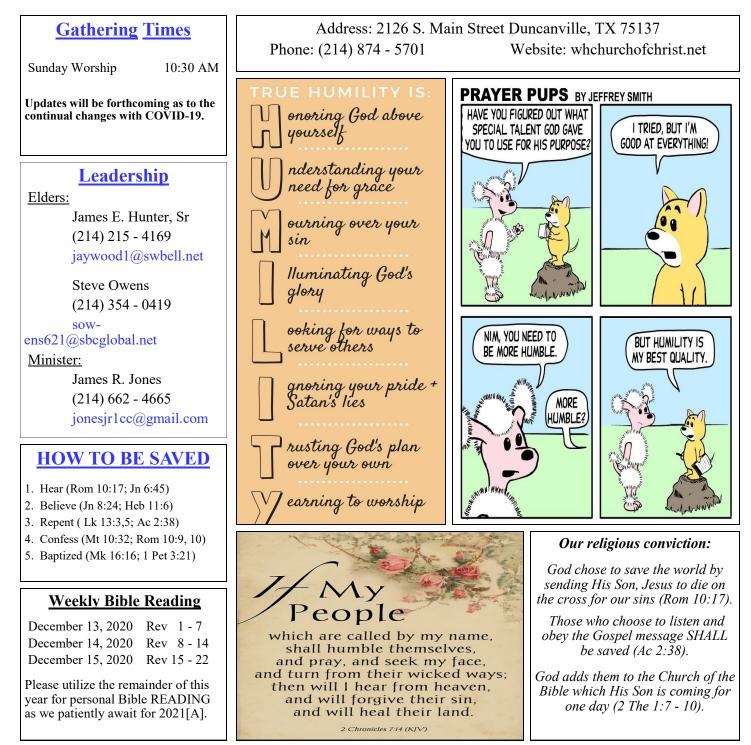


Volume X, Issue II

December 13, 2020





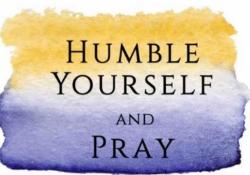
Humble Oneself In The Lord

"At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 18:1-4). Jesus is still training His Apostles (Mk 9:33-41; Lk 9:46-50). He speaks about His Death and they were sad. They are thinking about the kingdom and wondering among themselves who will be the greatest; thus, they asked Him. He answers by showing the type of person who would be greatest in the kingdom of heaven. They still do not understand the nature of the kingdom. As a method of teaching, He took a little child putting the child in their mist and said, unless you change your attitude and become humble like this little child, you will not be in the kingdom of heaven. The Christian must forget oneself and others in service to God. Greatness in the kingdom of God comes only through service, not through being master or having status. Humility means absence of pride, unpretentious and TRUSTING. The humblest shall be the greatest in the kingdom of God because they will live the most unselfish and Christ-like lives. They will not think themselves great nor seek to be great. The child is dependent upon one's parents. The humble realizes one cannot live the Christian life by oneself, BUT need God. The child TRUSTS their needs will be met. The Christian TRUSTS in God to take of their needs. One faces life unafraid knowing God is in the mist. This was a reaffirmation of what Jesus taught in the first four beatitudes (Mt 5:3-6).

Humility is a key factor in ones salvation. One cannot be saved by the gospel until humbled in obedience to it. Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5:3). In commenting on this verse, H. Leo Boles said, "The poor in spirit' are those whose minds are suited to the humble station of life; 'poor' means destitute of something; poor in spirit means those destitute of the proud, haughty spirit of the world. It is the same spirit required when we must become as little children, if we would enter the kingdom of heaven; 'The poor in spirit' describes a state of men lowly and reverent before God; humble, not proud; contrite, not rebellious" (*A Commentary on the Gospel According to Mathew*, Gospel Advocate, pp. 120-121). Humility, submission of ones self-will and stubborn pride, is essential if one is to be saved.

That humility must continue during ones life as a Christian, if one is to remain in fellowship with God. The Apostle Peter, writing to Christians says to be humble "...Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for 'God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble'. Therefore, humble your-selves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Pet 5:5-7).

Jesus taught His Disciples many lessons on humility (Mt 20:20-28). Nearing the end of His Life on earth, to illustrate the humility they needed to have, He stooped and washed their feet (Jn 13:1-16). By being their master, He could have demanded such an action of them, BUT instead He performed this lowly task on them. They needed to learn to humble themselves to one another (Mt 7:12), if they were going to be able to fulfill the tasks left for them. We must have that same humility today. God still resists the proud and only gives grace to the humble. We must not be filled with pride but rather with humility, serving the Lord and ministering to the needs of others. As those disciples long ago were told to follow the example of Jesus, we must pattern our attitude and actions after it today. Humbling



Himself in coming to earth, taking on the form of man and becoming the servant of all (Php 2:5-8). Let us be like that small child and like the Christ—meek and humble (Pro 16:19; 29:23; 2 Cor 12:21; Jas 4:6, 10).



Continuous Prayers: Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Clouds, Ron Forge, Christina Jones, Miguel Graves, Joyce Fair Patricia Hurd, Ruby Busby (Bro/Sis Busby's FAMILY), Sheila Harris, Curtis Ward, Joyce Gutierrez, Charles Birdow, Mattie Stafford, Annette Rolette, Chris White (Sis White's son) Adam McCants (Bro Ramsey's daughter father-in-law) Joel Sotelo Vazquez / Bertha Tapia [Mexico City, Mexico], Alfredo Cabrera/Ana Yescas (Bro Ramsey's friend) Maria Diaz (Sis Skinner's neighbor), Willie Gray (Sis Gray's brother-in-law) Anthony Yescas (Bro Ramsey's friend)

- Sick: Arthur Henry, Dan Allen, Jerry Birdow, Jose (Bro Spataro's friend)
- <u>General</u>: Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers), Simon Young, Sam Lily (Sis Guthrie's stepson), Michael Neazer, M. Staton, **Pat White** Milicent Douglas (Sis Glasker's neice), **Jane Sikes Carter** (Bro/Sis Sikes' mother), **Sue Everett** (*former member*)

UPDATES:

- 1. Please ensure [we] have ALL relevant information pertaining to birthdays and anniversaries for our Bulletin to be current, so [we] may collectively participate in these extra special events with you. If in doubt, please share it, again for ALL of us to know.
- 2. Sis Barbara Mackifield (grandmother of Sis Allen) passed while being on hospice [09 Dec]
- 3. Sis Beverly Vess [Forum-Terrance CC] undergoing major surgical procedures on 15 Dec 20 requesting PRAYERS [12 Dec]

Upcoming Activities / Announcements

- 1. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.
- 2. Christmas [Holiday]: 25 Dec 20 [Last Friday in December]
- 3. New Year's Day [Holiday]: 01 Jan 21 [First Friday in January]





1 Cor 9:16 - 18 "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel."

Subject: Scripture Reference:

