

What was the result of this massive search? Seen in many passages, we are told in 2:11 "behold all was vanity and striving after wind and there was no profit under the sun." No wonder the preacher's sermon started off negative!

*"Whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."
Colossians 3:17*

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

Don't Quit Until You Get to the End!



Wow...talk about negative preaching! Just listen to the opening lines of the book of Ecclesiastes written by "the Preacher," Solomon, "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher, "Vanity of vanities! All is vanity."

Not only does the preacher begin with such a sentiment, but he basically carries it throughout his book. Thirty-three times the word for vanity or its equivalent (such as "futility") is found. It is included in 11 of the 12 chapters of Ecclesiastes. (Chapter 10 is the exception.)

Throughout the book, this wise one (he tells us repeatedly just how wise he is in (1:16, 2:15, etc.) says that his mission in life was to find out (and to let the others of us know) just what life is all about.

I find it interesting that such a wise man could not learn from the example of others but had to experience the failure of looking for the meaning of life "in all the wrong places." The experiences brought him to utter despair over and over again.

With his matchless wisdom and untold wealth, he went after meaning in "work" and found it to be "vanity and striving after the wind" (1:14). He chased wisdom and knowledge and said they only brought "much grief...(and) increasing pain" (1:18). He focused on pleasure and laughter and found only "futility" and "madness" (2:1-2). He tried gardens and building (2:4-6), slaves (2:7), silver, gold and the "treasures of kings and provinces" (2:8) and...very literally "wine" (2:3), "women" (2:8), and "song" (2:8). Add to this the ability to give himself anything, as he did not withhold his heart "from any pleasure" (2:9) or anything that his eyes saw and desired (2:10).

What was the result of this massive search? Seen in many passages, we are told in 2:11 "behold all was vanity and striving after wind and there was no profit under the sun." No wonder the preacher's sermon started off negative!

Yet...I hope you didn't stop reading Ecclesiastes until you reached the end, for there the wise man came to the conclusion that true wisdom, should have told him, was there all along!

The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: *fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.*

He (finally) got it right! That's why when reading of the wise man Solomon's search for the true meaning of life in Ecclesiastes *Don't Stop Until You get to the End of the Book!* —Larry Keele

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Family Matters

We welcome all our guests today. We hope that you will be as blessed from your visit with us as we will be having you. Please stay after morning services and enjoy a complimentary lunch provided by our Family Circle 2. Also, we would ask that you sign and complete the visitor's record that will be passed to you near the end of the services. God bless.

We are privileged to be able to carry one another's concerns and cares to the Father's throne. Thank all for their input to the elders as to the decision concerning the building. Your prayers and patience through the process are great blessings! John Dickenson could use some additional help with the Visitation program. If you are interested in serving in this important way, please see John for

more details as to ways in which you can be of help.

Needed: Workers for the Campaign for Christ. Various projects and times are available. See the bulletin board for details.

Read 2 Kings this week!

Parting thought: *He who angers you controls you.*

We want to remember *Josie Biron's* request for our prayers.

Interested in serving in this important way, please see John for

HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!

Army

Reed All About It: The Lost

I have probably written or said this before, I am paranoid about keys. I like to always know where my keys are located; I freak out if they are lost. I try to be very careful with my keys when I am fishing. Well, this past Saturday I dropped my house keys into the lake. The vision was that of a slow motion movie scene where the keys were flying out of my hand and headed towards the water. In my mind I was thinking, this is not good, but there was nothing I could do about it. While this was an inconvenience, it would have been worse if it was my car keys that were going for a swim.

The depth of the water where I dropped my keys was not over my head, so I jumped in and conducted a search. Despite my aquatic searching efforts, I was unable to locate my keys.

This ended up only being a minor problem as I had duplicate keys in the house.

