

Those to Serve

September 27		October 4	
Morning Worship		Morning Worship	
Opening Prayer	Demetris Kelly	Opening Prayer	David Smith
Song Leader	Kevin Odom	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion		Communion	
Presiding:	Gary Adams	Presiding:	Clifford Layton
Russell Genaro	Ben Lenamon	Eddie Ray	Chris Lindelof
Josh Hamilton	Eugene Priestley	Ross Genaro	Kent Wroe
Paul Hamilton	Elijah Sandoval	Paul Dillon	Gavin Finch
Closing Prayer	Ron Bazy	Closing Prayer	Loyd Wilson
Nursery		Nursery	
Maresha Scarsdale	Sarah Scarsdale	Canova Genaro	Julee Genaro
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Opening Prayer	Clifford Layton	Opening Prayer	Chuck Huckabee
Song Leader	Kevin Odom	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion	J. Brown & L. Adams	Communion	K. Scarsdale & P. Griffith
Closing Prayer	Greg Fabian	Closing Prayer	Bobby Parker
Nursery	Nina Layton	Nursery	Angela Parker
Both Services		Both Services	
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Jeremy brown, Lynn Adams, Dal Randle, Derek Mauney, Nathan Scarsdale		*Kevin Scarsdale, Pete Griffith, John Genaro, Phil Godwin, Matthew Fabian	
Announcements	Paul Cartwright	Announcements	Paul Cartwright
Video Camera	Logan Finch	Video Camera	John Adams
Greeters		Greeters	
C. & N. Layton	P. & M. Griffith	G. & J. Adams	D. & B. Blair
B. & M. Williams	R. Bazy & K. Wroe	K. & M. Scarsdale	J. Coe & M. Harris
Building Lock Up	David Blair	Building Lock Up	Eugene Priestley
Wednesday 9/23		Wednesday 9/30	
Song Leader	Bobby Parker	Song Leader	Wednesday
Opening Prayer	James Taylor	Opening Prayer	Night
Closing Prayer	Lynn Adams	Closing Prayer	With The
Devotional	Paul Cartwright	Devotional	Master

Pearland Church of Christ

...equipping the saints for the work of service, building up the body of Christ...

2217 N. Grand Blvd.

Pearland, TX 77581 • 281-485-2436

Worship Times:

Sunday

Bible Study9 am

Morning Worship.....10 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Class.....7 pm

Wednesday Bible Study...7 pm

ELDERS

Gary Adams 281-485-2436

Greg Fabian 281-485-2436

Von Knight 281-485-2436

DEACONS

David Blair – Building & Grounds

Chuck Huckabee – Finances

Chris Lindelof—Benevolence

Kevin Odom – I.T.

Eddie Ray – Education & Missions

MINISTERS

D.C. Brown Pulpit Minister

Paul Cartwright Youth & Family Minister

Paul Tiohanon Evangelist
Save, Benin West Africa

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SEPTEMBER 23, 2009

The Pearland Harvester

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF SERVICE, BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST

A PUBLICATION OF THE PEARLAND CHURCH OF CHRIST



WHAT IS PREACHING—PT 1

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WHAT IS PREACHING 1

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Preaching is the single most visible portion of a worship service and the preacher is often the most distinguished person in the congregation. These statements are accurate. However, whether or not they are true reflections of the what the Lord intended is another matter. Visitors and members alike give more weight to what was said in the pulpit, how it was said, and by whom it was said than they do to what was said in prayer. Worship in song, communion or giving are all secondary issues in most people's minds. Flawless delivery, effective communication, and skilful presentation of timely topics – right or wrong, these are the determining factors many will use in choosing a church family. That being said, what is preaching?

