

NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, November 23, 2008

BIBLE STUDY. 10 a.m.
"Gospel of Luke"

... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Col 3:16

MORNING WORSHIP. 11 a.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive,
And abundant in mercy
to all those who call upon You.

EVENING SERVICE. 6 p.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
And attend to the voice
of my supplications.

WEDNESDAY MEETING. 7 p.m.
"The Parables of Jesus"

In the day of my trouble I will call upon You,
For You will answer me.
Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord;
Nor are there any works
like Your works.

News & Notes

WELCOME VISITORS. If you are a visitor in our congregation today we welcome you and ask you to stay awhile after service so we can get to know you.

All nations whom You have made
Shall come and worship before You,
O Lord, and shall glorify Your name.
For You are great, and do wondrous things;
You alone are God.

Psalm 86: 5-10

Please continue to keep **Mark and Brittany Harris** in your prayers as well as **Jason Henderson** who travels frequently for his job.

O Lord My God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

Stewart K. Hine

Others to keep on your prayer list: **Dema Franklin, Martha Holloway, Gloria Ongsioco,** Doris Harmon, Benjamin Hoskins and Chuck Holloway.

December Birthdays

- Vicki Barton (1st)
- Dayna Austin (8th)
- Matt Wells (8th)
- Peyton Harris (13th)
- Lodema Franklin (18th)

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where the Bible is the source of faith, where Jesus is Lord, where Christianity is a way of life!

An Abundant Entrance

J. F. Dancer, Jr.

Come now and let us reason together, says the Lord. (Isaiah 1:18)

When Peter wrote to the saints who were being persecuted and admonished them to add certain things to their character, he told them if they had these things and if they were growing they would have an abundant entrance into the kingdom of God (**2 Peter 1:11**). Have you ever considered what this means?

Some speak of getting into heaven by the skin of their teeth. Others will speak of just barely entering into the great place of rest and peace. Peter said it would be more than this. He said an entrance would be ministered abundantly to the faithful.

2 Peter 1:5-11
But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I was working in Washington, DC when General Douglas McArthur returned from Korea. All government workers were given the day off (with pay) with instructions to attend the parade given in his honor. He may have been fired by the President because of his actions in Korea but, he came home to a **Hero's welcome**. Thousands of people cheering as he rode past. Ticker tape thrown from windows off buildings as he passed. The parade was over a mile long. Truly, it was an abundant return to Washington from Korea.

I view entering into heaven in something of this nature. Oh, no parade like that, but the welcoming of a hero. Remember that Paul said saints were more that conquerors (**Rom 8:37**). They have gained a victory over Satan. They are brought to their king in glory and honor.

No, we will not have earned heaven and do not really deserve to go there. But, there will be no sneaking in by a side door or just getting in by the skin of our teeth. There will be that welcoming home by God and His Son.

That is supposed to make the problems we face in serving the Lord seem like nothing. That is supposed to encourage us to do the best we can as we serve day by day. That is supposed to give us courage in the time of temptation. That is supposed to enable us to look at Satan and laugh him to scorn. We are bound for heaven and by the grace of God an entrance will be provided for us abundantly.

But, Peter also said that those who failed to add these characteristics to their lives demonstrated that they had forgotten they were purged of their old sins (**2 Pet. 1:9**). He said they could not see afar off. Are you adding to your faith?