

## THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

### Making God Pay... (Without Really Meaning To!)

When one does not make up his or her contribution missed by absence, in reality, a couple of things occur, even without the Christian necessarily being aware of it.

This article is not written to those who have not yet learned to give unto the Lord. Rather, it is written to those who not only know how to give, but are regular contributors. It is to that group who have “purposed in their heart” (2 Cor. 9:7) and who do “lay by in store” as they have prospered (1 Cor. 16:2), and give of their money to the Lord on His Day. These words are for those who, in perhaps every case, are “cheerful givers” (2 Cor. 9:7).

So...here goes.

I heard something the other day that startled me, although it did not surprise me. Let me explain.

What I heard was the amount of \$20,000—the total that we were under our weekly budget for 2016. What startled me was the fact that this deficit would have been equaled and eliminated if those who make it a practice to give regularly *when they are here*, had not forgotten or neglected to make up their contributions upon their return! Again, although the amount startled me, the fact of such a loss did not surprise me.

When one does not make up his or her contribution missed by absence, in reality, a couple of things occur, even without the Christian necessarily being aware of it.

1) It reduces the amount one has actually given from the amount he or she had determined or pledged to give each week. For instance, take the case of a Christian who had purposed to give to God \$100 per week but was out of town for holidays and vacations or ill for four Sundays during that year. By failing to make up the contributions missed, even though he or she would think “I give \$100 per week,” the actual contribution would be only \$92.31—between 7-8% less.

2) In reality, by not making up our contributions, for all practical purposes, God is made to pay, at least in part, for our trip or missed Sunday. No doubt, the faithful Christian did not have this in mind at all.

Neglecting or failing to make up our commitments and contributions when we are absent—indeed, this is a way of *Making God Pay... (Without Really Meaning To!)*

—Larry Keele

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### Family Matters

“I will tell of Thy name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise Thee.” (Psa. 22:22) Collectively, we will praise and magnify the wonderful name of our Lord and God together in our worship today. What an honor and blessing that is. It is also our honor to have our guests with us. Please fill out the visitor’s side of the notebook that will be passed around at the end of our services. We would love to have a record of your attendance with us! Please, come again!

Our prayers continue to be with Brian Riley as he requested our

prayers his behalf last Sunday. May the Lord’s bountiful blessings be upon our brother and grant him both grace and peace.

We have quite a number of our members missing from our services today as many of our teens and their sponsors have been attending a youth rally in Lewisville, Texas this weekend. They should be heading back after morning worship, so please, pray for their safe return home.

One of the things about buildings...whether new as our Family Center or remodeled and refurbished as our Worship and

Class building will be when finished, there are always those little things that break or go wrong. We are blessed that Barney Bowles has volunteered to help with these repairs where possible. What a blessing! Thanks, Barney (and Linda for sharing his time with us!)

*PARTING THOUGHT:*  
Give God what’s right...not what’s left!

HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!



## Worth the Reid: VBS—June 19th—23rd!

Well, it's almost that time of year again! Spring is nearly here, which means summer is not too far away! Along with summer comes one of my favorite events, VBS! Memory verses, snacks, the resulting messes from snacks, VBS songs, skits, and I've even heard rumors of a Mr. Bible! What's not to love?!

This year our theme for VBS is the Armor of God based off of Ephesians 6:13-18

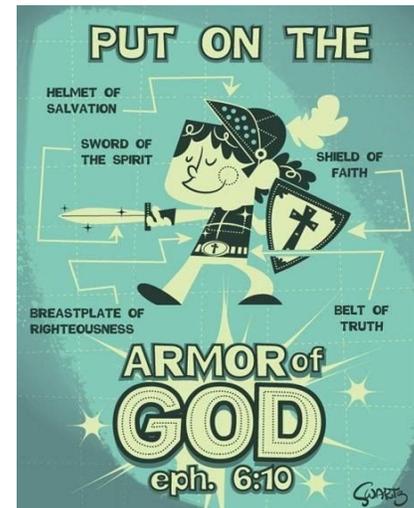
**<sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this,**

**take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**

**<sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.**

We will be taking a look at how each piece of armor is important in our lives as Christians. With each piece of armor will come a different theme for each day and with each theme will come different stories from the Bible! Just like raising a child, VBS will take a village! We want to make it great, which means we need lots of amazing volunteers, just like you! We need decorators (think medieval!), teachers, snack helpers, craft masters, group leaders, memory verse aficiona-

dos, and much, much, more! If you would like to make VBS great and volunteer please feel free to email me



## John's Jogs:

Having received the Commander's permission, Paul stood on the steps and motioned to the crowd. When they were silent, he said to them in Aramaic: **"Brothers, Fathers, listen now to my defense."** Paul speaks to the crowd. (Acts 21:40-22:21). When they heard him speak in Aramaic they became very quiet. When they were silent, he said to them: **"Brothers, fathers, listen now to my defense."**

