

Church of Christ deer park

Weekly Newsletter

May 8, 2022

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Raising the Bar of Discipleship

by Tim Gunnells

A couple of years ago I was invited to moderate a panel discussion at the Church Involvement Conference in Athens, Tennessee. The panel related to Millennials and the practice of faith, or reaching them and keeping them. The primary message that stood out with universal agreement from the panelists is that Millennials (and younger generations) desire to be challenged and not coddled. The younger generations appear to have more in common with the Greatest Generation than the Generation Xers (my generation) and the Boomers. Yet, it is these last two generations that are in leadership in most churches, thus, the apparent disconnect.

Millennials and their younger counterparts, it seems, take Jesus's admonition to "take up your cross daily" pretty seriously (Luke 9:23). They aren't pushing to jettison all traditions or make wholesale changes to worship practices, but they do deeply desire a more profound and sincere approach to following Jesus. They take the Greatest Commands (Matthew 22:34-40) to heart, they want to see sincerity and genuineness, and they seek real community. That all sounds really good to me!

Raising the Bar

This all got me thinking back to a phrase I have heard throughout my life that I saw illustrated first-hand: "raising the bar". What exactly does that mean, and what does it have to do with the Bible, church leadership, and reaching and keeping the younger generations for Christ?

While my daughter was in high school, she worked with a pole vault coach who won an Olympic Gold Medal in the sport. His name is Tim Mack, and he won in the games in Athens, Greece. He was in his 30s when he

PRAYER NEEDS & REQUESTS: Our Country; Our National Leaders be guided by God; The whole world as we battle COVID-19; The people of Ukraine; Sheri Williams' friend, Sue Westbrook was hit head on by a drunk driver late April and is still in ICU; Glenda Peters continues to have gall bladder issues; Amy Parsons, Nancy Barton's daughter, is having tubes put in her ears 5/4; Trevor Reed's release from Russia; Jess Williams, son-in-law of Nancy & Gene Barton, who has prostrate cancer; Justin Imel, sleeping issues; Jimmy Burke, fluctuating blood pressure problems; Leslie Hoffman underwent cancer surgery during COVID & is now cancer free; Courtney O'Bannon as she travels daily from Temple to College Station after 12 hr shift of clinicals, Glen Starns has now seen doctor and is being evaluated; Gerald Starns is undergoing test, Rocky Racheau, Gerald Starns' neighbor who lost his foot in accident; Visitation Program; Bob & Ann McKinney & Robby (Tammy Imel's parents & brother) their condition has improved since moving in with her brother; Hillary Harrison, Tim Culp's cousin is on wait list for double lung transplant; Debbie Clark, Sonoma O'Bannon's cousin, as she continues to undergo treatment; Janet Skinner, Noreen Rock, Karen Green, Martha Hayes friends of Gerald Starns-Janet is being checked out at MD Anderson; Jase Griffin-completed radiation treatment for inoperable barin tumor will get MRI results 6/2 (father is a co-worker of Gloria O'Bannon); Carole Fabian (member at Lake Houston C of C & Sonoma O'Bannon's friend) is feeling better & now in skilled nursing; Erin Burke as she travels to California to teach every couple weeks; Steve & Kathy Franz, Gerald Starns friends, Kathy is near dialysis; for the Men at the Wheelhouse—for success as they work thru their individual programs; Harris County Jail Inmates of our prison ministry who have asked for our prayers; **Earnestly seek our God!**, **Come, great is the Lord and most worthy of our praise**, **Be an Andrew & Bring Someone to Jesus**, **Share the Gospel of Jesus**, **Answer the Lord's Invitation-"Come"**, **Remember God is in Control**, **Pray Without Ceasing for Each Other**, **Building Program**, **Serve Others**

