



THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 17, 2021

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting TBD

Weekly Bible Studies
All temporarily being conducted via Zoom. Check our “friends” page on Facebook for more information.

Times of Service **Sunday**

Bible study: 9:45 AM
Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM
(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

First Friday of Month **Singing** On hold

Address and Contact

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NO ONE SAYS IT BETTER THAN GOD

The words people choose to use in presenting the gospel message has been on my mind lately. Should one choose to peruse the shelves at stores such as Lifeway, Berean, or Family Christian they will find books filled with words foreign to Scripture, yet overflowing with eloquence. Yet the gospel message has never been about eloquence or stating things in a more “unique” or “fresh” way. Man is lost in sin and in need of a Savior. Jesus is that Savior by virtue of a sinless life, selfless sacrifice, and resurrection from the dead. Man needs to be cleansed of his sins by contacting the blood of Jesus. After becoming a Christian, he must walk worthy of his calling and glorify God in all things. God not only created the gospel; *He provided the very words to perfectly explain and present it.*

Do not overlook this fact, beloved: the gospel message will only be presented in all its power and fullness when God’s own words are used in the presentation. In 1 Corinthians 2:12-13, Paul says, *Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.* I believe the NIV does a wonderful job of capturing Paul’s meaning in its translation: *Explaining spiritual realities with Spirit taught words.*

As the moment of his death loomed, Paul sent a final letter to Timothy, his friend and son in the faith. In that letter Paul urged Timothy to *follow the pattern of sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ*

Members Needing Our Prayers

Janet Brundige, Jackie Litmer, John Thompson, Mary and Emmett Weatherholt, Alexa and Charlie Lake, Bennie Poynter, Joyce Bolton, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson, Whitney Crouch, Rhonda Boyd (and family)

Others Needing Prayers

Bob and Lou Litmer, Grace Meyer, Andy Seabolt, Sarah and Jake Chandler, Meredith Nicholson, Alice and Lonnie Anderson, Rachel Knollman, Michael Hogan, Glen Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Jen Victoria Poynter, Terry Daniels, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Ginny Wren, Robert Brundige, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Cindi's niece, Dana, and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Mark (Carol's son), Ron Harmon

To Our Guests

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, or our website to watch or listen to sermons.

Jesus. (1:13) This is an appeal to Timothy to follow the example of Paul even in the words he employed to preach the gospel. How could Timothy do any better? After all, Paul declared, *For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.* (Galatians 1:11-12)

We have the same commission today. Peter said, *As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God...* (1 Peter 4:10-11a). Take a moment to consider Acts 7:38, Romans 3:2, and Hebrews 5:12 to see that speaking as the oracles of God is to use the actual words of God.

Sinners do not need to hear a more "palatable" gospel saturated with eloquent, sweet sounding words of human wisdom. Sinners need to be *changed*. Only God's gospel stated in God's way has the power to do that (Romans 1:16). AL

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

