



The Pearland Harvester

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

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A TALE OF TWO MEN

never laid eyes on the man prior to that moment; and, in a small town of less than 500 people, I would have known him if he was local. It didn't take much for me to size him up and recognize that he was there to ask for money, and that's exactly what he proceeded to do.

Because the railroad was less than two blocks away and every train was required to stop in our little town for crew changes, drifters riding the rails from one place to the next would often make their way to the church building and ask for money. Seldom did they simply ask. Usually they had a tale of woe that was complicated and calculated to draw as much sympathy as possible.

This man was a seasoned veteran, and frankly I was short on time. I told him if he really wanted some help he would have to wait until the evening service was over and would have to speak with our elders. I sent him to a local restaurant and made arrangements to comp his meal and told him to be back at 6:00 for evening worship. I didn't really expect him to come back, but to be safe I called one of my elders and told him what I had done. My elder said he would be prepared if the man returned. He did.

Just before we began our evening service, the man returned and took a seat in the auditorium. After we were dismissed, the elders invited the man and me to their conference room. After an opening prayer, they asked the man what his need was and the stories began. The evening story was slightly different and more elaborate than the one I had heard that afternoon. As he talked, I was watching the elder I had spoken with earlier and was trying to read his body language. I was hoping that none of them were falling for the tale of misery that was being spun, but I was also a bit put off by the fact that the elder I had spoken with couldn't seem to quit fidgeting with his copy of the newspaper that was published in a town 40 miles away.

I was sitting in my office one Sunday afternoon working on my lesson for the evening service when a man about my age walked in and asked to talk with me. I'd

Finally, the series of tragedies had been chronicled and the man fell silent. My elder took a breath and then quietly asked the man if it would be any help if he could get a job. Caught off guard, the man said he did need a job but there just weren't any jobs to be had.

At that point, my elder unfolded and spread out his newspaper on the table that we were all sitting around. He turned to the want ads, and all of us could see that he had circled a dozen or more notices of individuals and businesses advertising positions that needed to be filled. All involved manual labor of some kind. None were high-paying jobs, but all of them paid by the week. Dishwashers, delivery drivers, farmhands, stocking clerks, and other positions were read to the man one by one. And, one by one, he turned them all down. They were too far away, he didn't have a driver's license, he had a debilitating old work injury, he didn't care for that kind of work, etc. The excuses were prompt and ready. None of the positions were suitable. The man got up and left, and in a few minutes I heard a train horn beginning to sound. I never saw him again.



The man had been ill, bedridden for 38 years. He was staying in a place surrounded by others who were also suffering from various diseases and handicaps. Jesus asked him a very simple question, **"Do you wish to get well?"** (Jn. 5:6). Rather than answering in the affirmative, the man gave an excuse for why he was still bedridden (v. 7). To which, Jesus replied, **"Get up, pick up your pallet and walk."** And that is exactly what the man did (vv. 8-9).

We have the gifts of forgiveness and eternal life in the gospel we proclaim. Some don't really want it, preferring to live off the sympathy of others. Some really do and only need to be taught. We don't have to make the judgments as to who is worthy to hear it. We only have to ask a simple question: "Do you want to hear it?" The power of the gospel and the sincerity of the person we ask will lead to one decision or the other. We just have to ask.

TRIVIA

C H A L L E N G E

I worked with the great apostle Paul and was often entrusted by him to remain in a place after he left. Typically, I was left for the purposes of strengthening the church, setting in place the things that remained, and even to appoint elders. Who am I, and where was the last place I was sent by Paul?

Answer to last week's question: Temptation (1 Cor. 10:13). No one submitted the correct answer.

Daily Bible chapter reading schedule, beginning Thursday, March 30, 2017:

- Thursday—Romans 15-16
- Friday—Genesis 28-31
- Saturday—Judges 12-16
- Sunday—Psalms 21-23
- Monday—Job 15-16
- Tuesday—Isaiah 40-44
- Wednesday—Matthew 20-22

We were sorry to learn that our sister Doris Teague is moving to Bryan on March 30. We will miss her, but wish her well in her new home. Her new address and phone number are:

Doris Teague
3801 E Crest Dr Apt 3210
Bryan TX 77802
409-720-7521

For the Record—3-26-17	
Sunday AM	147
Sunday PM	52
Wednesday (3-22-17)	56
Contribution	\$4,639
Weekly Budget	\$5,800
YTD Contribution	\$58,521
YTD Budget	\$75,400

I want to thank everyone for the phone calls, food, and prayers during my time of sorrow. I feel so loved by my Christian family.

Love,
Delores Truelove

KEPT IN PRAYER

Please continue to pray for the **Truelove** family. Larry passed away on March 23, 2017; services were held on March 25, 2017.

Becky Nicholson has a compression fracture.