**FIRST:** Paul said in his pre-Christian activity: **"I am a Jew born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city."** (Jerusalem). *Under Gamaliel I was thoroughly trained in the law of our fathers and was just as zealous for God as any of you are today. I persecuted the followers of this Way* (Christianity) to their death, arresting both men and women and throwing them into prison, as the high priest and Counsel can testify. I even obtained letters from them (high priest and

counsel) **to their brothers in Damascus, and went there to bring these people as prisoners to Jerusalem to be punished."** **THEN:** he turns his conversation (vs. 6-16): **"About noon I came near Damascus, suddenly a bright light from heaven flashed around me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice say to me, 'Saul! Saul! Why do you persecute me?' 'Who are you, Lord?' I asked. "'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting,' he replied."** My companions saw the light, but they did not understand the voice of him who was speaking to me. "What shall I do, Lord?" I asked. **"Get up, the Lord said, and go into Damascus. There you will be told all that you have been assigned to do."** My companions led me by the hand into Damascus, because the brilliance of the light had blinded me.

**A MAN NAMED ANANIAS** came to me. He was a devout observer of the law and

highly respected by all the Jews living there. He stood beside me and said, **'Brother Saul, received your sight!'** And at that very moment I was able to see him. "Then he said, **'The God of our fathers has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and hear words from his mouth. You will be his witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.'** Remember in Chapter 9, the first account of his conversion? Paul asked the same questions, **what must I do,** and received the same answer, **be baptized.** In Acts 2 and in Acts 10, by Cornelius, in chapter 16, by the jailer and here in chapter 22, by Paul, the same question is asked, **"what must I do"** and in every incident **the one and only thing they are ever told to do is that they must be baptized.**

## Adult Bible Classes This Quarter:

### SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

Glenn Asher—Auditorium—Holy Spirit  
David Arnold—FC CR2—Sermon on the Mount  
Don Sammons—Families—ACTS  
FC CR5  
Bryan Runions—Young Single Adults CPH4  
Chris Ball—College Age—CPH2

### WEDNESDAY 7:00 P.M.

Larry Wilson—Genesis—FC Auditorium  
Wes Arnold—Above All Things FC-CR2  
Chris George—College Age—CPH2  
CPH—Cutten Parkway House  
FC—Family Center

# THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

## EVENTS AND NEWS

### Friday Morning Fellowship February 24th at 9:00 a.m.

Everyone (all ages) is invited to the Friday Morning Fellowship on February 24th at 9:00 a.m. in the Family Center. There will be coffee and snacks with a short lesson and an opportunity for fellowship. Remember, this Fellowship is for all ages! Please take the opportunity to invite and bring friends, neighbors and anyone that would enjoy a time of Bible study and fellowship. Don Sammons will lead the FMF. Refreshments will be provided.

### TEACHER BANQUET SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH SIGN-UP TODAY!

A sign-up list is posted in the back of the Family Center for anyone who has taught the Bible in any way during 2016, ie, Bible Classes, WBS, MDO, One on One, etc. Please sign up today as we need a head count by TODAY!



Thank you for the love and encouragement at the passing of my mother, Rosa Collins. Your prayers are a comfort to our family.  
Dennis, Buina and Kay Collins



Dear Champions Family,  
We would like to thank each of you for the love and concern shown to us by your prayers, visits, telephone calls, emails and the food you brought to us during my recent illness. I am better, but still have a ways to go.

In Christian Love,  
Dale and Sharon DeCarlo



Dear Champions,  
Thank you for the cards received during my recovery.

Rose Delay

### Bridal Shower Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 p.m.

#### In the Family Center

All ladies are invited to a Bridal Shower honoring *Keely Gibson*, bride-elect of *Ritchie Biggs*. They are registered at *Bed Bath and Beyond* and *Target*. (Ritchie's registered name is listed as *Craig Biggs* at *BB&B*).



Dear Champions Family,  
Thank you so much for your prayers and concern during Mollie's illness. It was a comfort to see so many of our Champions friends at the funeral service. We appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending the beautiful plant to the service. Thank you!

In Christian Love,  
The Jacksons, Couches, Holts, and  
Waits families

### Special Opportunity For Champions

It's not too late to help with the unexpected expenses for the building remodel. For additional information or questions, please contact one of Champions' elders. Any added donations will be appreciated.

### Church Calendar

#### February

20: Office Closed  
21: Eastern European Mission Dinner  
24: Friday Morning Fellowship  
26: Bridal Shower—Keely Gibson

#### March

4: Teacher Banquet  
14: Sunny Glen Food Truck

### Youth Calendar

#### February

19: T3 Commission (8th Grade and Up)  
26: Youth Dinner & Devo

### Sunday Morning Bible Hour Ages 2 to Kindergarten

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

February 19: Justin and Julia Sammons  
February 26: Wes and Christy Smith

### 2017 Eastern European Mission (EEM) Event February 21, 2017

7:00 pm

#### Klein Multipurpose Center

7500 FM 2920

Sign up at [eem.org/events](http://eem.org/events) or call 800-486-1818. Contact Troy Thompson

### Sunny Glen Children's Home Truck coming March 14<sup>th</sup>

Supplies Needed: Salsa/Picante and Chili  
Please place your items on the shelves by the back door which faces the Cutten Parkway House.

