

Clay's Corner

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. — Matthew 6:33

“Question: ‘What does it mean to seek first the kingdom of God?’

Answer: Jesus said to seek first the kingdom of God in His Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:33). The verse’s meaning is as direct as it sounds. We are to seek the things of God as a priority over the things of the world. Primarily, it means we are to seek the salvation that is inherent in the kingdom of God because it is of greater value than all the world’s riches. Does this mean that we should neglect the reasonable and daily duties that help sustain our lives? Certainly not. But for the Christian, there should be a difference in attitude toward them. If we are taking care of God’s business as a priority—seeking His salvation, living in obedience to Him, and sharing the good news of the kingdom with others—then He will take care of our business as He promised—and if that’s the arrangement, where is worrying?

But how do we know if we’re truly seeking God’s kingdom first? There are questions we can ask ourselves. ‘Where do I primarily spend my energies? Is all my time and money spent on goods and activities that will certainly perish, or in the services of God—the results of which live on for eternity?’ Believers who have learned to truly put God first may then rest in this holy dynamic: ‘...and all these things will be given to you as well.’

God has promised to provide for His own, supplying every need (Philippians 4:19), but His idea of what we need is often different from ours, and His timing will only occasionally meet our expectations. For example, we may see our need as riches or advancement, but perhaps God knows that what truly we need is a time of poverty, loss or solitude. When this happens, we are in good company. God loved both Job and Elijah, but He allowed Satan to absolutely pound Job (all under His watchful eye), and He let that evil woman, Jezebel, break the spirit of His own prophet Elijah (Job 1–2; 1 Kings 18–19). In both cases, God followed these trials with restoration and sustenance.

These ‘negative’ aspects of the kingdom run counter to a heresy which is gaining ground around the world, the so-called ‘prosperity’ gospel. A growing number of false teachers are gathering followers under the message ‘God wants you to be rich!’ But that philosophy is not the counsel of the Bible—and it is certainly not the counsel of Matthew 6:33, which is not a formula for gaining wealth. It is a description of how God works. Jesus taught that our focus should be away from this world—its status and its lying allurements—and placed upon the things of God’s kingdom.”

From “GotQuestions.org”

Have a blessed week!

PRAYER LIST

- **Lauren Babb** (health)
- **John Beiler** (health)
- **Jane Brady, Elsie Clements, and Jorja Clements** (health)
- **Dawn Clarke** (Shirley Kuchynka’s daughter)
- **Betty Cox** (Brent Barnick’s sister—homebound, rheumatoid arthritis)
- **Helen Davis** (recovering from heart attack)
- **Dixie** (Debbie Faires’s mother—Alzheimer’s)
- **Leon Giesecke** (Jan Moerbe’s father—throat cancer)
- **Herbert and Nelle Hahn** (health)
- **Sandra Jetton** (health)
- **Debbie Jalufka** (recovering from surgery)
- **Edward Jungbauer** (Moerbes’ friend—health)
- **Joanne King** (Victoria Johnson’s friend—health)
- **Kuchykna Family**
- **Family of Lovie Lewis** (Kevin Johnson’s grandmother)
- **Junior and Ada Powell** (Sharron Mason’s brother-in-law and sister—health)
- **Deborah Rhoades** (health)
- **Parker Robertson and family** (Ratliffs’ friend—health)
- **Jocelyn Seals** (Hallettsville—cancer)
- **David Taylor** (Cody Chrismon’s uncle—cancer)
- **Adrienne Zingrich** (Susan Barnick’s cousin—cancer)

If you have any announcements or prayer requests you wish to have included in the bulletin or to sign up for weekly e-mail updates, please contact Victoria Johnson: 325-518-9205, victoria@gonzaleschurchofchrist.org.

PRAYER UPDATES

We extend sympathy to **Kevin Johnson and his family** for the death of his grandmother, **Lovie Lewis**, who passed away last Sunday, Sept. 11. Funeral services were held yesterday at the Lee Street Church of Christ in Midland, Texas.

Helen Davis suffered a heart attack on Monday. She was hospitalized in Gonzales as of Wednesday evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Meal

Next Sunday, Sept. 25, our monthly fellowship meal will be in the annex immediately following morning worship. Everyone is invited! Those who are able are asked to bring a dish to share.

Come & Take It Parade

Mark your calendars! The Come & Take It Parade is **Saturday, Oct. 1**. Our float theme this year is “Team POSSIBLE.” **We will have a prep day at the building next Sunday, Sept. 25, immediately following the fellowship meal.** We will finish in time to attend singing at The Heights. **Please sign up in the foyer if you are able to ride the float this year.**

Singing at The Heights

Please join us **next Sunday, Sept. 25, at 3:30 p.m.** for a time of singing and fellowship at The Heights of Gonzales nursing home. Everyone is invited!

Southwest Church of Christ Ladies Day 2016

You are invited to Ladies Day at Southwest Church of Christ (8900 Manchaca Road, Austin, TX 78748) **this Saturday, Sept. 24, from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** This year’s theme is “Recipe for a Satisfying Life” and will feature guest speaker Janie Craun who will speak about the recipe for peace found in the Bible. For registration information, please pick up an invitation from the table in the foyer.

Wednesday Evening Meal & Bible Study

Please join us **at 5:15 p.m. this Wednesday** for dinner in the annex. This week’s entrée is chicken spaghetti. Anyone who is able is asked to bring sides to share, but please do not let that prevent you from joining us.

Volunteers Needed: Wednesday Night Meals

Volunteers are needed to prepare the entrée for meals on Wednesday evenings. To help, please sign up in the foyer. **If you signed up to prepare a meal, please send your menu to Victoria by Wednesday the week before your turn.**

Sunday Night Small Group

There is a small group that meets in the annex each Sunday evening from 6-7 p.m. The Lord’s Supper is available.

Tuesday Morning Men’s Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited to the annex each Tuesday morning at **6:20 a.m.** for a time of breakfast, prayer and fellowship.

© 2009 by Randy Glasbergen.
www.glasbergen.com



“Wireless communication is nothing new.
I’ve been praying for 75 years!”

YOUTH ZONE



MONDAY, SEPT. 19
JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL
GONZALES 7TH “B” V. CANYON LAKE, 5 P.M. (GHS OLD GYM)
SHINER V. WEIMAR, 5 P.M.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 20
SHINER YOUTH SOCCER
TIGERS @ TEAM H, 5:30 P.M. (GREEN DICKSON PARK)



THURSDAY, SEPT. 22
JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL
SHINER @ SCHULENBURG, 5 P.M.
SHINER YOUTH SOCCER

TIGERS @ TEAM F, 6:30 P.M. (GREEN DICKSON PARK)

SATURDAY, SEPT. 24
SHINER YOUTH SOCCER
TIGERS @ TEAM A, 10:30 A.M. (GREEN DICKSON PARK)
JUNIOR HIGH CROSS COUNTRY
SHINER @ WEIMAR



Hunter Babb—Shiner Youth Soccer, Tigers
Caden Chrismon—Shiner Jr High Cross Country & Football
Jacy Chrismon—Shiner Jr High Cross Country & Volleyball

Coach Kevin Johnson—Gonzales 7th Volleyball
Carly Pustka—Shiner Jr High Cross Country & Volleyball
Hannah Pustka—Shiner Jr High Cross Country & Volleyball