It Is An art

This is both true and biblical. Preaching must be persuasive (2 Cor. 5:11). To be persuasive it must be a message that meets the listener where he is. Paul's sermon preached in the synagogue of Antioch of Pisidia (Acts 13:16-41) was persuasive, but no more so than the sermon he delivered at the Areopagus of Athens (Acts 17:22-31). In the former, the preaching made constant reference to Jewish history and the things God did among their forefathers. It contains quotations from the Old Testament as well as constant allusions to Old Testament events. The latter makes no mention of a single Jewish person or event. The closest allusion to an Old Testament passage is the creation account of Genesis 1. Both were very persuasive (Acts 13:42; 17:32,33) but neither would have been persuasive or effective if the audiences had been switched. Both sermons were absolutely true but, had they been switched, the importance of those truths they espoused would have been for naught. One audience was Jewish, the other Gentile. One knew of the things God had done relative to the Israelites, the other had no such knowledge and likely would not have been racially open to a sermon that was heavily based on Jewish history. The art of knowing the audience is key to effective and persuasive preaching.

However it can get complicated! Our auditorium is occupied each week with both long time members and with visitors. Some are well versed in Scripture and some are not. There are young and old, married and single, well educated, moderately educated and uneducated. Each comes to the building with cares and concerns. Some will have aches and pains, some will have a busy slate of events to occupy the rest of their day, some will listen with the patience of Job and some will impatiently dismiss much of what happens. All of these factors color their subjective judgments about the worship experience and the message preached. There are preconceived ideas about what is a gospel message. I've preached a sermon and had people tell me it made them cry, it made them feel ashamed, it made them want to do better and it made them see things in Scripture that they hadn't thought of before. The very same sermon has also elicited such complaints as "he doesn't love the Lord" or "he is ashamed of the Bible."



This is no different from the challenges of preaching in the first century. The persuasive sermons Paul preached in Pisidian Antioch and in Athens were not well received by everyone hearing them. Dissenters in Antioch caused Paul to turn to the Gentiles (Acts 13:44-46) and scoffers rejected his message in Athens (Acts 17:32). Jesus preached sermons that sometimes contained many Old Testament quotes (this was the "Bible preaching" of the day). Yet these Bible quoting sermons were often rejected by religious men who took offense at what was said (Mt. 15:12). On other occasions He was powerfully persuasive in His preaching, yet the entire sermon was a parable or a collection of parables. The parables typically made no mention of Scripture at all and only one parable, the parable of the Pharisee and the publican, even makes mention of worship. These parables were ordinary stories about modern life that everyone listening to could identify with. From these "Scriptureless" parables Jesus made powerful application of God's desire for His people. And just like the "Bible preaching" that He employed, some were offended by the sermons taught by parable (Mt. 21:45).

An audience will have receptive hearers. Therefore a persuasive lesson will achieve a positive result. An audience

YOUTH EVENTS

JR. & SR. HIGH

J.A.M. 3RD THRU 6TH



Jr & Sr High Devo will be Sunday evening, October 4th, at the home of the Laytons.

Bible Class 2 Yr Old—6th Grade

Sunday morning Bible class lesson will be *Ahab Wars with Syria* (1 Kings 20) Wednesday evening Bible class lesson will be *Ahab Covets Naboth's Vineyard* (1 Kings 21).



will also have distracted listeners and hyper critical listeners. Among the former, the message will be missed because the listener either cannot or will not set the distraction aside. The latter will miss the value of the lesson because the motive in listening was never to be edified but to find fault. Neither of these dismisses the preacher from his responsibility to be persuasive and to preach the word (2 Tim. 4:1-5). He must be passionate about the message, for zeal is necessary and admirable (Rom. 9:1-5, Rom. 10:1,2). But passionate zeal is not enough (Rom. 10:2) unless it is governed and constrained by the Lord's truth (2 Cor. 5:14).

Persuasion does not necessarily mean repetition but it always implies variety! Some preachers only have one sermon. Their cadence never changes, their topic never varies, and their conclusions are foregone conclusions known by all who have heard them. Persuasion means that different techniques will be used. It means that well thought arguments will be presented in a fresh manner to touch a heart that has surrendered to sin. It means that the preacher is aware of a particular sin and is aware of the need to approach it in a different manner. It requires finesse and sensitivity but also boldness.

Preaching is many things. It is a privilege and a responsibility. It is authoritative in content and by divine design. Each of these will be the focus of future articles on this subject, but the focus of today's message is valid – preaching is an art!

