

THE MINUTE MESSENGER

July 15, 2008 Volume 44, Number 29

DEVELOPING INTIMACY WITH GOD!

Third Key

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts. Ps 51:6

Last week I said the second key to developing intimacy with God is through 'spontaneous' meditation of his word. Meditation is simply *focused thinking about what God says in his word. Worry is negative meditation on what the world thinks.* Paul writes: Do not conform any longer to the *pattern of this world*, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. **Rom 12:2** As we meditate on Gods word we will be blessed if we do what it says. **James 1:25** The third key to developing intimacy with God *is to be truthful with God.* Lying is a common sin. Groucho Marx said, "There is one way to find out if a man is honest, ask him. If he says yes, you know he is crooked." God wants all of us to reach a point in our relationship with him that 'spontaneously' tells the truth. The truth is, that most people in our world today will lie at least one or two times a day? Allen Webster wrote a little piece called the 'lying tongue.' He said college students lie in 50% of their conversations with their mothers. Ninety five percent of college students that were surveyed said they would be willing to lie on a resume in order to secure a job. Many young people today lie to themselves and others in order to maintain a relationship with another person? In order for all of us to develop a deeper relationship with God, we need to take this third key and unlock the door to our prayer closet and have a heart to heart talk with God. Tell God how you really feel and pour your true heart out to him. We need to ask God to help us

to be spontaneously truthful with him and others at **all times.** You and I know that is easier said than done. We also know that a man reaps what he sows. No man can pull the wool over Gods eyes. God will ask, does he who implanted the ear not hear? Does he who formed the eye not see? **Ps 94:9** King David says, O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a **word** is on my tongue **you know it** completely, O LORD. **Ps 139:1-4** Gods shoulders are wide enough to handle all of our true feelings, our complaints, our doubts and our fears. It's nothing new for men to question God. Men like Abraham, David, Jeremiah, Job, all second guessed God on something they could not understand in their lives. Just like a true gentleman, God graciously allowed Abraham to vent his true feelings about his decision to destroy Sodom and Gomorra. Abraham approached him and said: Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? What if only ten can be found there?" He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it. It is apparent that Abraham was struggling with how God did certain things. **Gen 18:23f** Isn't it encouraging for us to realize that the "great men" of the bible had doubts and fears? In order to continue to develop intimacy and friendship with God and others we must begin today by being truthful with God and others. May God give us the strength and courage to make those needed changes. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in *truth.* **Ps 145:18**

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The **difference...**
Is **CHRIST** in me!
Colossians 1:27

We are looking for others
who will...
Become Part of the Family

COMING UP

- | | |
|------------|---|
| July 15 | Ladies Bible Class @ 7:00 pm |
| July 16 | Middle School Parent Meeting |
| July 19 | Watson-Wyszynski Shower High School Progressive Dinner |
| July 22 | Visitation Meeting @1:00 Ladies Bible Class @ 7:00 pm |
| July 25-26 | Middle School Mystery Trip |
| July 27 | Fourth Sunday Fellowship and 1:00 Service |
| July 29 | Ladies Bible Class @ 7:00 pm |
| Aug. 3 | Benevolence Pick-Up Care and Share |
| Aug. 5 | Ladies Bible Class @ 7:00 pm |

“JUDGE NOT”

“Judge not lest you be judged,” I believe that this verse is the most often quoted Biblical text today (yes, even quoted more often than Jn. 3:16). It is well known, but misunderstood. It is used by non-Christians and Christians alike. Non-Christians use it (even though they do not know where it is in the Bible) to tell the Christian that there is no place for “judging” one’s actions or speech. Christians use it in very similar ways to non-Christians.

The Greek word for “judge” is κρινο. The semantic range for the meaning of κρινο includes: discern, judge, be judgmental, prefer, and condemn. It basically means to “form an opinion” (Lk. 7:43), but the most frequent NT usage of κρινο describes the passing of a sentence (Mt. 5:40; Jn. 5:22, 30). The context of the passage that one finds κρινο in, determines the meaning of the word.

The passage that “judge not lest you be judged” comes from is Matthew 7:1-5. In this passage, the meaning of “judge” is to not be negatively judgmental. The idea is that one needs to be consistent with the standard that one uses on others as well as on oneself. Luke’s parallel to this statement in Matthew makes “judging the opposite of “being merciful” (see Lk. 6:36-37). This is also similar to what James wrote about showing preference to people (Jam. 2:4).

