

THE MINUTE MESSENGER

May 4, 2010 Volume 46, Number 18

What is the goal of Christianity? I mean, what is the goal of the individual Christian? Is it heaven?

I know that heaven is our goal yet, our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20). So, in a sense, it is our possession and therefore can not be our goal.

So, what is our goal?

I believe that the real goal of the individual Christian is "Christ-likeness." Notice the passages that follow.

"My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you," (Galatians 4:19, NIV)

"It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-13, NIV)

"We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me." (Colossians 1:28-29, NIV)

Our goal should not be that of a destination as much as a transformation. If we are seeking to be Christ-like in our lives, the destination will take care of itself.

I think many Christians wonder if they have done enough to inherit heaven. Forgiveness, salvation and our eternal destiny have all been given to us as gifts. There is no way we could earn or merit any one of them.

A Christian who recognizes that he has been given these things is in the perfect position to seek maturity. We need to look ever more like our

savior. Not in an effort to achieve a reward but, in thanks to God for his grace.

It is interesting that God made man in His own image (Genesis 1:26). Sin distorted that image. Jesus is said to be the exact image of God.

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven." (Hebrews 1:3, NIV)

"The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." (2 Corinthians 4:4, NIV)

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation." (Colossians 1:15, NIV)

So then, as we become more Christ-like, we become more like the image of God he intended for us to be from the beginning.

We are active in this transformation as well as being passive in it. What do I mean?

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:2, NIV)

We actively chose to become conformed to the pattern of this world. Yet we are called to be transformed by God into His image. He is the source of transformation. Yet, we must stop conforming ourselves to the pattern or image of this world in order for that to happen.

What is your goal as a Christian? I hope we have many goals as Christians. Yet, our primary goal should be to look like our Lord. Are you beginning to look more like Jesus? Russell Harris— 4-22-2007

GARLAND STREET CHURCH of CHRIST

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Plainview, Texas 79072

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www.gscoc.net

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

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

COMING UP

- | | |
|---------|--|
| May 8 | Romero-Watson Shower |
| May 9 | J W Hamby's Life Group
Care and Share
Mother's Day |
| May 16 | H. S. Senior Recognition
Small Groups |
| May 19 | Ladies' Bible Class Brunch/
Cookies for Three Bears |
| May 20 | Three Bears Program
& Graduation at 10:30 A.M. |
| May 21 | Hilltoppers: Mystery Trip |
| May 30 | Fifth Sunday |
| June 5 | Miller-Stewart Shower
Austin Heights Ladies' Day |
| June 6 | Benevolence Pick Up |
| June 12 | Durham-Sheets Shower
Romero-Watson Wedding |

Please Pray For the Home

Today the sanctity of the home is not even a consideration of most. One of Jesus' main purposes was to exalt and to protect the home - not to destroy it. Many today claim that if the plain teaching of the Bible on divorce and re-marriage was preached and enforced, it would destroy the home. But we know the truth of the matter is: the teaching of the Scriptures is absolutely necessary in order to protect the home.

The origin of marriage is from God (**Gen. 2:18-25**). *God made them male and female, to cleave to each other, as long as they live, not divorce!* The law of Moses concerning divorce is given in **Deuteronomy 24:1-4**, to try to put legislation on divorce. Men were putting away their wives for every cause. Jesus teaches about marriage and divorce in **Matthew 19:1-9**, and refers back to the beginning; *"from the beginning it (divorce) was not so."* **Malachi 2:10-16** says that God hates divorce!

It always seems to be the tendency of man to rebel against God by rejecting His instructions. Divorce is destroying the home, the nation, and the church. The only way to uphold the sanctity of the home as God intended for it to be, is to follow His instructions. God intended for the home to be one man for one woman for LIFE! The one exception short of death is fornication (**Matthew 19:9**).

I pray that we are teaching our young people what the Bible says on this vital subject, so the home can once again be as God intended for it to be.

BULLETIN DIGEST
844 Pine Street
Abilene, TX 79601

Eastside Church of Christ
Tommy Stacks

**PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2010**

Song Leader:	Jimmy Holmes
Announcements:	Scott Clevenger
First Prayer:	Mike McDonough
Closing Prayer:	John McGavock
Communion Scripture Reading:	Bobby Byrd
Lord's Table:	Scott Harmon
	Kim Hays
	Rodney Hearn
	Kenneth Hooper
	Mark James
	Lonnie Jones
	Brandon Joy
	Nathan Leyendecker
Evening Opening Prayer:	Weldon Melton
Evening Closing Prayer:	Gary Miller
Westridge:	Ron Gammage
Prairie House:	Lonnie Jones
Communion To Shut-Ins	Jim & Bertha Gambrell
Jail: 05/11	J W Hamby
Sound Board:	Bobby Ross
NLB Teachers: Fri. 5-07:	Brandon Joy & Larry Golden
Wed. 05/12:	John Peck & Mark True

MAY-2010

Nursery Workers: Pam Hamby and Debbie Hearn
Kitchen: Doris Billingsley and Evelyn Lindsey
Daily Bread: Dana Joy and Rita Holmes

ATTENDANCE BAROMETER

Lord's Day	05/02/10
Bible Study	168
Sunday Morning	280
Sunday Evening	171
Wednesday Evening	94
Contribution	\$8,508.17

WEDNESDAY LUNCHEONS-MAY

Men----- Old Mexico
 Ladies ----- The Field House

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

Wednesday night meal: chicken casserole, salad, french bread and dessert.