Seeking the lost is what we do as Christians. Even though seeking the lost is a noble endeavor, sometimes it can be discouraging. There is the person who knows what they need to do to be saved, but will not move forward. There is the person who becomes baptized, yet drifts back into their old life. There are the visitors who seem very engaged when attending church, but fall back into the ways of the world.

Should we be discouraged by these actions? Some level of discouragement is to be expected, but we must remember that we are in a marathon and not a sprint. We should not give up on people. Loyalty and consistency are not

valued very much by today's society, but they are taught in the Bible. In the parable of the lost sheep found in Luke 15, the shepherd left the 99 until he found the 1.

⁴ *“What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?”*

Notice the shepherd stays with the search until the lost sheep is found.

As Christians we should pray to God in order to help us not be discouraged and consistently continue to seek the lost!

Blessings,
Alan

John's Jogs: Bible Basics 4

On his way to Haran, Jacob stopped for the night. Finding a stone for a pillow he had a dream of a ladder reaching into heaven with angels ascending and descending on it. God reassured him of the promise made to Abraham and Isaac and now to Jacob that He will give this land to his descendants and that all people would be blessed through his offspring.

Arriving in Paddan Aram, Jacob met Laban, the son of Rebecca's brother Bethel, who had two daughters, Rachel and Leah. Jacob fell in love with Rachel and agreed to work seven years for Laban for her. On the wedding night he slept with his bride only to awake the next morning to find Leah there. Laban explained that they could not give the younger girl before the older one and agreed again to give him Rachel for another seven years. Leah bore six sons for Jacob (Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar and Zebulun), and she gave her maidservant Zilpah to Jacob as a wife who bore him two sons (Gad and Asher). Rachel

gave Jacob two sons (Joseph and Benjamin) and gave him her maidservant Bilhah who bore him two sons, Dan and Naphtali.

After Joseph was born Jacob asks Laban to give him his wives and children and says, “I'll be on my way back to my homeland.” Laban bargained with him to stay longer and he would pay him the wages asked. Jacob agreed that his wages would be all the speckled or spotted sheep or goats. From this agreement Jacob became independently wealthy. Jacob learned that Laban and his sons' attitude toward him had changed – they were jealous of his prosperity saying he had taken Laban's flocks. The Lord said to Jacob, **“Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives; and I will be with you.”**

Jacob left Paddan Aram with his wives, children and livestock and with all the goods he had accumulated to return to Canaan. As they neared the end of his journey, Jacob prepared to

meet Esau. He sent a message with a large gift to Esau. The messengers returned with the news that Esau was coming to meet him with 400 men. How would you feel? In great fear and distress, Jacob divided his group and prayed a fervent prayer for deliverance from his brother Esau. He prepared a lavish gift for Esau, and sent them on ahead with instructions to say, **“These belong to your brother Jacob. They are a gift sent to my lord Esau, and he is coming behind us.”**

That night a man wrestled with Jacob all night. The man asked what is your name? He answered – Jacob. The man said, “it will no longer be Jacob but **ISRAEL.**”... Jacob looked up and there was Esau. Esau ran to him and embraced him. They wept! Jacob introduced Esau to his wives and children. Esau went back to Seir and Jacob (**Israel**) to Canaan.

Next Week =Twelve Tribes (children) of **Israel**

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

EVENTS AND NEWS



Day of Preparation/Promotion & Mission Day: August 13th

Day of Good Works: August 20th

Campaign for Christ: August 21st

Directory Change

John & Melissa Kirshy
3837 Juniper Meadows Ln.
Spring, TX 77386

Terri Bennett
17705 Red Oak Dr. #33
Houston, TX 77090

Remove:

Paul & Cassandra Gauntt
5521 Porano Circle
Round Rock, TX 78665



Your generosity overwhelmed me! I couldn't have imagined it—truly you are grand! And the prayers, calls, and cards are all lovingly appreciated.

All of you have been so good—so kind—so wonderful to me.

Love,

Terri Bennett

(Is back in the Nursing Home at Red Oak.)

