

# PARK HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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## A Word Or Two (or three) From Wally

I have been asking God for opportunities to represent Him with those who may not know Him. You wouldn't believe the opportunities that have arisen. Out of the blue people are appearing.

I received a phone call from someone who said I had married her and his wife 9 years ago and wondered if I would do some counseling. I didn't remember them, but they said they would come Sunday for church and we would meet.

They showed up after church, said they had made a mistake, and went to the church that had married them (Unity church, which is a cult), and then came to talk to me. I said I'd counsel them and they bought a book from the bookstore to read and I will meet them again next week. They don't go to church and I don't know where they stand with Christ.

Mary Bradley asked if I would help with the funeral of her neighbor. Her friend said she was afraid of dying and would I go and see her in the hospital. I told her that Jesus loved her and if she was not sure of her eternal destination, if she asked the Lord to forgive her and accept Jesus death on the cross for the payment for her sin, God would forgive her. Although she could hear, she could not respond, so I prayed for her and let her ask the Lord to forgive her and come into her life. Only God knows what happened.

She died this past week and I conducted her funeral on Friday. I was able to share the truths of the gospel with her friends. I could have been "too tired" or "too busy" to go up to the hospital, and I would not have been there in Jesus' name. I will never know the effects of that visit until I get to heaven.

God has given each of us time and opportunity. Will it be just about us or will we see the world as Jesus did, people without a shepherd. We handed out bookmarks a couple of Sundays ago for each of us to write down the names of 7 people or families, that do not go to church or are not Christians, to pray for daily. Fill in your bookmark. Pick hard cases, people you work with, neighbors, relatives, etc., and pray for them daily. See what God can do!!!! It will only take him changing one of your friends for you to become different. I believe we don't pray because we aren't sure it will do any good. Will you join us and see the miracles happen. Pick up a bookmark Sunday and begin the adventure.

See you Sunday,  
Wally



## Did You Know?

- Leanne Chapman made the El Paso Wind Symphony playing her clarinet. Congratulations Leanne.
- Rob Baldwin and Eleanor Phillips have repaired and tiled a vanity, and hung a mirror in the women's bathroom.

➤ Lorraine Dillon went to be with the Lord. She had been living with her daughter in Kansas City until her death. Wally conducted the graveside at Ft Bliss. Joe her husband is also buried there.

➤ A **BIG THANK-YOU** to the deacons for organizing our workday. 15 people showed up and worked, most of them outside in the rain. Weeds were pulled, trees and cactus removed, a roof repaired, light bulbs changed, drains cut into the parking lot and many other items. The rains delayed exterior painting and additional roof repair.

➤ Vivian Phillips, Rob's Mom, died after a long struggle with cancer. Vivian tirelessly worked at the rummage sale each year. Her family will all be in town the weekend of Thanksgiving and a service will be held at the church on Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am, with an internment at Ft Bliss at 11:00am.

➤ Kay MacNoughton has moved to Minnesota to live near her son, David and other family members. Kay Celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday here at Park Hills. Kay, we'll miss you.

➤ Chris Morgan and George Morris will deploy to Iraq on November 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>. Keep them in your prayers. A farewell Bar-B-Q was held at the Chapman's on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Chris works in the motor pool and George as a ammunition loader in tanks. May God go with you.

➤ Monday Nights Women's Bible Study will begin a study of Revelation by Woodrow Kroll from Back-to-the-Bible on January 15<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm here at Park Hills. Please contact Barbara Baldwin (562-7069) if you would like to participate.

➤ October 22<sup>nd</sup> began a series of sermons on Knowing God's Will and Doing it. The series on "The Questions of Jesus" went for 5 months. We hope to have them available on CD or cassette after the first of the year.

➤ Wally and Allen are looking for five-minute testimonies on how you came to Christ, for the four Sundays before Christmas and Christmas Eve. Before you came to Christ were you:

1. Antagonistic or hateful towards God.
2. Actively seeking Him.
3. Simply obeying His call.
4. Or did God suddenly make Himself known to you out of the blue.

P.S. We'd also be interested in hearing of any spiritual growth that has taken place during or because of the Christmas Season. Please write or email your story to us so that we can adjust it for time and content. Please do not tell us on Sundays, we'll forget.

➤ The Harvest Party and Fellowship Dinner were a huge success. We had several children visit with us for the first time and your donations helped make it all possible. Thanks to all who donated or actively helped to pull it off.

➤ June Roberts broke her second hip and fell requiring surgery on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Keep her in your prayers.

➤ We are starting a men's group to meet together one or two Saturdays a month for breakfast, using the book For Men Only to become better husbands, fathers and men. See Wally Chapman if your interested.

*Continued top of next column...*

## Allen's Thoughts . . .

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."*

**Acts 1:8 NASB**

If you remember from the last newsletter we saw that Webster defines a witness as:

- A. One who has seen or heard something,
  - B. One who furnishes evidence,
  - C. To be present at or have personal knowledge of
- And finally,
- D. To testify to: or bear witness.

I wanted to share a couple of recent stories with you from my life to help illustrate our role as witnesses is simply to tell what we have personally seen, heard and experienced.

### More than One Way to Heaven

While traveling to referee a volleyball game last month, I was visiting with my game partner about our jobs. I mentioned that I worked as the Associate Pastor at Park Hills.

My partner (I'll call him Joe) began to give me his religious history. He had been raised Catholic but over the years had visited most of the different protestant denominations, and now considered himself a Buddhist, since there is more than one way to heaven anyway.

Now, I could have either gotten defensive or even offensive, telling him how wrong he was and that if continued to believe that he would go straight to Hell. At which point the conversation would have been over, opportunity to witness gone forever.

Instead, I explained that as a Christian I have to take the Bible literally or what is the point. Jesus claimed that He was the only way to heaven and I have to believe that Jesus was telling the truth, otherwise He was a liar and I could believe nothing else that He taught.

*Continued top of next column...*

Nothing was said about his beliefs. Only what I knew to be true, simply that for me I have to take the entire Bible or none of it.

Instead of a long drive with hurt feeling and tension between us we continued the discussion the rest of the evening.

### What are Those Testament Things in the Bible?

On another occasion, traveling to a volleyball game after mentioning that as I drive about town I listen to the bible on CD, a discussion about religion again arose.

Albert (not his real name) explained that as a Catholic he knew next to nothing about the bible and that as soon as he graduated from UTEP he wanted to take part in a bible study.

Since we had a 20-minute drive ahead of us I simply offered to try and answer any questions he might have while we drove. *No pressure, just a simple offer that he took advantage of.* His first question took the remainder of the drive and led to far more than either of us expected.

### *What are those Testament things in the Bible?*

It is impossible to talk about the Old and New Testaments and not get around to Christ and his coming to earth to offer Himself as the way back to God.

I explained that a better description would be Old and New Covenants, meaning that God wanted to restore the relationship between man and Himself and had made a covenant or binding agreement with man that if they would obey His Law, He would remove their sin. With man unable to do so God then rewrote the Old Covenant and sent Jesus to die in our place, for our sins, the New Covenant.

Again no pressure no pushy sales technique, but the Gospel was presented and though I may never see it, God will use the seeds that were planted.

Seeking the Harvest with You  
Allen

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