

*"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

In Times Like These...
Part 2

Considering the current situation, particularly with the elections soon upon us, there are some other Christian responses to be made *In Times Like These.*

You might remember that last week I recommended that *In Times Like These*—difficult, trying, dangerous times—that we, as a people of God, fast and pray. Indeed, we should fast (remember Jesus said that his disciples would fast following His return to heaven, Matt. 9:15) and, of course, we should always be constant in prayer (1 Thess. 5:17).

Considering the current situation, particularly with the elections soon upon us, there are some other Christian responses to be made *In Times Like These.*

One response is to make sure we are informed of the issues. Some issues are Biblically neutral, opinions will and do differ on such matters and in the scheme of eternity, they don't amount to anything. Yet, there are other issues about which the Bible clearly speaks and stands. In those cases, we should use our rights as citizens to help our nation make choices that harmonize with God's Word. After all, we are clearly told *"righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people"* (Prov. 14:34).

Another Christian response is to have a specific focus in the general response of prayer. We should pray for the leaders of our nation, both current and future. Do we only pray for our leaders of our nation if they are the ones for whom we voted? If so, I challenge us to do some research on the types of rulers that Paul would have had under consideration when he penned these words of Holy Scripture, *"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior"* (1 Tim. 2:1-3).

A final Christian response that I would mention here is that we should remember that God is in control and that the Lord's church supersedes politics. There are Christians all over the world, in all kinds of political systems, yet we are to be united as one people. As Christians, our response must be that our priority is the kingdom of Heaven—indeed, that our *"citizenship is in heaven."* (Phil. 3:20)

Brethren, let's determine to respond as Christians, *In Times Like These!* —Larry Keele

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Family Matters

Good morning! I trust that today you are anxious to hear God's Word and to learn of ways that it can be applied to your life. I pray that the worship service today will be true to the Lord and His Word as well as uplifting. I hope that our visitors will not only complete the requested information in the notebook that will be passed down the aisles, but also that each one will join us later at the park. I encourage everyone to take advantage of the day—get out and enjoy God's beautiful world with God's people. We will be meeting at Spring Creek Park following our second morning service. There will be no 6 PM service today. It is good to be back with you after a little over two weeks in Slovakia. *Marvin Trice* was also able to go on this trip to visit *Jordan, Natalie and Adelaide Arnold* as well as *Roman and Johanna Halamicek*. While we were there to share the Good News with the lost, our intent was also to go and encourage the brethren in the church. Hopefully, this was accomplished, but perhaps *Marvin* and I were the biggest recipients. We were encouraged by the faith and steadfastness of many of the brethren there. The singing in each of the small congregations was outstanding. Both congregations have ways in which they are trying to reach out to the lost. We will give a further report on an upcoming Sunday evening. Thanks to all who encouraged us and made this trip possible!

PARTING THOUGHT: *Character is not made in a crisis, it is only exhibited then!*

HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!

Larry Keele

Reed All About It: I Went to Class

This past Sunday was unusually busy for me. I preached 3 sermons and did a memorial service. I was scheduled to teach the teen class too, but Reid graciously stepped in and taught for me. After the first service, I remembered that I did not need to teach a class and had an open hour before I preached again. I thought about finding a quiet place to review my sermon again but concluded no amount of additional review was going to help me at this point.

I made the decision to just have a seat in the auditorium class. It has been a long time since I have sat in on a Bible class, probably too long. My mind was whirling about what I could do different and better when preaching to the second service. Eventually I began to listen to the lesson being taught. Jay

Mahle was teaching the class on Acts. You know Jay is an excellent teacher. I found myself caught up in the points he was making from Acts. I came to the realization that Bible class is a really good thing. You might think this is strange coming from the guy who coordinates Bible classes. It seems that in the three years I have been on staff here, I have yet to attend a Bible Class. I think I need to go to more Bible classes.

What is the point of attending Bible class? We need to be fed the spiritual Word. True we can and should develop a personal study plan that includes reading and studying the Bible. We need to also sit at the feet of our really great Bible school teachers. Another person's study and perspective can add insights well beyond anything we

could discover with just personal Bible study.

There is always a discrepancy between the number of folks attending Bible class versus Worship Service. It seems like it is harder to make time for Bible class. Attending Bible class is an important element to developing our faith. There are few experiences more delightful than fellowshiping and studying God's Word with fellow Christians.

The good news about Bible class is that you can test drive it for a while with no risk. If you have not been attending Bible classes, I encourage you to start at the next opportunity. I guarantee your life will be blessed!
Blessings,
Alan

John's Jogs: Bible Basics #12

We can't leave the Kings without mentioning two prophets – **Elijah in I Kings and Elisha in II Kings**. Elijah had a constant battle with evil King Ahab and his more evil wife, Jezebel. His ultimate confrontation occurred with 400 Baal priests where they each built an altar and called on their gods to bring fire on their altar. Elijah's altar was burned and even consumed the water around it. II Kings reveals Elijah as an aged prophet turning the mantle over to Elisha and is then caught up in a fiery chariot. Elisha operated mightily for God in II Kings.

In closing out the Bible section of History, we turn to **Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther**. In the Days of Cyrus, King of Persia, he said, "**The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and He has appointed me to build a temple for Him at Jerusalem in Judea.**" Zerubabel led 42,360 plus 7,330 servants to return back to Jerusalem to build the temple that history refers to as Zerub-

babel's Temple. This group had been turned over to the Persians by the Babylonians. Years later Ezra as the priest led 1,754 back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple.

In the twentieth year of Artaxerxes, **Nehemiah** approached the king with a sad face. When the king asked why the sad face, Nehemiah responded that he had heard that his homeland lay in shambles. The king commissioned him as Governor to return with materials and funds to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. In the seventh month after the Israelites were settled in their towns, all the people assembled as one man in the square; Ezra the scribe read the Law of Moses which the Lord had commanded for instruction to the people and said to them all, "**This day is sacred to the Lord, do not mourn nor weep.**"

The book of Esther is simply the story of a beautiful young Jewish girl who under the guidance of her "father fig-

ure" uncle who raised her became the Queen of Persia and saved her people from the first attempt at eliminating all Jews. Evil Haman persuaded the king to give him permission to exterminate a people who were his enemies. Mordecai, Esther's uncle, discovered the plot and told Esther. She made her own plans and turned the tide on Haman. Where he built a scaffold to hang Mordecai, he was hanged on it himself. This event became the "Feast of Purim" and continues among Jews today. This took place in the same general time period as Ezra-Nehemiah.

This ends the "History Books" of the Bible. Next: Prophets

**In Search of the Lord's Way:
NOVEMBER LESSONS
NOV. 6: CITIZENSHIP AS CHRISTIANS
NOV. 13: STRONG FAITH
NOV. 20: TIME TO PRAY
NOV. 27: CONVERSION**

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

EVENTS AND NEWS



Park Schedule

Meal: 12:45

Devotional 1:45

TODAY IS OUR FRIEND DAY & PICNIC AT SPRING CREEK PARK

Please bring picnic type food to share.
Soft drinks and water will be provided.
Bring lawn chairs, sports equipment,
board games, bug spray!
Hope to see you there!

Church Calendar

October

- 23: Friend Day & Picnic-Spring Creek Park
- 24: Champions Softball vs. Spring Creek
- 29: Fall Festival/Trunk R Treat
- 30: Budget Kickoff Meeting
- 31: Champions Softball vs. 5th Ward

November

- 6: Mission Committee Meeting
- 8: Election Day (FC in use)
- 12 Shower Brunch for Baby Elliot



We extend our love and sympathy to **Carla, Jay, Amanda and Rebecca Mahle** and their family in the loss of Carla's father, **Robert Don Brooks**. His services were held on Friday at Jersey Village Church of Christ.



Reid & Natalie Stafford

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Houston, TX 77004
Reid Cell: 901-568-1002
mitchellreidstafford@gmail.com
Natalie Annelle Stafford
Natalie Cell: 713-449-3284
nheven@harding.edu
Reid DOB: 2/27
Natalie DOB: 12/13
Anniversary: 01/09/2016

Youth Calendar

October 2016

- 23: Friend Day & Picnic at Spring Creek Pk.
- 29: Fall Festival/Trunk R Treat

November

- 12-13: Area Wide Youth Retreat



My Dear Champions Family,
No force on earth is more powerful or effective than the power of prayer. My heartfelt thanks for all of your prayers to bring me through this surgery. I am blessed to be part of such a caring family of Christians.

In Him,
Patricia Pennington



Dear sweet Champions church of Christ Family,
We love each and everyone of you and appreciate all of your kind words, faithful prayers and continued kindness in the illness and loss of my sister.

In Christian Love,
Earlene and Lynn Antwine
P.S. We also appreciate all of the prayers and encouraging words through my and Lynn's illnesses.

Deacons Budget Kickoff Meeting

**Sunday, October 30th,
in Cutten Parkway House
Time: TBD**

Champions Softball Schedule

Date	7:00
10/24/16	Champions vs Spring Creek
10/31/16	Champions vs 5th Ward
11/7/16	Champions vs Bammel
11/14/16	Playoffs - Time TBD

Mission Committee

4:30 on November 6, 2016 at the
Cutten Parkway House

Sunday Morning Bible Hour

Ages 2 to Kindergarten

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

October

- 23: Wes & Christy Smith
- 30: Brent & Lisa Killough

Fall Festival/

Trunk-R-Treat 2016

October 29th @ 5pm

Hot Dogs, Chili and Pie Contests, Hay Ride, Face Painting, Games
Wear your favorite non-scary costume. We need volunteers to help with this event. Sign-up sheet is at the back of the Family Center auditorium in the sign-up box. Contact: Alan Reed or Paulette Brown

Cupcakes Needed for the Fall Festival/Trunk-R-Treat

Please sign the list in the back with the number of cupcakes you will bring.
Contact: Laura Mize

Brunch Honoring Baby Elliot

Newborn adopted son of
Ollie and Hanna Haavikko
Saturday, November 12th at 10:00 a.m.
Family Center

Houston Area Youth Group Fall Retreat

November 12-13th

Deadline to sign up is TODAY!

Parents, please register your kids online at "www.fallretreat.us".



“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 Tippet
- James Wyatt

Ministers:

- Larry Keele (Pulpit)
- Alan Reed (Associate)
- John Qualls (Associate)
- Reid Stafford (Youth)

PRAYERS & NOTES

Prayer Requests:

Carla, Jay, Amanda and Rebecca Mahle in the loss of Carla's dad, **Robert Don Brooks**.

Gerald Barclay is in Houston Northwest Hospital, room 370 N. Tower, recovering from foot surgery for an infection.

Donna Nance had a chest tab to drain fluid from her lung on Friday. This may become a needed procedure in future.

Pap Papillon is home recovering from brain surgery to remove a tumor.

Hank Sheppard is scheduled for an MRI of his heart to check for leakage from the valve.

Suzanne O'Connell is in the hospital for health issues.

Patricia Pennington is recovering from heart surgery.

Merri White is recovering from cataract surgery.

Mary Armstrong is recovering from a pelvic fracture.

Caella Chappell is taking hormone treatments for breast cancer.

Hanna Haavikko's mother is struggling with breathing issues.

Julia Shaw as she struggles with health issues.

Josie and Mil Biron for safe travel.

Christine Eubanks and family in the loss of her dad, **Pat McNulla**.

Otha Farmer, Parris Farmer's father, has been diagnosed with Autoimmune Senile Dementia.

Victor Slovacek, Allison Culpepper's younger brother, is recover-

ing from a broken neck, back and arm along with other injuries following his auto accident in Midland.

Susan Ellis is recovering from foot surgery.

Janet Maiers, Eddie's mother (Rachel Reed's boyfriend) is in room 59 at Villa Toscana.

Mike Maiers, Eddie's dad is at the Heart and Vascular Institute on Fannin, room 205. He is first on the list for a heart transplant.

Ella Gregory, friend of Rachel Reeds, was hit by a car.

Glenn Dixon continues to struggle with pain during his healing process.

Ruby Mayo, friend of Jackie Cuccerre, is scheduled for a second surgery on her spine following her auto accident.

Matt Nance, John and Donna's grandson, is scheduled to be released from the hospital to continue treatment at home.

Families Who Have Lost Loved Ones: Mahle, Gettings, Bounds, Eubanks

Champions Members Ongoing Concerns: Buina Collins, Faye Taylor, John Hixon, Jan Kelly, Keith and Linda Underwood, B.B. & Dorothy Snell, Crosby, White, Miracle

Family and Friends of Champions: Joe Zarata, Daryl Davis, Laurie Spears, Sheila Durham, Don Jackson, Frank Chappell, Sammy Kemp

Employment Concerns: Rudy Morris, Laura Martin

Cancer Concerns:

Don Freeman, Wayne Hemingway, Vannete Wirant, Whitney White, Jackie Stearsman, Ramoncito Jatico, Mary McCall Adamek, Laura Carroll, Colter Taylor, Bea Augustin, Jack Snyder, Rocky Harrell, Lawrence Smith, Sandra Underwood, Gary Brown, Nancy Miller, Pat Morrison, Sheila Durham, Michelle Davis, Ted Poe, Timo and Joma

Missionaries:

Dale DuVerney, Peter Chin, Eddie Cloer, Roman Halamicek, Eric Tan, Roland Moshen, Workers at Biblical Institute of Central America, Eastern European Mission, Jordan Arnold, Will Hanstein, Mario Saldana and Aaron Solis

Assisted Living/Rehab/ Nursing Homes:

John Qualls, Terri Bennett, Margurite Pennington, Juanita Cox, Julia Garcia, Nell McDonald, Gladys McHenry, Marie McCall, Jean Simpson, Doris Kiser, James Birdow, Charles Bowers

Prayers for Military:

Traveon Gaines, 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 Gillispie

Emmett's son's Address:

AB GAINES, TRAVEON M
321 TRS/FLT 711 (DORM 3DI)
1320 TRUEMPER ST. UNIT 369608
LACKLAND AFB, TX 78236-6432

Nursery Attendants

October 23: Rosie Martinez & Nadine Riley

October 30: Susan Frazier & Suzanne Phillips

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
10/16/2016**

Sunday Combined Services 375
Sunday Bible Class.....227
Sunday P.M.....163
Wednesday Night.....nc
Contribution..... 23,650.37
Weekly Budget20,470.50
YTD Contributions 830,134.71
YTD Budget 842,016.00
Over/(Under).....(11,881.29)

Service Times:

SUNDAY:
8:15 a.m. First Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Bible Class
10:30 a.m. Second Worship Service

SUNDAY NIGHT:
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:
LBC 9:45 a.m.
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Elder of the Month

October
Glenn Asher

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