It should be clear, for several reasons, from this passage that Jesus is not forbidding all “judgment.” First, it is virtually impossible not to form an opinion about something. “Judge not” does not mean “do not think.” Christians are not called to be undiscerning blobs (see Phil. 1:9; Heb. 5:14). After all, Christians are remade in the image of God (2 Cor. 3:18; 4:4; 5:17; Col. 3:10) and God makes distinctions (Ex. 9:4; 11:7; Lev. 10:10). Jesus teaches us to use our ability to critically discern things, see Jn. 7:24 (this is not “being critical” in the negative sense).

Second, the passage in Matthew actually assumes that judgment will take place. When the “log” is removed, then the “speck” can be removed (Mt. 7:5). This passage does not teach one to remove the log and forget about the speck in the brother’s eye any more than it teaches one to try to remove the speck while keeping the log. Once the Christian has dealt with his own “eye trouble,” then he can see clearly and is in a position to deal with the “eye trouble” of his Christian brother. In fact, since a speck does not belong in the eye, to leave it there and not attempt to remove it is to not show brotherly love.

Third, the commands and principles taught in God’s Word are to be taught and upheld. We are to judge righteous judgment (Jn. 7:24). We are to recognize false teachers (Mt. 7:15; 1 Jn. 4:1) and false gospels (Gal. 1:6-9). The standard of judgment is God’s Word (Jn. 12:48). Maybe, if we had a greater desire to discern good and evil based on God’s Word, there would be less labeling of “conservative” and “liberal.” My deep desire is to be Biblical! This will only take place as our senses are trained by the practice of God’s Word.

-borrowed

**PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
SUNDAY, July 20, 2008**

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Announcements: | Grady Simmons |
| First Prayer: | Eric Clark |
| Closing Prayer: | Deryl Clevenger |
| Communion Scripture Reading: | J. W. Hamby |
| Sermon Scripture Reading: | Garth Hughes |
| Lord's Table: | Charles Massie |
| | Jason Miller |
| | Alan Monroe |
| | Tanner Monroe |
| | Tyler Monroe |
| | Buster Nicholas |
| | Clint Patterson |
| | |
| Evening Opening Prayer: | Larry Golden |
| Evening Closing Prayer: | John McGavock |
| Westridge: | Stan Branam |
| Prairie House: | Mark James |
| Communion To Shut-Ins | Grady & Tucker Simmons |
| Jail: 7/22 | J. W. Hamby |
| Sound Board: 7/20 & 7/23 | Brent Wells |
| Computer: 7/20 & 7/23 | Scott Snipes |

July -2008

Nursery Workers: Debbie Hearn
Kitchen: Bertha Gambrell and Jennifer Havens
Daily Bread: Christi Byrd and Shonda Ross

ATTENDANCE BAROMETER

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|-------------------|------------|
| Lord's Day | 07/13/08 |
| Bible Study | 138 |
| Sunday Morning | 274 |
| Sunday Evening | 159 |
| Wednesday Evening | 108 |
| Contribution | \$9,019.00 |

WEDNESDAY LUNCHEONS-July

Men- Rock'N R Steakhouse
 Ladies - Little Mexico



Bryan Curry
 Lisa Deweber, Jacksboro, Texas
 Weldon and Helen Hayes, Childress, Texas
 Hank Hayes Family, Sulphur Springs, Texas
 Kaylie D. James, Canyon, Texas
 John and Linda McCourt, Havana, Arkansas
 John Hays, Dumas, Texas

Mission Statement

We the family of Garland Street Church of Christ,
 with the Bible as our guide and Jesus as our savior will look:
 Upward to glorify, praise and honor God;
 Outward to seek, convert and reach the lost;
 Inward to serve, equip and love one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST THURSDAY
 MORNINGS AT 7:00 a.m.**

Summer Tuesday Night Ladies Bible Class
 will meet Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the
 Parlor.