Continuing Need:

Our Members: Fran Barnhill, Dawn Bell, Debbie Brown, Annette Bumpers, David Clayton, Jeff Coe, Daisy Dees, June Evans, Bennie Sue Galindo, Ross Genaro, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Murrell Hill, Judy Indest, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Jo Knight, Wanda Knight, Clifford & Nina Layton, Jan Lemoine, Valerie McHargh, Harold & Alice Moore, Becky Nicholson, Adam Parker, Vi Price, Betty Pridgen, Chase Shelton, David Smith, Loma Stone, Sandy Stone, Doris Stuteville, Angela Terry. **Others:** Carol Addison, Leona Anderson, Catherine Bailey, Octaline Beupierre, Erica Matte Blair, Jeffrey Buesch, Raquel Castillo, Debbie Cook, Evelyn Cordell, Ray Craycraft, Judy Dame, Larry & Carla Doolen, Billie Dykes, Linda Evans, Roger Farmer, Gwen Fikes, Glenda Garner, Betty Goad, Sarah Goeman, Robert Hudman, Kaliya Kelly, Elaine King, Jay Langley, Jason & Jenny Langley, Kerry Lemoine, Martha Locke, Austin & Celia Matthews, Jim & Julie Maxcey, Shirley McWhorter, Mary Means, Pat Miller, Lewis Moss, James Navarro's son, Jean Nudelman, April Parker, Wilma Parker, Mark Pridgen, Cloey Pruitt, Alice Puckett, Ryan Rangel, Trenna 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, Mary White, Wanda Williams, Anthony Young, Lesli (friend of Heather Brown's friend), Dakota (baby boy of Lianne Biegay's friend).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kevin Scarsdale is our contact elder for **March**. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see Kevin. Gary Adams will be our contact elder for **April**.

April 2017

- 2 We will have a potluck lunch honoring the Fabians following morning services this Sunday, April 2, 2017. Gretchen is ordering fried chicken from Kroger as one of the meats.
- 3 Secret Sisters—6:30 PM—Central Texas Style Bar-B-Q. Lianne Biegay, Jo Knight, and Nina Layton are the hostesses.
- 5 Wednesday Night with the Master—6 PM—Annex. Elders are serving chili. Please bring your favorite side dishes. Service areas begin at 7 PM.
- 8 Ladies' Prayer Breakfast—8 AM—Kelley's
- 12 Ladies' Bible Class—10 AM—Annex
- 26 Ladies' Bible Class—10 AM—Annex
- 30 Friends & Family Day

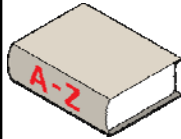
The ladies in the April food preparation group are: Leah Bateman, Lacey Gartrell, Susan Lenamon, and Jean Coe. Please contact Kristin Alatrash if there are questions.



The Arms of Hope Grocery Run will be the week of **May 1-5, 2017**. We need to collect the following:

Coffee (please check the expiration date)

Please bring your items by Sunday, April 30. Arms of Hope did not specify quantity, but let's have a generous donation.



It's time for a new Pocket Directory! Please review the sheets on the bulletin board and make necessary changes by April 23, 2017. Thanks.

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.

March Birthdays

- 29 Judy Indest
- 30 Candice Townzen
- 31 Heather Cook
- 31 Mary Holmberg

March Anniversaries

- 31 Russell & Canova Genaro

April Birthdays

- 2 Morgan Cuellar
- 2 Derek Mauney
- 3 Wendell Romain
- 3 Dianne Westmoreland
- 7 Jack Chisum
- 7 Elaine Genaro
- 7 Blake Williams
- 13 Shawn Cravens
- 13 Tracey Mauney
- 14 Jean Coe
- 16 Brenton Cook
- 19 Michael Terry
- 23 Charlie Story
- 25 Lacey Gartrell
- 28 Lucille Adams
- 30 Angela Terry

April Anniversaries

- 7 John & Lacey Gartrell
- 9 Orlando & Amy Cuellar
- 18 Don & Connie Powell
- 25 Josh & Ashley Hundley

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 March 29	Wednesday Evening April 5
Building Lock Up—Bob Williams	Building Lock Up—K Scarsdale WNWTM

Morning Worship April 2		Morning Worship April 9	
Opening Prayer	Bob Williams	Opening Prayer	Bobby Parker
Song Leader	TBD	Song Leader	TBD
Communion		Communion	
Presiding: James Maxcey		Presiding: Gheath Alatrash	
Jacob Carriere	Derek Mauney	Tom Langford	Blake Williams
Charlie Story	Jake Satterwhite	Paul Hamilton	Phil Godwin
Josh Hundley	Zack Williams	Daniel Brown	Russell Genaro
Announcements	Gary Adams	Announcements	Gary Adams
Closing Prayer		Closing Prayer	
Nursery Attendants		Nursery Attendants	
Lianne Biegay	Tracey Mauney	Appeal Byers	Sarah White
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Lynn Adams, Jimmy Terry, N Scarsdale		*Clifford Layton, Grayson Townzen, M Fabian	
Greeters		Greeters	
Clifford & Nina Layton		Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale	
Audio—Projector for AM		Audio—Projector for AM	
Riggs, Whitmire		Riggs, Whitmire	
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—K Scarsdale		Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Gary Adams	
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Song Leader	TBD	Song Leader	TBD
Communion	Derek Mauney, Jimmy Terry	Communion	Blake Williams, Daniel Brown
Closing Prayer	Gary Adams	Closing Prayer	Gary Adams

ELDERS

Gary Adams 281-797-2575
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

Worship Times:

Sunday

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

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm