

# WHISPERING HILLS

## Church of Christ

Volume V, Issue IV

May 23, 2021

### Worship Times

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

### Location

Temporarily: TownePlace  
Suites by Marriott  
Dallas/DeSoto  
(directions provided inside)

Updates will be forthcoming  
as to the continual changes  
with COVID 19.

### Leadership

#### Elders:

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#### Minister:

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### Our Religious Conviction

God chose to save the world  
by sending His Son,  
Jesus to die on the cross  
for our sins (Rom 10:17).

Those who choose to listen  
and obey the Gospel  
message SHALL be saved  
(Ac 2:38).

God adds them to the church  
of the Bible which His Son is  
coming for because it is  
purchased with His Blood  
(Ac 20:28; 2 The 1:7-10).

### HOW TO BE SAVED

1. Hear (Jn 6:45; Rom 10:17)
2. Believe (Jn 8:24; Heb 11:6)
3. Repent (Lk 13:3, 5; Ac 2:38)
4. Confess (Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9, 10)
5. Baptized (Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21)

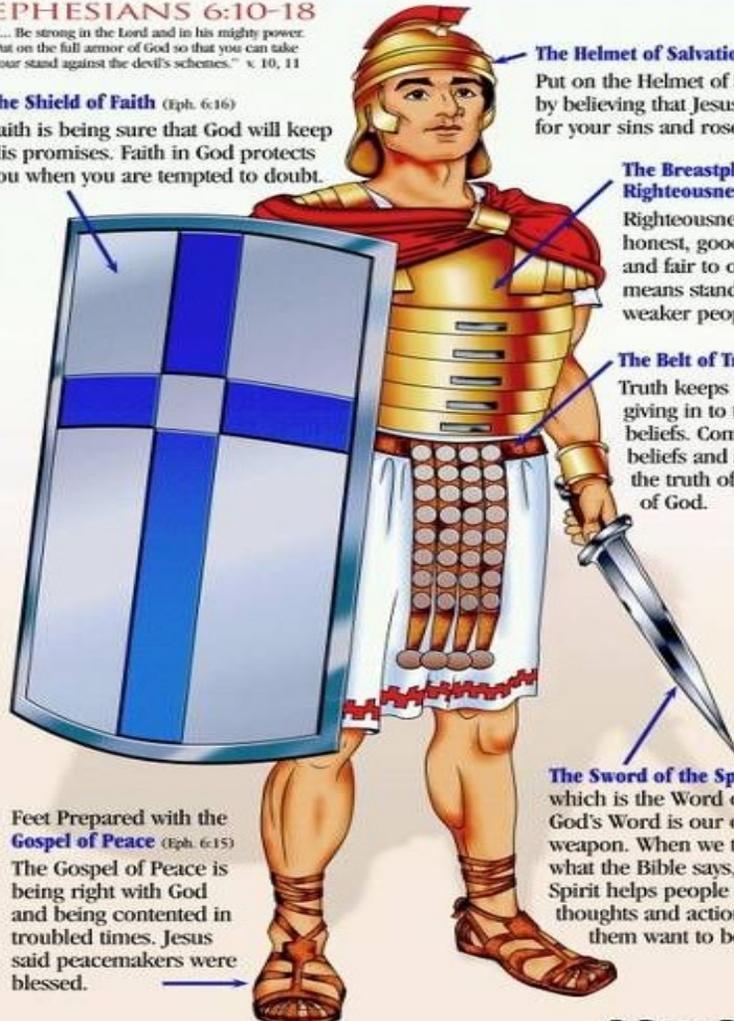
## THE ARMOR OF GOD

### EPHESIANS 6:10-18

"... Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.  
Put on the full armor of God so that you can take  
your stand against the devil's schemes." v. 10, 11

#### **The Shield of Faith** (Eph. 6:16)

Faith is being sure that God will keep  
His promises. Faith in God protects  
you when you are tempted to doubt.



#### **The Helmet of Salvation** (Eph. 6:17)

Put on the Helmet of Salvation  
by believing that Jesus Christ died  
for your sins and rose again.

#### **The Breastplate of Righteousness** (Eph. 6:14)

Righteousness is being  
honest, good, humble,  
and fair to others. It  
means standing up for  
weaker people.

#### **The Belt of Truth** (Eph. 6:14)

Truth keeps us from  
giving in to the world's  
beliefs. Compare your  
beliefs and actions to  
the truth of the Word  
of God.

#### **The Sword of the Spirit** (Eph. 6:17)

which is the Word of God.  
God's Word is our offensive  
weapon. When we tell others  
what the Bible says, the Holy  
Spirit helps people see their bad  
thoughts and actions, and makes  
them want to be forgiven.

#### **Feet Prepared with the Gospel of Peace** (Eph. 6:15)

The Gospel of Peace is  
being right with God  
and being contented in  
troubled times. Jesus  
said peacemakers were  
blessed.

### Thank you for visiting with us

Our goal is to worship God according to His Will  
just as the Christians in the first century did (Ac 2:42).

Please ask us a question about the reason why we worship the way we do (1 Pet 3:15).  
Also, please take the time to fill out an attendance card today (in the holder facing you)  
and give it to one of our members acknowledging your presence with us.

You **BELONG** Here!

Acts 2:42-47 and Romans 12:10

# Prayer Request

We are here to Pray for you



## Continued Prayers

Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Cloud, Ron Forge, Jewel Hunter, Joyce Gutierrez, Joyce Fair, Curtis Ward, Sheila Harris, Simon Young, Michael Neazer, Mary Ervin, Billie Guthrie, Jessica McCants (Bro Ramsey's daughter)

## Grieving

## General

Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers), Charles Votaw (Sis Harper's brother), Joel Sotelo (Bro Ramsey's brother-in-law), Gary Forge (Bro Forge's brother), Quorum Elder (Bro Hunter's cousin)

## Updates /Announcements

- [1] Our PRAYERS should echo loud and clear on a daily basis for God's GRACE, MERCY and LOVE by taking nothing for granted as [we] continue to live up to His Expectations and Commands through obedience (Mt 7:21-23)
- [2] PRAYERS continue for a successful interaction of the elders/insurance personnel in the building completion [29 Mar]
- [3] Joseph Tensley, minister [Southside CC (Teague, TX)] diagnosed with kidney cancer with treatment to follow [21 May]

# Birthdays & Anniversaries



## May '21

[27] Sheree Miller





**FOOD FOR  
THOUGHT**

### Stand Up For The Truth Acts 25:24-27

The Bible says, “And Festus said, King Agrippa, and all men which are here present with us, ye see this man, about whom all the multitude of the Jews have dealt with me, both at Jerusalem, and *also* here, crying that he ought not to live any longer. But when I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death, and that he himself hath appealed to Augustus, I have determined to send him. Of whom I have no certain thing to write unto my lord. Wherefore I have brought him forth before you, and specially before thee, O king Agrippa, that, after examination had, I might have somewhat to write. For it seemeth to me unreasonable to send a prisoner, and not withal to signify the crimes *laid* against him” (Ac 25:24-27). Festus introduced Paul and the reason of the invitation; he was introduced as the man whom the Jews did not think worthy to live. Festus revealed Paul had not done anything worthy of death; but he appealed to Caesar, so he was being sent to the Emperor. Since this was unchartered territory, he confessed honestly of not knowing what to write the Emperor; thus, he was soliciting their help. He was hoping King Agrippa would assist. The procedure was for a judge to specifically reveal [detail] the charges and legal action taken up to this point, then send this report along with the prisoner to Rome. The emperors Augustus and Tiberius refused to let anyone address them by the title, Lord, but Nero accepted it. Festus showed the tight situation he was in by requesting assistance. Paul was now ready to speak. Have you ever been ridiculed for presenting the truth? It is hard [sometimes] trying to reach out to people with the truth. Our minds continuously race with different scenarios. We think we may get rejected, lose a friend or be rebuked harshly (in public). The question we need to ask ourselves is, “Are all of those reactions worth standing up for the truth?” Do you think Paul thought about that question as he was preaching the gospel to

everyone? A crowd in Jerusalem was screaming to have Paul taken away (Ac 21:36). Why? Paul had entered the town to preach the truth. This led to Paul being arrested/imprisoned for 2 years under the Romans (Ac 28:30). Notice 3 qualities Paul demonstrated while standing up for the truth:

**[1]** He stood up [courageously]. Previously the Jews wanted him killed. Now, they wanted to bring the charges back up because there is a new governor (Ac 25:24). He was under major scrutiny at that time in Jerusalem, but remained on preaching the truth. His life was threatened (Ac 22:22), but he stayed preaching the truth. After all this, he kept standing up for the truth. Nothing would stop him from proclaiming the word of God (Rom 8:18, 28, 31 - 39).

**[2]** Paul stood up [confidently]. He “appealed” to Augustus. This is to call upon or appeal to a higher court. He wanted to go to the top to give his defense with nothing to hide. There was nothing to lie about. He was speaking the truth about God and His Son, Christ. His defense provided confidence before Caesar allowing him to get out of this mess, finally.

**[3]** Paul stood up [blamelessly]. Festus searched finding Paul “had done nothing deserving death” (Ac 25:25) nor committed any crime. He found nothing to convict Paul (Ac 25:26, 27). Could there be another reason he is blameless? He was not preaching anything against the law of the Jews nor the temple and, perhaps the most important, not preaching anything against Caesar. He was blameless because of preaching the truth (Jn 8:32). Have we made a decision? Are we going to be like Paul: who stands for the truth courageously, confidently and blamelessly? When a controversy arises, will you compromise [give in] or be courageous [stand up]? Paul is an example we need to imitate (Mt 10:38; Jn 13:15; Php 2:5; 1 Cor 11:1; 1 Th 2:14; 1 Pet 2:2-12).

### JUST S-T-A-N-D

**S** - *STOP* sitting. Start by getting back on your feet by using any strength you have left.

**T** - *TAKE* your time. When you stand, you are not moving, and that is okay. Be firm but still.

**A** - *ACCEPT* God's help. Allow God to arm you with his truth, faith, Word, and Spirit.

**N** - *NOTICE* who/what is around you. Will these people/things propel you forward or hold you back?

**D** - *DEFEND* your ground. Boundaries are a good thing. Learn how to keep the bad out and let in the good.

  
Carla Gasser  
AT THE CROSSROADS

