

From Faith to Faith

Granbury Street Church of Christ

Preacher-Dependent

Kevin W. Rhodes

Once David retrieved the ark safely from the home of Obed-Edom and set it up inside the tabernacle in Jerusalem, they began worshipping by making various offerings to the LORD in accordance with the Law. Following this, David offered blessings to the people in the LORD's name and gave them various things to eat in celebration of the event (1 Chr. 16:1-3). Fulfilling his role as the leader of the people, he then set up various Levites "to commemorate, to thank, and to praise the LORD God of Israel"—not just temporarily, but permanently—writing songs and leading others in worship to God (1Chr. 16:4-6). David himself began the process, giving Asaph and the other appointees three different psalms to use in worship (1 Chr. 16:7), each one fulfilling the purposes he designated of commemoration, praise, and thanks. The first psalm (1 Chr. 16:8-22) we have recorded as Psalm 105, which highlights the promises of God to the people of Israel and how He fulfilled each and every one. The second psalm (1 Chr. 16:23-33) we have recorded as Psalm 96 (with the last portion only summarized here), a song of praise, exalting the LORD. The final three verses of poetry recorded here (1 Chr. 16:34-36) present the first verse and the last two verses of Psalm 106 as a type of summary of thankfulness. Thus, having brought the tabernacle and ark to Jerusalem, then making assignments for the Levites, and finally offering some psalms as a model and foundation, David had done everything he could to this point to encourage worship and the keeping of the Law as concerned the tabernacle and offerings. However, one more thing had to happen. "So he left Asaph and his brothers there before the ark of the covenant of the LORD to minister before the ark regularly, as every day's work required" (1 Chr. 16:37). All of the people given responsibilities had to carry them out. They had to embrace their role and work even as David departed, and they did (1 Chr. 16:38-43).

The nature of a preacher's work has much in common with David's efforts. A preacher will come to a congregation with all kinds of hopes and expectations. He will seek to bring energy and a new appreciation for worshipping and serving God. He will preach and teach, and teach and preach. He will offer training to others so they can learn to fulfill those responsibilities as well. But ultimately his success is measured best by how well these things continue when he leaves. This is important, because congregations can become preacher-dependent. Thus, they confuse how hard and how well the preacher is working with how hard and how well the congregation is working. A preacher should be an extremely hard worker for the Lord, but his aim is to get others working for the Lord as well. Preaching is about developing others spiritually. But is that what the congregation is about as well?

Shepherds

Sid Carruth
Kenneth Helm
Clark Lehtinen

Deacons

Gary Barger
Jeff Day
Vince Grinnell
Justin Hewlett
Bill Hughes
Tim Norman

Preacher

Kevin Rhodes

Sunday

Bible Study
9:00 am

AM Worship
10:00 am

PM Worship
5:00 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Class
10:00 am

Bible Study
7:00 pm

Cleburne, Texas

Volume 11,
Number 12

March 30,

2014

No Greater Fulfillment - Part One

Kevin W. Rhodes

More than just knowing the great responsibilities disciples have from their Lord, we will truly grow in our dedication when we understand that there is no greater fulfillment than spiritual work. I hope that you have an opportunity in what ever you may choose to do to understand that feeling of having done your job well, to really have accomplished something that mattered in your work—in whatever job you hold. It mattered. It mattered in making a difference in the community. It mattered in making a difference for your family, It mattered to your boss that you did something well, and you found it fulfilling. I hope you experience this so that you can realize what your work is really all about.

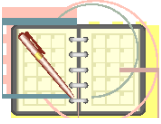
In Luke 5:1-11 we find an account where Jesus' disciples—those who were also fishermen—were out in their boats after fishing all night. Despite all their time and hard work, as the song says, “they caught no fishes.” But Jesus found them and called to them, “Cast your nets on the other side.” Peter essentially replied, “We haven’t caught anything, but okay.” And they did so. As a result, they began catching so many fish that they filled the boat to the point of causing it to sink from the weight. Can you imagine having THIS as a fishing story? Five men who were by vocation fishermen listened to a non-fisherman—a Carpenter—Jesus, and He showed them how to fish. They had accomplished everything you could possibly achieve in fishing—complete fulfillment. But He was also illustrating something very important as He called them from there to be fishers of men. There is one type of settlement as a fisherman, and there is a very different type of fulfillment as a fisher of men. He showed them what they could have as fishermen, but then He called them to something far greater. Filling a boat with fish in a small little sea in Galilee was never Jesus' focus, but He used it to show His disciples what fulfillment was possible if they were prepared to go fishing in the world for men.