Please pray for your preacher and for his preaching. And keep studying. ©D. C. Brown ©2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Von Knight** is the contact elder for September. If you would like to schedule a meeting with the elders, please see Von.
- There will be an organizational meeting on Sunday October 4th for those wishing to help with the **Fall Festival**.
- **Baby Shower honoring Brittany Fink** will be held on Thursday, October 1st at 7:00 PM at the home of Maresha Scarsdale. Leanna is registered at Target.
- **Baby Shower honoring Laone Taylor and baby Cortez**. On Sunday, October 11 from 4:00—6:00 PM in the Annex. Laone is registered at Target, Babies R Us & Walmart.com.
- **Thank You to Dal Randle** from the World Bible School teachers for the wonderful box he made for our lessons. Your talent is greatly appreciated.
- **Tuesday Night Bible Study** on 1st Peter at the Brown's will resume at 7:00 on Oct. 6th.
- **A class for college-aged people** will begin on Sunday, Oct. 18th. Kevin Scarsdale will be facilitating these classes. A variety of teachers and topics will be employed. All singles and couples who are beyond High School and are of college age (20's & 30's) are encouraged to attend.

KEPT IN PRAYER

Billie Dykes has been suffering migraines but is feeling better today.

Jerry DeWeese, Jr. is in Southeast Memorial Hospital and has been placed on life support.

Lauren Murphy has been diagnosed with an infection in the bone of her foot.

A custody hearing to award custody of **Landon** to Daniel and Christina will be heard at 9:00 AM on Sept. 28th.

J.D. Taylor, 14 yr old friend of Chuck Huckabee, has been placed in hospice care.

Wally Weeks has been diagnosed with prostate cancer & fears that it has spread.

Chris Fink & Rick Nudelman have lost jobs & requests your prayers for their search for employment. **Chris Lindelof** also continues his search for employment.

In Continuing Need:

Our Members: Terry Brown, LaRue Case, Glenda Cashiola, June Evans, Cooper Gartrell, Elaine Ge-

naro, Dorendia Hamilton, Becky Hopkins, Dorothy Kirkland, Ed & Wilma Koob, Claudia Martin, Jennifer & Chase Shelton, Rick Stone, Bill Westmoreland.

Shut-In: Varnell Allison, Katie Barnes, Rossie Gilbert, Rebecca Morganthaler.

Others: Timothy Anderson, Elton Bennett, Justin Britt, Mark Brown, Delta Burner, Bobbie Chenault, Hazel & Doyal Childress, Margaret Clayton, George Dunn, Michael Dykes, Leanna Fink, Michael Fleury, Rachel & Joe Glaze, Jim Godwin, Dee Grigg, Fred & Florence Henshaw, Lola Hill, Cliff Hollingshead, Kaye Hopkins, Leslie Hunt, George & Sandra Kassos, William Kay, Samuel Knight, Kerry Lemoine, Margaret McKinney, Jim & Pat Miller, Lauren Murphy, Clairette Pool, Diane Plumb, Lt Col Robert Reese, Betty Rosenberg, Bing Scherzer, Lance Smith, Brett Statham, Pat Stewart, Kay Taliaferro, J.D. Taylor, Penny Waldrum, Bruce Welch, Elaine Wilson, Claudia Scott Wright.

September Birthdays

23	Greg Fabian	23	Canova Genaro
24	Ricky Pearson	26	John Sloan
30	Lianne Biegay		

September Anniversaries

30	David & Brenda Blair
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October Birthdays—1st Half

1	Brenda Riggs	6	Sheila Banyai
8	Ginny Lindelof	10	Mary Means

October Anniversaries—1st Half

1	David & Monica Blair	2	Clifford & Nina Layton
5	Lynn & Lucille Adams		

Attention Cooks!!!

We are going to compile a church cookbook. Please contribute recipes from any and all categories including: appetizer/snack, main dish/casserole, soups, salads, breads, vegetables, desserts, misc. We also want to have recipes for special diets such as Weight Watchers, diabetic, heart healthy, etc. You may add a short statement such as family favorite, tradition for certain holidays, passed down from family or friends, etc. Remember to put your name on it so we can give you credit. This is for all cooks—women, men, teenagers...

Any questions, contact Jean Nudelman by phone or at jmnudelman@yahoo.com or Jeanette Hays by phone or at tharshesews@yahoo.com