J W Hamby's Life Group will meet Sunday, May 9.

Care and Share will meet Sunday, May 9 following evening services.

NICARAGUA SMILE BOXES: We will be taking up hand soap and hand sanitizers for the month of May. Bring soap-sanitizers and put them in the box in the foyer.

Graduates it is time to get your pictures into the office. IF YOU WANT YOUR PICTURE IN ON THE SENIOR PAGE IN THE BULLETIN YOU MUST TURN IT IN THURSDAY. Make sure to turn in your college plans, scholarships and awards into the office by Wednesday, May 12.

Sunday, May 9 the Revelation study in the Adult 3 Bible Class begins at Revelation 7:9.

We need cookies for Three Bears Program.

Please sign the sheet in the foyer if you would like to bring cookies. You will need to bring them Wednesday night May, 19.

RELAY FOR LIFE: If you would like to donate to Relay for Life you may make you checks payable to Relay for Life and give them to Lori Wells no later than Sunday, May 9.

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS BRUNCH

The last meeting of Ladies class before summer break will be a bunch in the fellowship room on Wednesday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Marty Groves (former member of Garland Street), from Idalou, will be the speaker. All ladies are invited.

I just wanted to let you all know how much the family of Janis Horton appreciated your hospitality at this time of loss. I know that Janis loved you all just like family. Thank you for helping us through this difficult time.
 Janis Horton Family

Please join us for a wedding shower

honoring

Miss Augusta Romero

bride-elect of Mr. Tye Watson

Saturday, May 8

from 10:00 until 11:30

7301 Olton Road,

Plainview, Texas

Selections: Evalene's Imports and Wal-Mart

In Our Prayers

Raymon Hackett, Martha Pitts, Dorothy Bradley, Raul Camacho, Donna Baker, Ashley Karlin, Sharon Jones, Addison Kelsey, Charlie Cook, Loreta McBee, Mattie Lou Ellis, Ben & Betty Foster, Vicky Rodriguez, Linda Wilson, Joann Underwood, Manuela Ayala, Jane Bynum, Katie Whiston, Bobby Jones, Dorothy Mitchell, Cindy Valentine, Louise McDaniel, Mike Deso, Margarita Castaneda, Doris Hearn, Porshea Ellis, Charles Ryser, Estelle South, Jim South, Morris Driver, Dr. Randy Lee, Roberta Turner, Bobby Griffin, Terry Underwood, Harlan Dizmag, Tommy Sherman, Lisa Haynes, Janie Lopez, The Alexander Family, Ann Lyles, Charlie Mickey, Bob Barnett, Judy Chambliss, Dub Mercer, Tweet Moore, Cleo Crutchfield, Jim Adams, Beverly Kimbrough, Wesley Everidge, Billie Goree, Sherry Adams, Carolyn Johnson, Our Soldiers

ABOUT OUR FAMILY

Raymon Hackett had surgery Thursday at Lakeside Covenant in Lubbock. The surgery went well and he is home.

Lena Margaret Block went home Monday. She had surgery Thursday to remove a stone from a gland in her neck.

Vada Mast's sister-in-law, **Marilyn Bullock** passed away Sunday. Her services will be Saturday in Kit Carson, Colorado.

Please keep former members, **Paul and Mary Frisbie** in your prayers. **Eula Warren** fell Tuesday, April 27 and broke her hip. She is at Prairie House.

Glenn and Beverly McDonald's son-in-law, **Mike Deso** surgery went very well.

Inez Sooter's brother-in-law, **Bobby Jones** is back in ICU at UMC. His kidney has shut down. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

Becky Watson's great niece, **Ashley Karlin** is doing better. They have decided she had e-coli and her kidneys should heal over the next few months. They will treat the high blood pressure with medication.

Small Groups—May 16

Group 1-L. Hamby— ___ at the Hamby's 1741 FM 788

Group 2-Stokes-Miller-5:00 at the Stark's home-1202 Floydada

Group 3-Byrd & Ross— 5:00 at Kidsville (BROWN BAG)

Group 4-Becker & Wells—5:00 at Joan Deisher's home-505 Holliday

Group 5-Billingsley & J W Hamby at ___ at J W Hamby's home-1305 Zephyr

Group 6-Lindsey & Freeman

Group 7-Melton & True

Group 8-Harmon & Settle

Group 9-Allison & Glenn

Group 10-Joy & Patterson's at 5:30 at the Mathis' home— 391 FM 2301 Lockney, Texas

Those not in a Small Group will meet at 6:00 at the building for services

PLEASE TURN YOUR TIME AND MEETING PLACE INTO THE OFFICE

ELDERS: Mike Allison Neal Becker Neil Billingsley
Rob Lindsey Weldon Melton Steve Stokes

DEACONS: Jimmy Barnes Bobby Byrd Scott Clevenger
Brandon Joy Scott Harmon John McGavock
Gary Miller Clint Patterson Mark True
Brent Wells

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

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MINISTER:

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Rob Lindsey

DEACON OF THE MONTH: Bobby Byrd

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