



The Pearland Harvester

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

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MUST I MARRY?

From the earliest moments of our lives, we've been programmed to think of certain things as normal or acceptable while anything else isn't. Often the question "What's wrong with *(him or her)*?" isn't asked because they are sinful, but because they aren't "normal." There is a big difference between the lifestyle of someone who is defiantly disobedient to God's word and someone whose pursuits in life are just different from my own or who simply cannot be "like me." Consider the single Christian ...

The Bible does not teach that being single is wrong and doesn't insist that being single is a character flaw. **Marriage is to be held in honor among all** (Heb. 13:4), but being single isn't automatically dishonorable. Some great servants of God were single. Paul, Jeremiah (Jer. 16:2), and Jesus were all single. Others such as Elijah, Daniel, John the Baptist, and Timothy appear to have been single. Widows were often single for many years (consider Anna—Lk. 2:36-37).

Jesus said that some refrain from marriage for the sake of the kingdom (Mt. 19:11-12). Paul gave advice to the unmarried and to the widows encouraging them to remain single if possible (1 Cor. 7:7-9). He explained that the single person can, in some cases, be more productive for the Lord because they are not burdened with marital obligations and concerns (vv. 32-35).

Marriage isn't for everyone, nor is it required at a certain age. Some put off marriage for very good reasons. They have a job that would create difficulties, they have a goal to finish their education, or they don't feel they are ready for the commitment. Some are looking for a marriage partner who will help them serve the Lord. Some have no desire to be

married. Some are single due to a life circumstance such as losing a mate to death, divorce, or abandonment. Some are single because they are not free to remarry.



Being single is not intrinsically wrong, and the single Christian can be a great asset to the church. But, as with marriage, there are spiritual challenges that should be understood.

- *Loneliness can lead to sin.* God instituted marriage because **"It is not good for the man to be alone"** (Gen. 2:18). Please note that the circumstances required a mate, and God provided her. Sometimes people are so lonely they make a marriage choice that is destructive. If choosing a friend is important (1 Cor. 15:33), how much more so when a mate?
- *Being single can also lead to selfishness.* **He who separates himself seeks his own desire, He quarrels against all sound wisdom** (Prov. 18:1). Paul warned of apostasy and noted selfishness as one of the paths leading to apostasy (2 Tim. 3:2).
- *Being single is also challenging because sexual impurity is the culture we live in.*
- *Finally, even though happiness and being happy is the mantra of our day, don't buy into the lie that God wants you to be happy more than He wants you to be holy.*

Being a Christian "single" can be rewarding if you choose to live godly. Be content in your circumstance (Philp. 4:11), and set your mind on things above (Col. 3:2). Use your time to develop in your faith and in good works. Be an encourager to others. Bring your friends to Christ through your faith, character, and knowledge. Understand that you can remain in that state (1 Cor. 7:24-26) and that in that state God can use you in powerful ways.

Weekly Bible trivia question. Please submit answers to the elders. The first correct answer reported to the office will be recognized and published in the next bulletin. Here goes...**I am an apostle; but you won't find my name listed among any group of apostles, and the following letters are not found in my name: B, A, or I. Who am I?**

Answer to last week's question: Titus. Timothy, a Greek on his father's side, was required to be circumcised (Acts 16:3); but Titus, who was also a Greek, was not required to do so (Gal. 2:3). Connie Powell gave the first correct answer.

Daily Bible chapter reading schedule, beginning Thursday, February 2, 2017:

- Thursday—Jude
- Friday—Deuteronomy 32-34
- Saturday—Esther 6-10
- Sunday—Psalms 149-150
- Monday—Song of Solomon 7-8
- Tuesday—Revelation 18-22
- Wednesday—Acts 27-28

The business meeting has been changed to Sunday, February 5, 2017, following morning services.

2017 sign-up sheets for communion preparation and sound/projector are on the bulletin board.

We are also in need of more volunteers for nursery duty and leading the youngsters in song before the services.

For the Record—1-29-17	
Sunday AM	147
Sunday PM	No services
Wednesday (1-25-17)	50
Contribution	\$3,092
Weekly Budget	\$5,800
YTD Contribution	\$20,748
YTD Budget	\$29,000

Please welcome Joe & Irma Hawkins to the congregation. We will publish a picture later, but wanted to give you their information now:

Joe & Irma Hawkins
2142 Washington St
Pearland TX 77581
281-965-3777

KEPT IN PRAYER

Continuing Need:

Our Members: Fran Barnhill, Annette Bumpers, David & Libby Clayton, Jeff Coe, Daisy Dees, June Evans, Matthew Fabian, Bennie Sue Galindo, Ross Genaro, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Murrell Hill, Judy Indest, Kaliya Kelly, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Jo Knight, Wanda Knight, Clifford Layton, Jan Lemoine, Valerie McHargh, Becky Nicholson, Vi Price, Betty Pridgen, Chase Shelton, David Smith, Loma Stone, Sandy Stone, Doris Stuteville, Angela Terry. **Others:** Carol Addison, Leona Anderson, Catherine Bailey, Octaline Beaupierre, Jeffrey Buesch, Raquel Castillo, Debbie Cook, Evelyn Cordell, Ray Craycraft, Larry & Carla Doolen, Billie Dykes, Linda Evans, Roger Farmer, Gwen Fikes, Glenda Garner, Betty Goad, Sarah Goeman, Robert Hudman, Sharon Johns, Nelderine Johnson, Kerry Lemoine, Martha Locke, Austin, Celia, & Doug Matthews, Jim & Julie Maxcey, Mary Means, Pat Miller, Scott & Cindy Miller, Lewis Moss, James Navarro's son, Jean Nudelman, April Parker, Mark Pridgen, Cloey Pruitt, Alice Puckett, Ryan Rangel, Trena Russell, Sandra Brown Ryan, Butch Sapp, Shirley Scarsdale, Henry Schaefer, Don Scott, Sherly Scott, Tony Smajstrla, Andrew Smith, Michael Smith, Rick Stone, Erin & Elijah Timmons, Leon Vanderveer, Bennett Vincent, Alexis Anderson Washington, Mary White, Wanda Williams, Anthony Young, Lesli (friend of Heather Brown's friend).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Lindelof is our contact elder for February. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see Chris.

