a combination of joy and adrenalin that breeds energy and excitement. We lose ourselves in these moments sometimes. We enjoy the positive feelings they bring so much that we forget that life goes on and so must we. The Holy Spirit recorded one such moment in 2 Chronicles 7. After Solomon led Israel in a prayer to Yahweh at the dedication of the temple, the people witnessed the LORD consume their offerings with fire and then remained as the LORD's glory filled the newly constructed building. All they could do was bow in worship and praise (2 Chr. 7:1-3). For most of us, this would have proven sufficient, but they continued to offer sacrifices and praise, with all the people standing (2 Chr. 7:4-6). This initiated a weeklong feast, followed by yet another assembly where they dedicated the bronze altar (2 Chr. 7:7-9), after which Solomon sent the people home in a state of unsurpassed joy (2 Chr. 7:7-11). But after this, the LORD spoke to Solomon, both acknowledging the temple and emphasizing the relationship He would have with the people, including its conditions (2 Chr. 7:12-16). He required faithfulness from Solomon and faithfulness from the people (2 Chr. 7:17-20). The temple—in all its glory—would never replace obedient hearts dedicated to the LORD (2 Chr. 7:21-22).

From this powerful chapter, we should glean practical lessons from this account based on the principles upon which the LORD worked with His people. First, no matter how great our worship may be it will never compare to the greatness of the One we worship (Jn. 4:23-24). Second, no matter how much we gave or served at one time will not make up for unfaithfulness at a later time (Gal. 5:1-4). Third, we can never give too much to the Lord (Mk. 12:42-44). Fourth, rather than celebrating our own accomplishments, we should give glory to God in what He has accomplished (Rom. 15:6). Fifth, all that we do for the LORD is because of what WE need—not because of something He needs (Acts 17:24-25; Rom. 5:8-9). Sixth, the LORD requires ongoing faithfulness for us to receive ongoing blessing (Rev. 2:10). And seventh, we must never take our relationship with God for granted (Rev. 2:4; 3:1). The fact is, we can get so caught up in the things we do for God that we lose sight of the God for which we do them. May we ever humbly consider the graciousness of our God and remember that we are but unprofitable servants (Lk. 17:10).

Shepherds

Sid Carruth
Kenneth Helm
Clark Lehtinen

Deacons

Gary Barger
Jeff Day
Vince Grinnell
Justin Hewlett
Bill Hughes
Tim Norman

Preacher

Kevin Rhodes

Sunday

Bible Study
9:00 am

AM Worship
10:00 am

PM Worship
5:00 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Class
10:00 am

Bible Study
7:00 pm

Cleburne,
Texas

Volume 12,
Number 4

February 1,
2015

A Family Relationship - Part One

Kevin W. Rhodes

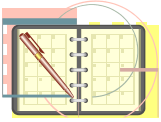
When Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, he began with something profound, “Our Father in heaven” (Mt. 6:9). We can often take that relationship for granted, as something that comes by right through our own relationship with the Son of God. And while Jesus’ relationship with His Father is indeed the linchpin making any relationship with God possible, some have gone so far as to “casualize” this relationship to the point of quasi-equality. More than that, in the church, we tend to throw around the terms “brother” and “sister” quite regularly. For some, they come close to turning into a mere title. All this is very unfortunate. A relationship with Jesus should indeed be a family relationship. But Jesus Himself noted that this relationship does not consist of the light bonds of familiarity we often associate with family today in a world that increasingly does not respect God’s way for the home. Jesus lifted family to a higher level than this. On one occasion,

While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him. Then one said to Him, “Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You.” But He answered and said to the one who told Him, “Who is My mother and who are My brothers?” And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, “Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother” (Mt. 12:46-50).

When God created the home and the roles associated with it, He intended from the beginning to create a model for His own relationship with us. To be part of the family of God requires submitting to the will and wisdom of the Father. And when people do this, in the true spirit of discipleship, they build a bond stronger than any earthly tie could hope to offer.

However, this submission that ties us to Jesus is not a simple declaration or a passing fancy. Not in the least! Rather, it requires a depth of devotion to the will of God that Jesus recognizes is patterned after His own life. When Jesus—our model of sonship—faced the most difficult challenge of His life, He did not argue, He did not complain, and He did not rebel. To the contrary, “He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, ‘O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will’” (Mt. 26:39).

It is essential to note that our family tie to God is not fulfilled in the prayer requesting an easing of our burdens but in the acceptance of God’s will--regardless of what it requires. Therefore, each time we consider our love for God and what it means to be His children, we must do so through the eyes of Jesus and the devotion He gave throughout His life. It is only then that our relationship has the spiritual depth of a heavenly Father with a spiritual child. “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me” (Gal. 2:20).



News and Notes

Among our sick

- Earlene Doty has been sick but is better.
- Janie Duffield's sister-in-law, Ione Thomas, is not doing well. She has moved to assisted living. Her address is 6155 Holiday Lane, Apt. 102, North Richland Hills, TX 76180.
- Ida, Larry Thompson and his daughter, Victoria, and grandson, Max, have all been down with the flu.
- Tommy and Pat Thompson are both not feeling well.
- Una York, Weldon's mother, has been sick with the flu.

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to Dewayne and Virginia Henegar in the passing of Dewayne's father, B. F. Ralph Perry. He passed away last Wednesday evening.

New address

James and Mattie Townzen have moved to Waco. They are still living with their daughter for a few more months until their house is finished. The address is 124 Cambridge Circle, Waco, TX 76712. Mattie's cell is 817-526-2002. James is 817-526-2114. They would like to hear from people.

Please Note...

- The youth devotional will be after Sunday evening after services at J. D. & Jeri Allen's home.
- There are still several families that have not had their pictures taken for the directory. Please get with Bill Hughes or Larry Owens to get this done.
- Sowing Seeds for Christ meets every first Saturday of the month. Classes begin at 9:00 AM. Every woman, young and old, is welcome to attend. If children will be attending that have not registered, they are welcome. Please let Tracie Jones know so we will provide enough materials for your child.
- 55 years and older game night will be Tuesday, February 10th, in the annex.
- Sunday, February 15th, there will be a regular men's business meeting after the evening worship service.

Those who Serve Lords' Supper: 2/1

Front South

Kenneth Helm
Mike Hight
Jim Hudgins

Back South

Royce Gorman
Jason Hackler
Gary Barger

Front North

Justin Hewlett
Joshua Haynes
Bill Hughes

Back North

Vince Grinnell
Cody Grinnell
James Henslee

Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Robert Pennay
Ken Boroughs

Sunday PM

Tim Norman
Dale Mullen

Wednesday PM

Colton Allen

Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Paul Murphy

Wednesday

Clark Lehtinen

Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Russ Jones

Sunday PM

Russ Jones

Wednesday PM

Russ Jones

Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

Larry McWilliams

Collection Counting

Paul Murphy / Jeff Day / Kyle Day

Wed. PM Devotional (2/4)

Justin Hopkins



Sermons for Sunday

AM

The Virtue of Sobriety

PM

The Message of Miracles
1 Corinthians 14:20-25



Listen to the Gospel!

Granbury Street's Worship

LIVE every Sunday Morning at 10:00 am on
KnowTheTruthRadio.org

Luis and Mike in the Mornings

(Monday - Friday) from 7:00 am - 9:00 am cst on
KnowTheTruthRadio.org

Biblical Foundations with Pat McIntosh

(Monday - Friday) 7:00 am or 11:00 am
btradio.net



Our Records

Bible Class	135
AM Worship.....	195
PM Worship	122
Wednesday Bible Class 1/21.....	104
Contribution	\$5,434

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