**Elders' Meeting Tuesday, July 27 following
 our 1:00 service.**

**Fourth Sunday Fellowship Meal and 1:00
 service will be Sunday, July 27. Please make
 plans to attend.** Weldon Melton, Neal Becker
 and Bobby Byrd are the elder and deacons in
 charge. We need about eight people to help set
 and eight help to help clean. There is a sign up
 sheet on the table in the foyer.

New directories: We are making preparations
 to finalize our new pictorial directories. Please
 make sure your address and telephone
 information are up to date (per the last directory)
 and submit any necessary corrections.

**HELP NEEDED: We need two people to
 cover the nursery on Sunday morning during
 worship for the month of August.**

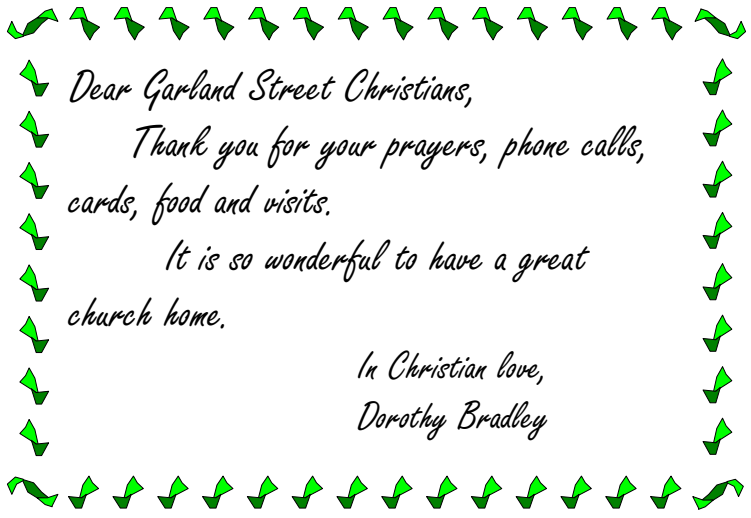
**A new Ladies visitation program to visit shut-
 ins is being organized.** Those interested please
 meet in the Library Tuesday, July 22 at 1:00 p.m.
 for discussion. Martha Pitts and Crystal
 Dominguez.

Youth News

The High School Progressive Dinner will be
 on Saturday, July 19 starting at 5:30 p.m.
 Please sign up in the H.S. room by July 16.
 Friends are welcome.

The Middle School Mystery Trip will be July
 25-26. A short informational parent meeting is
 scheduled for Wednesday, July 16 following
 evening services. You must sign up by Sunday,
 July 20.

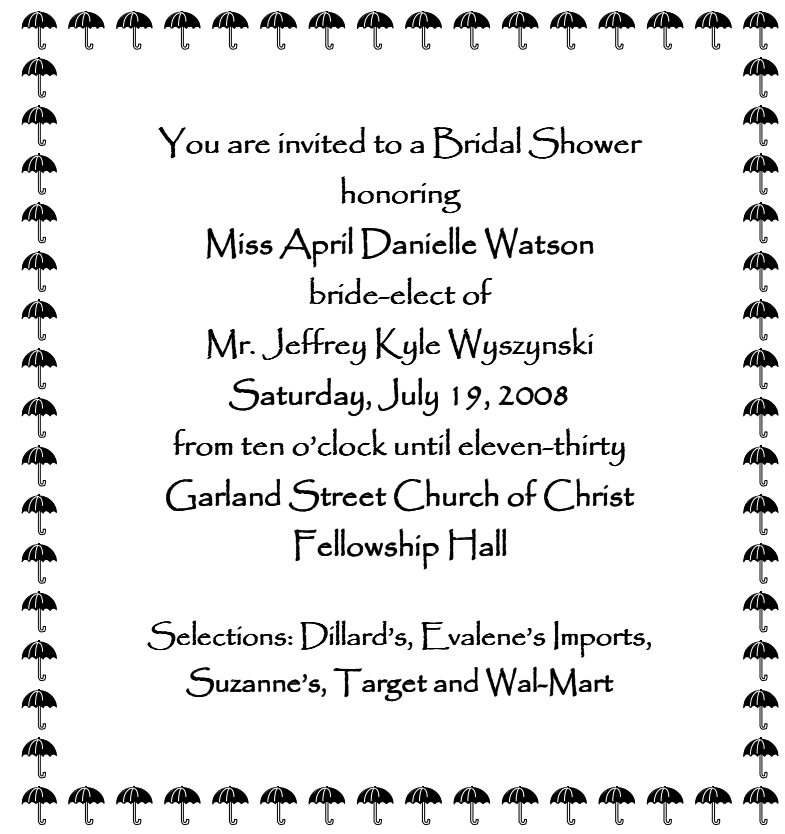
**Thank you to all those who are participating
 in Christmas in July!**



Dear Garland Street Christians,
 Thank you for your prayers, phone calls,
 cards, food and visits.