Please note the following schedule of services:

Sunday, February 5, 2017: Classes, morning service, and evening service at usual times. No Super Bowl party is planned.

February 2017

- 1 Wednesday Night with the Master—6 PM—Annex. Menu is Cowboy Stew; bring your favorite dessert. Buck & Jari Thompson are coordinating the meal. Areas of service begin at 7 PM.
- 6 Secret Sisters—Please meet at 3205 Nottingham, Pearland TX 77581 at 6:30 PM on February 6, 2017. It is important that you RSVP to Jodi Briand by Friday, February 3, 2017.
- 8 Ladies' Bible Class—10 AM—Annex
- 11 Ladies' Prayer Breakfast—8 AM—Kelley's
- 22 Ladies' Bible Class—10 AM—Annex



There will be a shower for Wendell & Sarah Romain on Sunday, February 19, 2017, from 3 pm to 5 pm in the Annex. Men & women are invited. The Romains are registered at Bed Bath & Beyond (search for Sarah Adams or Wendell Romain) and at Target (search for Sarah Romain or Wendell Romain).

Marriage Seminar (no fee), February 10-11, 2017, at Abell Street Church of Christ, 501 Abell St, Wharton TX 77488, taught by Wayne & Tami Roberts:

Friday, February 10, 7 pm to 9 pm; Saturday, February 11, 9 am to 3 pm; Free childcare and lunch provided on Saturday.

A flyer with more information is on the bulletin board.

The ladies in the February food preparation group are: Laurie Maxcey, Bennie Sue Galindo, Betty Pridgen, and Meredith Williams. Please contact Kristin Alatrash if there are questions.

February Birthdays

- 7 Leah Bateman
- 15 Jo Knight
- 27 Everett Brown
- 12 Gary Adams
- 17 Gene Forster
- 27 Gretchen Whitmire

February Anniversaries

- 1 Jack & Peggy Chisum
- 14 Harold & Alice Moore
- 9 John & Joy Sloan
- 15 Buck & Jari Thompson

Those to Serve

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

Wednesday Evening February 1	Wednesday Evening February 8
Building Lock Up—C Lindelof WNWTM	Building Lock Up—K Scarsdale

Morning Worship February 5	Morning Worship February 12
Opening Prayer Bob Williams	Opening Prayer Gary Adams
Song Leader Gary Adams	Song Leader Greg Fabian
Communion	Communion
Presiding: Zack Williams	Presiding: Bob Williams
Grayson Townzen Tom Langford	Jacob Carriere Phil Godwin
Josh Hundley Jake Satterwhite	Bobby Parker Daniel Brown
Jimmy Terry Nathan Scarsdale	Kevin Scarsdale Paul Hamilton
Announcements Chris Lindelof	Announcements Chris Lindelof
Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer
Nursery Attendants	Nursery Attendants
Tracey Mauney Angela Parker	Lianne Biegay Appeal Byers
Ushers (*indicates head usher)	Ushers (*indicates head usher)
*Lynn Adams, Matthew Fabian, Derek Mauney	*Clifford Layton, Charlie Story, Blake Williams
Greeters	Greeters
Clifford & Nina Layton	Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale
Audio—Projector for AM	Audio—Projector for AM
Maxcey	Maxcey
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—K Scarsdale	Building Lock Up for AM & PM—G Adams
Evening Worship	Evening Worship
Song Leader Greg Fabian	Song Leader Gary Adams
Communion Jimmy Terry, Derek Mauney	Communion Bobby Parker, Daniel Brown
Closing Prayer Chris Lindelof	Closing Prayer Chris Lindelof

Worship Times:

Sunday

Bible Study9 am
Morning Worship.....10 am
Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

ELDERS

*Gary Adams 281-797-2575
Greg Fabian 713-305-1626
Chris Lindelof 281-224-2183
Kevin Scarsdale 713-447-1866*

DEACONS

*James Maxcey
Bobby Parker
Charlie Story
Bob Williams*

MINISTERS

*D.C. Brown Pulpit Minister
Zack Williams Youth Minister*

MISSIONARIES

*Benin, West Africa:
Paul Tohionon - Bohicon
Pascal Djedatin - Dassa
Blaise Atta - Bétérou
Clément Djebede - Okéwo
Gaston Nda - Natitingou
Valentine Ndimonte - Natitingou
André Assogba - Gobé
Dorotheé Tchekpo - Savé et Bessé
Paul Kouagou - N'Dali
Jonas Sambieni - Kaboua
Gabin Agbeci - Savalou
Portsmouth, Dominica, West Indies
Lewis Romain*