

Clay's Corner

I came across this article the other day. I thought I would share it with you.

Are you a "Good Person"?

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is for their salvation. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Romans 10:1-4

Are you a good person? What a hard question! As compared to whom? The popular comparison is to someone we regard to be extremely wicked, selfish, and greedy. In that comparison, we usually say, "I like to think I am a good person," or, "I never do these things ..." or, "I always try to do these things ..." When "good" humans are compared to "bad" humans, we look pretty good.

What if the comparison is to God? That is the comparison we never like! Why? No matter what acts or attitudes are compared, none of us look good. We are talking about the One who gave us Jesus, who gave us forgiveness, who gave us mercy, and who provides us salvation in our unworthiness. How do you compare yourself to that?

Understand one thing, and impossible despair is replaced with the hope of expectation. What one thing? This realization: God does not compare! He gives us Jesus for two objectives: (a) to eliminate comparisons and (b) to provide us goals for transformation. God looks at you, your personal potential for godliness, and your commitment to growth in Christ-likeness. How much do you believe in what God did for you in Jesus' death and resurrection? Is your confidence in your deeds or in God's achievements in Jesus Christ? Do you obey God to place God in debt to you, or do you obey God to express your gratitude? Do you serve God because you fear divine punishment, or because you genuinely desire to be like Jesus? Do you do good to honor yourself or to honor the Lord?

God knows your background, weaknesses, struggles, and failures, and it is okay—if you place your confidence in Jesus. Some of the most religious people Paul knew made a huge mistake: they placed their confidence in their deeds instead of what God did in Jesus Christ. Never trust your deeds—they are never enough! Trust what God did in Jesus—it is always enough! The difference is the difference between that of failure and service, between a terror-filled life and a hope-filled life! Trust Jesus, not you!

PRAYER LIST

- **Monty Allen** (Susan Barnick's friend's brother—cancer)
- **Pauline Alvarez** (recovering from knee surgery)
- **Lauren Babb** (health)
- **Brooke Bertling** (Haley Ratliff's friend—breast cancer)
- **Terry Boaz** (Haley Ratliff's step-mother—health)
- **Ty Brooks** (Winegearts' grandson—recovering from ankle surgery)
- **Dawn Clark** (Shirley Kuchynka's daughter)
- **Betty Cox** (Brent Barnick's sister—homebound, rheumatoid arthritis)
- **David Davis** (Joyce Faires's brother—job hunting)
- **Eric Davis and Rose**
- **Helen Davis** (recovering from hip surgery)
- **Joyce Faires** (knee)
- **Lance Fougerat**
- **Keith Glass** (health)
- **Chestly Gobar, Jordyn and Lucy**
- **Herb Hahn** (health)
- **Mrs. Johnson** (Susan Barnick's boss—cancer)
- **Jacque Jungbauer** (Moerbes' friend—recovering from back surgery)
- **Katy and Family** (Kelly Mason's friends—Katy's sister injured in motorcycle accident)
- **Evlynn Lawrence** (Sweeneys' granddaughter)
- **Justen Lawrence**
- **Guy Lowe** (Clay Mason's friend—health)
- **Leanne Mason** (recovering from surgery)
- **Family of Gladys Moerbe** (Randy's mother)
- **Claudia Morris** (Perry Winegeart's sister—health)
- **Sid Roberts** (Faireses' friend—ICU, Breckenridge Hospital in Austin)
- **Lewis Romain and the country of Dominica** (storm damage)
- **Ruth** (Joyce Faires's sister-in-law)
- **Sharon Saint** (Zach Babb's mother—recovering from surgeries)
- **Maria Vasquez** (Joyce Faires's neighbor—health)
- **Lorin Watson** (Victoria Johnson's father—health)

PRAYER UPDATES

We extend sympathy to **Randy Moerbe** and his family following the death of Randy's mother, Gladys Moerbe, on Sunday, Nov. 8. Services were held at the Trinity Lutheran Church and burial followed at Hillcrest Cemetery this past Friday in Uvalde.

Herb Hahn has an appointment with the cardiologist on Dec. 9 to re-evaluate his heart condition and determine if a procedure is necessary yet.

Terry Boaz, Haley Ratliff's step-mother, is having more issues with her leg that was injured in a horse accident. She is being re-admitted to the hospital. They will remove and run cultures on her plates, and she will have a full knee replacement.

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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, CONT.

Pauline Alvarez's knee surgery went very well. She is at her son's in Luling while she recovers and undergoes physical therapy. She will be there for about a month. That address is 845 S Magnolia, Luling, TX 78648.

Lorin Watson (Victoria Johnson's father) has been experiencing chest pains for several months and is undergoing testing to determine the cause of these pains. A preliminary EKG came back normal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Directories are coming!

If you have not had your picture made for the new directory, please meet with Victoria Johnson after church **TODAY. Today is the final scheduled picture day.** If your picture or information sheet is not received, it will not be included in the new directory.

ISF Thanksgiving Dinner

It's here! Our Thanksgiving dinner with ISF (Intermediate Sanction Facility) residents and staff is **this Friday, November 20. Please plan to arrive at the facility between 4:15 and 4:30 p.m.** We plan to eat around 4:45 p.m.

The food will be prepared by the ladies on **Wednesday, in the annex from 4:45-6 p.m. **PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE.**** Please bring desserts to the annex by Wednesday as the food will be picked up on Thursday morning.

The sign-up sheet to provide desserts and to attend the meal is on the table in the foyer. **Please note: NO shorts, flip-flops or tight jeans are allowed at the ISF facility. NO children under 16 are allowed at the ISF facility.** We encourage all who can attend to make plans to do so, as we would like a good showing of support.

Lighted Christmas Parade

If you are interested in participating in this year's Lighted Christmas Parade through downtown Gonzales on **Friday, Dec. 4, please sign up in the foyer by Wednesday.**

The church is planning a candy-themed float. We need items such as paper plates, ribbon, plastic soda bottles, pool noodles, cellophane, PVC pipe, Christmas lights, cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, plastic buckets, or white sheets for float skirting. Please see Cheryl Pitts for more information or to donate supplies.

YOUTH ZONE

SUNDAY, NOV. 15
SOFTBALL
GONZALES SELECT @ HUBER RANCH TURKEY SHOOTOUT
MONDAY, NOV. 16
GIRLS BASKETBALL
SHINER JR HIGH V. LOUISE, 5:30 P.M.
NOV. 19-21
BOYS BASKETBALL
GONZALES 9TH @ HAWKINS CLASSIC



THURSDAY, NOV. 19
GIRLS BASKETBALL
GONZALES 7TH "B" @ WIMBERLEY, 5 P.M.
GONZALES 7TH "A" @ WIMBERLEY, 6 P.M.
FRIDAY, NOV. 20
BOYS BASKETBALL
GONZALES VARSITY V. BLOOMINGTON, 6:30 P.M.
FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS
GONZALES VARSITY V. LIBERTY HILL, 7:30 P.M.
(AT CANYON LAKE)
SATURDAY, NOV. 21
SHINER JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW



Caden Chrismon—Shiner Junior Livestock
Callie Chrismon—Shiner Junior Livestock
Jacy Chrismon—Shiner Jr High Girls Basketball & Shiner Junior Livestock

Rae Anna Flores—Gonzales Select Softball
Cole Hendershot—Gonzales 9th Boys Basketball
Tyler Hendershot—Gonzales Varsity Football & Boys Basketball
Coach Kevin Johnson—Gonzales 7th Girls Basketball