It is so wonderful to have a great
 church home.

In Christian love,
 Dorothy Bradley



You are invited to a Bridal Shower
 honoring
 Miss April Danielle Watson
 bride-elect of
 Mr. Jeffrey Kyle Wyszynski
 Saturday, July 19, 2008
 from ten o'clock until eleven-thirty
 Garland Street Church of Christ
 Fellowship Hall

Selections: Dillard's, Evalene's Imports,
 Suzanne's, Target and Wal-Mart

IN OUR PRAYERS

The Plank family, Bobby Griffin, Judy Chambliss, Bobbie Rawdon, Evan Free, Micah Mull, Cynthia Pinnell, Marge Gowan, Phil Wyszynski, Charlie Mickey, Todd & Connie Blevins, Janis Horton, The Alex Dominguez family, Roberta Turner, Gary Alexander, Dub Mercer, Baylee Banning, Bill & Tweet Moore, Cleo Crutchfield, Harlan Dizmang, Dorothy Bradley, Raul Camacho, Jackson Calhoun, Cindy Valentine, Billy Clay, Ben and Betty Foster, Maylene Mickey, Mattie Lou Ellis, Carla Calhoun, Danna Lamb, Doris Hearn, Opal Yarborough, Jerry Settle, Wanda Wallace, Kay Powell, Opal Barnes, Linda Wilson, Cleo Crutchfield, Sonny Sherrock, Doyce Watson, Gene Watson, Kenneth Sjogren, Jim Adams, Beverly Kimbrough, Wesley Everidge, Paul Godman, Cindy Kirby, JoAnn Underwood, Christen Driver, Lou Ann Lopez, Belinda Spencer, Cory Crump and Our Soldiers.

ABOUT OUR FAMILY

Lorane Meriwether's son-in-law, **Kevin Pratt**, passed away Saturday, July 5. His graveside services were Friday, July 11 in Littlefield. Jay William Plank's four month old daughter, **Raely Plank** died Tuesday, July 8 in Anson. She was the granddaughter of Katrina (Hamby) Plank, Great-granddaughter of J. W. Hamby and great niece of Larry Hamby, Jill Freeman and Jan Newman. Please keep the family in your prayers as they cope with this loss. **Judy Chambliss** had a kidney biopsy Wednesday, July 9. Becky Watson's brother-in-law, **Gene Watson** will have surgery Thursday to remove polyps in his large intestines. Dale Mickey's son, **Charlie Mickey** is taking chemo for the spots on his lungs. Please keep him in your prayers. **Dan Davis** is having problems with his neck. He is going to the VA hospital in Lubbock.

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| ELDERS: Neil Billingsley Weldon Melton | Deryl Clevenger Steve Stokes | Rob Lindsey | POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE MINUTE MESSENGER, 700 Garland Street, Plainview, TX 79072 |
| DEACONS: Gary Alexander Jimmy Barnes Bobby Byrd Gary Miller Mark True Brent Wells | Mike Allison Neal Becker Scott Clevenger Grady Simmons Terry Underwood | | Periodicals Postage Paid: Post Office in Plainview, TX 79072. |
| SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: Sunday: Bible Study 9:30 a.m. and Worship 10:30 a. m. and 6:00 p.m. Wednesday: Bible Study 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. | | | |
| World Wide Web Home Page: www.gscoc.net | | | |
| OFFICE: 296-2708 fax: 296-2855 e-mail: gscoc@texasonline.net | | | |
| MINISTER: Anthony Dominguez home: 296-5744 cell: 292-2678 | | | |
| YOUTH MINISTERS: Eric Clark cell: 584-4273 Clint Patterson: 839-2629 youth@gscoc.net | | | |
| ELDER OF THE MONTH: Deryl Clevenger | | | |
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