### League City Church of Christ Gospel Meeting

Christ, Culture, and the Church  
March 5-8, 2017

Tyler Young, Guest Speaker



*"A Place to Belong."*

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

[www.championschurch.org](http://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
- Eltonio (Tony) Brown
- Darrell Fariss
- Jay Fraley
- Tommy Hill
- Joe Jackson
- Charles Joachim
- Brent Killough
- Blake Phillips
- Kent Phillips
- Bryan Runions
- Justin Sammons
- Hank Sheppard
- Joel Smith
- Wes Smith
- Paul Tews
- Troy Thompson
- Billy Tippit
- James Wyatt

**Ministers:**

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

**PRAYERS & NOTES**

**Prayer Requests:**

**Karen Watson** is home recovering from surgery. The pathology report will be back tomorrow.

**Linda Rickman** is home recovering from surgery.

**Harold Lawrence** is in Kindred Hospital, 205 Hollow Tree Ln, Houston, TX 77090, room 107. Visitors are welcome!

**Stephanie O'Brien** continues her struggle with vertigo and other health issues. She has been referred to TIRRS for treatment.

**Gregg Chappell, Sr.** continues radiation treatments daily. A sign up list for week three is available in the Family Center.

**Brittany Rackley**, Paul and Cheryl Chandler's daughter, is recovering from a double mastectomy. Cards may be sent to: 16807 Bar Harbor Bend, Round Rock, TX 78681.

**Rachel Reed** is recovering from a recent procedure. Please pray for her healing and comfort.

**Kylie Friesen**, Melba McKee's granddaughter, has been diagnosed with Graves' disease.

**Julia Lopez**, Art's mom, as she had a biopsy. She had previously had cancer and doc-

tor is concerned it has come back.

**The Sizemore family**, Jeff and Rebecca Johnson's friends, lost their home in a fire.

**David Marquez**, friend of Darlene Ewell, has stage 4 pancreatic cancer. His mother-in-law, **Frieda Ishee** is recovering from surgery.

**Jean Taylor**, June Freeman's sister, is recovering from surgery.

**Teddy**, Everlina Jones' brother, is suffering with back pain.

**Champions Members Ongoing Concerns:**

Wynon Ballard, Sharon DeCarlo, Gwen Crosby, Jeff Bolin, Wayne Hemingway, Lois Boyd, Mary White, Madalynn Irby, Paulette Brown, Jan Eley, Rose Delay, Donna Nance, Sue Trice, Sally Enders, Fay Stephens, Glenn Dixon, Stephanie O'Brien, Jan Kelly, Keith and Linda Underwood, B.B. & Dorothy Snell

**Hospice:** Pap Papillon

**Family and Friends Ongoing Concerns:** Evelyn Keefer, Halle Kate Spivey, Zion Jones

**Cancer Concerns:**

Karen Watson, Gregg Chappell, Caella Chappell, Wayne Hemingway, Colter Taylor, Bea Augustin, Rocky Harrell, Lawrece Smith, Gary Brown, Pat Morrison, Ted Poe, Frieda Ishee, Joyce Kidwell-Stearsman, Austin Keefer

**Missionaries:**

Dale DuVerney, Peter Chin, Eddie Cloer, Roman Halamiczek, 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:**

James Birdow, John Qualls, Terri Bennett, Margurite Pennington, Juanita Cox, Julia Garcia, Nell McDonald, Marie McCall, Jean Simpson, Bernice Ponder

**Prayers for Military:**

Brent Tyler Bowles, 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

**Employment Concerns:** Marc Culpepper, Martyn Shuttleworth, Gene McKain, Patricia Pennington, Bill Hicks, Rudy Morris, David Kuehl, John Kirshy

**Nursery Attendants**

**February 19: Susan Sammons & Sarah Kinsey**

**February 26: Jenna Asher & Janet Keele**

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  
2/12/2017**

Sunday Combined Services...	375
Sunday Bible Class.....	261
Sunday Night .....	168
Wednesday Night.....	170
Contribution.....	23,513.15
Weekly Budget.....	20,057.69
YTD Contributions...	141,760.26
YTD Budget .....	140,403.83
Over/(Under).....	1,356.43

**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:**  
Ladies Bible Class (LBC) 9:45 a.m.  
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

**Elder of the Month**

**February**

Britt Jones

**Food Coordinator**

Check with your Family Circle Leaders

**Church Wi-Fi Password**

churchguest

**Little Champs:**

**Mothers Day Out**

Contact: Lisa Killough  
littlechamps@att.net

**281-893-2062**

Lisa Killough—Director