Doing spiritual work, disciples are always doing something significant. If you read about it in the Bible and it says a Christian does it, it IS significant.

Spiritual activity of all kinds makes a big difference. “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:58). Why does he say it in that way? Because it is in the chapter talking about the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the resurrection of those who follow Him, and then he concludes with this verse. Why? Because these things matter in eternity. They were significant.

Doing spiritual work, even the little things matter. The apostle John records a small fact regarding Andrew, Simon's brother, who “first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (which is translated, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus” (Jn. 1:40-42). For all intents and purposes, this remains the most significant thing we find actually recorded about Andrew in the text of the Bible. Yet here is a man who was an apostle, present on Pentecost, who went with Jesus everywhere upon the earth, who ultimately would go out—though it is not recorded in Scripture—and teach many, many people. But what was recorded for us is a significant act of bringing someone else to the Lord so that that person could do things for the Lord. We seem to sometimes think that fulfillment requires all the huge, big things that are public. However, this was something very private and personal. But it was recorded because it still mattered. Going to visit someone, though no one else ever knows it—it is personal—matters. Talking to someone at work, though they may never respond positively and no one else may ever know about or appreciate your effort—the fact that you approached them trying to teach them the truth, tried to have a Bible study with them, or just tried to get them to come worship with you—matters. It is spiritual activity, thinking in spiritual ways. For you have to understand it matters that much so you can see the fulfillment—not just in that someone came, not just in that someone reciprocated, but in that you did something that mattered before God in heaven. And when you can feel fulfillment for that now, you will appreciate what spiritual work is all about.





News and Notes

Among our sick

- Royce Gorman had carpal tunnel surgery on his hand on Thursday.
- Grace Harding had her left hip replaced on Thursday, March 20th, at Harris downtown.
- Wayne Holly had neck surgery on Monday, March 24th, at Harris Hospital downtown.
- Doug Kilcrease is home following knee replacement surgery.
- Pat McIntosh had a bone marrow extraction and injection in his hip on March 21st.
- Mary Reynolds had hip replacement surgery on Wednesday.
- Cheyenne Threadgill has a small blockage in her small intestines.
- Pat Thompson had surgery Monday at Huguley.

Please Note...

- Sunday, March 30th, will be our next 5th Sunday. We will have our regular morning worship, lunch in the annex, and a 1:00 PM afternoon singing in the auditorium.
- The next youth devotional will be Sunday, April 6th, in the annex. Girls bring drinks and boys bring desserts.
- Senior Game Night will be Tuesday, April 8th, in the annex.
- The Junior/Senior Banquet will be May 17th. If you can help with the cost of this wholesome alternative to the prom please give your money to Bill and Carla Hughes, Tim and Melinda Norman, or one of the elders.
- Vacation Bible School will be Saturday, July 12th, from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer if you can help.

Those who Serve

Lords' Supper: 3/30

Front South

Luke Norman
Caleb Norman
Michael Mora

Front North

Paul Murphy
Tim Norman
Clint Owens

Back South

Clark Lehtinen
Casey Lehtinen
Jackie Mayden

Back North

Jay Lehtinen
Patrick Kaiser
Jeff McPherson

Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Doug Jones
Dewayne Henegar

Sunday PM

Justin Hewlett
Cody Grinnell

Wednesday PM

Colton Allen

Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Russ Jones

Wednesday

Cody Grinnell

Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Jeff Day

Sunday PM

Jeff Day

Wednesday PM

Sid Carruth

Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

Barry Lehtinen

Collection Counting

Don Crecelius / Johnny Walker

Wed. PM Devotional (4/2)

D. J. Stucky



Sermons for Sunday

AM

What Will You Do Then?
Hosea 9:10-17

PM

Singing



Listen to the Gospel!

Granbury Street's Worship

LIVE every Sunday Morning at 10:00 am on
KnowTheTruthRadio.org

Luis and Mike in the Mornings

(Monday - Friday) from 7:00 am - 9:00 am cst on
KnowTheTruthRadio.org

Biblical Foundations with Pat McIntosh

(Tuesday - Thursday) 7:00 am or 11:00 am
btradio.net



Our Records

Bible Class	141
AM Worship.....	205
PM Worship	145
Wednesday Bible Class 3/12.....	153
Contribution	\$5484

Granbury Street Church of Christ

1211 N. Granbury Street
Cleburne, TX 76033

817-517-7713 (Local) or 817-517-6515 (Metro)
FAX: 817-556-3822
granburystreet@aol.com

www.granburystreetchurchofchrist.com