Family Circle Group #2

Meal

Today

Leaders: Kevin & Patricia Barnett

We extend an invitation to all our visitors to enjoy a meal with FC#2 today immediately following morning service in our Family Center Building.

Young at Heart Trip Thursday, June 30th

Depart on Precinct 4 Bus at 9 a.m.
Museum of Natural Science

Cost: \$13.00, plus lunch. Sign-up list on Bulletin Board. Contact: John Dickenson



Collection for Homeless

The items needed are: Ink pens, Back Packs, Soap, Bibles, Notepads, Deodorant, Socks,

Toothbrushes, Water, Gatorade, Gift Cards, Fruit Snacks, Granola Bars, Peanuts, Hats, Vienna Sausages and Crackers. Please place the items in the box in the foyer. Contacts: Emmett Gaines

Truth for Today Commentaries

The cost is \$27.00. See Marvin Trice or Jeanie Kuehl to pick up your copy.

Church Calendar

June

26 Family Circle #2 Meal
30 Young at Heart Museum Trip

July

9 Men's Breakfast
17 VBS Work Day
18-20 VBS—Ages 3-5th Grade
21 Men's Night Out
22-23 Teacher's Workshop—Austin
28-14 Taiwan Mission Trip

Youth Calendar

June 2016

June 26: S.N.A.C. Devo
June 27: Monday Funday
June 28: T.A.C.O. Tuesday

July Events

July 1-9: TREK
July 11-6: S.H.E.E.P. Week
July 18-20 VBS
July 22: All Youth Group Trip to Six Flags
Fiesta Texas San Antonio

Sunday Morning Bible Hour Ages 2 to Kindergarten

Parents and children are dismissed to check in following the Lord's Supper.

Sunday, June 26, 2016

Teachers: Justin and Julia Sammons

Story: Red Sea

May Memory Verse: *For nothing is impossible with God. (Luke 1:37)*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL

Wednesday, June 29

Menu: Caribbean grilled chicken, Island rice, Calico Corn, Rolls, Salad, Angel food cake with fruit

Time: 6:00-6:30—Cost: \$5 adults, children 10-up, \$3: children under 3: Free

If you did not place a head count in the attendance book on Sunday, please contact the church office if you plan to eat on Wednesday night.

REFUGE **JULY 18-20**
9-11:30 am

Safe in the Arms of God
Ages 3-5th Grade
2016 Champions VBS

Register at: www.championschurch.org

church of Chris IN CHAMPIONS

"A Place to Belong."

13902 Cutten Road,
Houston, Texas 77069
281-440-9898

www.championschurch.org

Elders:

- David Arnold
- Glenn Asher
- Jim Chitwood
- Bill Johnson
- Britt Jones
- Danny Mize
- Don Sammons
- Marvin Trice

Deacons:

- Phelan (Al) Allee
- Chris Ball
- Kevin Barnett
- Bill Bonham
- Charles Boyd
- Eltonio (Tony) Brown
- Darrell Fariss
- Jay Fraley
- Tommy Hill
- Joe Jackson
- Charles Joachim
- Brent Killough
- David Morgan
- Blake Phillips
- Kent Phillips
- Bryan Runions
- Justin Sammons
- Hank Sheppard
- Joel Smith
- Wes Smith
- Troy Thompson
- Billy Tippit
- James Wyatt

Ministers:

- Larry Keele (Pulpit)
- Alan Reed (Associate)
- John Qualls (Associate)
- Josh Vires (Youth)

PRAYERS & NOTES

Prayer Requests:

Sharon DeCarlo fell and cracked in her ankle in three areas. Prayers for her quick healing.
Suzanne O'Connell is home recovering from surgery.
Sherry Johnson received a great report from her cardiologist. Prayer of Thanksgiving!
Johnny Breithaupt is in North Cypress Hospital, room 3303. He was scheduled to be moved to Kendrick Hospital on Fallbrook yesterday.
Arlene Hale will have shoulder surgery in July.
Gregg Chappell, Sr. is having difficulty with low blood pressure and fever.
Hank Sheppard is home doing well.
Keith Underwood continues to struggle with intense pain.
Bunia Collins requests your continued prayers for the success of her neck surgery that is scheduled at the end of July to remove a herniated disc in her neck.
Barbara Dodson remains in the hospital in The Woodlands. (No visitors please.)
Peggy Bickham, Keith's mother, is in the hospital in Corpus with pneumonia and two masses in her chest cavity.
Taylor Graham, Everlina

Jones uncle, had a defibulator replaced and suffered complications.

Evelina Jones has requested prayers for the following:

Ruth Kemp, Ella Low, Nita Graham.

Tasha Diraffaele requested prayers for the following:

Tasha's Mom and Step-Dad Tatianna, Stephanie, David and Elizabeth.

Kelly McKee, Melba's granddaughter, has two fractured discs, L4 & L5.

Champions Members Ongoing Concerns:

Ronda Morgan, June Gettings, Harry Denton, Nell McDonald, Hank Sheppard, John Qualls, Shawn Waye, Sharon DeCarlo, Glenn Dixon, John Hixon, Tasha DiRaffaele, Jan Kelly, Donna Nance, Keith and Linda Underwood, Beth Haden, B.B. & Dorothy Snell

Family and Friends of

Champions: Hayden Bowles, Linda Boatright, Conner Barnett, Larry Eckert, Mark Gardiner, Mary Chappell, Buddy Damron, Shelia Morrison, Isaac Avina

Employment Concerns:

Rudy Morris

Expectant Parents:

Jeff and Rebekah Johnson
 Jordan and Natalie Arnold

Hospice Care: Letha, (Earlene Antwine's sister)

Cancer Concerns:

Don Freeman, Whitney White, Jackie Stearsman, Ramoncito Jatico, Mary McCall Adamek, Laura Carroll, Colter Taylor, Larry Young, Steven Cerny, Bea Augustin, Jack Snyder, Rocky Harrell, Lawrece Smith, Sandra Underwood, Gary Brown, Nancy Miller, Pat Morrison, Sheila Durham, Michelle Davis

Missionaries:

Dale DuVerney, Peter Chin, Eddie Cloer, Roman Halamiccek, Eric Tan, Roland Moshen, Workers at Biblical Institute of Central America, Eastern European Mission, Jordan Arnold, Will Hanstein, Madison Avalos

Assisted Living/Rehab/ Nursing Homes:

Terri Bennett, Margurite Pennington, Juanita Cox, Julia Garcia, Nell McDonald, Gladys McHenry, Marie McCall, Jean Simpson

Prayers for Military:

Landon White, William E. Taylor IV, George Marcus Jones, Melanie Adams, Travis Long, Aaron Jean, James Chin, Casey Bolin, Charles DuVerney, Ryan Bonham, Phillip Cuccerre, Jr., Eric McCall, Darion DuVerney, Meghan Gillespie

Nursery Attendants

June 26: Rosie Martinez & Karen Watson

If you cannot serve, please find a replacement by checking names posted on the wall outside the nursery classroom. Contact: Karen Casey

**FOR THE RECORD
6/19/16**

Sunday AM	365
Sunday Bible Class	214
Sunday P.M.	192
Wednesday Night	138
Contribution	18,589.05
Weekly Budget	20,048.00
YTD Contributions	500,341.48
YTD Budget	501,200.00
Over/(Under)	(858.52)

Service Times:

SUNDAY MORNING
 9:00 a.m. Bible Classes
 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
 Sunday Morning Bible Hour

SUNDAY NIGHT:
 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
 Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Elder of the Month

Don Sammons—June
 Marvin Trice—July

Food Coordinator

Check with your Family Circle Leaders

Little Champs:

Mothers Day Out

Contact: Lisa Killough
littlechamps@att.net,
 281-893-2062
 Lisa Killough—Director