CONTINUAL PRAYER: Adair Family; Eileen Adair, Kristen Adair, Sam Allen, Gene Barton, Gerald Barton, Justin Bills (Carolyn Carpenter friend), Donna Bomfalk (Erin Burke friend), Gina Branstetter, Carole Broyles, Whitney Brummett, Norma Cadena & mother Sendida, Danny Culp (Tim Culp's father), Judy Doughty, Kris (Flanagan) Bowman, Pat and Karon Flanagan, Louise Friday, Edna Earl Goodman, Deavyn Gordon, Dale Guillory, Nalin Hayter, Randy and Cathy Imel (Justin Imel's parents), Mary Miller, Bernice Reed, Brandon Reed, Kenny Reed, Robert Reed, Kay Riggs, Mike Ritter, Bobby Rowan, Cindy Russell (Gina Branstetter), Curtis Salter, Noelle Savoie Warner (former member), Andrew Shirley (Scott and Erin's Son-in-law), Stephen and Mary Ann Smith, Jim and Linda Thomason, Karl Vinson, Sheri and Bruce Williams (Dale Guillory's Sister), Susan Williams, Cathy York.

won, and he had failed to make the team twice before. What he discovered and what I saw play out in his coaching sessions is this, you have to literally raise the bar higher if you ever expect to go higher. In my daughter's case, and in the case of her fellow athletes, he would raise the bar sometimes when they weren't even hitting the current height he thought they could reach, and they would go much higher. What he relayed to me is that athletes will usually only try to hit the height of the bar where it is placed and not go much higher. In so doing, they will often fail to even hit the lower mark. Interesting, isn't it?

The Hebrew writer, in Hebrews 12, upped the ante in his challenge and encouragement to his readers to stay true to Jesus and keep the faith. He moved on from Moses and the other heroes of the Faith and went to Jesus instead. He held Jesus up as the example of perseverance and success and suggested that they hadn't even "resisted to the point of shedding blood" (Hebrews 12:1-4). Talk about raising the bar!

Church Leaders and Expectations

So, maybe we have failed the younger generations by not expecting enough from them when it comes to discipleship. Perhaps we have tried to fashion things like we think they would like for them to be, or just force them into a model of ministry that we like better, instead of truly embracing the truths of Scripture to deny our self and take up our cross.

I would encourage you, as an individual, to raise the level of expectation you have for yourself in following Jesus. I would encourage church leaders to raise the level of expectation and paint a genuine picture of discipleship in your churches. I would encourage Millennials and younger generations to help us see what we are missing that would do more to raise the bar of expectations for all of us.

"Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:12)

BATTLING CANCER: Lori Bailey; Becky Bice, Richard Cardenas (Bernice Reed son-in-law); Sherry Chance; Lisa Cunningham (Erin Burke friend); Joe D'Vries who has lung cancer (father-in-law of Gerald Starns' daughter), Joellen Harris; Travis Irwin (friend J & P Burke), Linda Ritchie; Brenda Rowan (Peggy Burke sister-in-law); Gerald Starns



Tara Adair	2
Bernice Reed	9
Emily Salas	22
Peggy Burke	25
Billie O'Bannon	25
Judy Hoffpaur	30
Randy Adair	31

Let's read our Bible everyday in 2022!

Weekly Bible Reading

May 8—May 14

Sunday 8	am	1 Kings 16-18
	pm	John 1:29-51
Monday 9	am	1 Kings 19-20
	pm	John 2
Tuesday 10	am	1 Kings 21-22
	pm	John 3:1-21
Wednesday 11	am	2 Kings 1-3
	pm	John 3:22-36
Thursday 12	pm	2 Kings 4-5
	pm	John 4:1-30
Friday 13	am	2 Kings 6-8
	pm	John 4:31-54
Saturday 14	am	2 Kings 9-11
	pm	John 5:1-24



Life Line Screening returns
August 11, 2022
Details later.
Three (3) Free
Certificates Available.



VISITATION CARDS,
ARE ALSO
PASSED OUT WEDNES-
DAY NITE!

EACH WEDNESDAY NIGHT 6:30PM
A TIME OF PRAYER, SINGING, STUDY
AND AFTERWARD
DINNER & FELLOWSHIP, WHICH HAS
BEEN GREAT!
COME JOIN

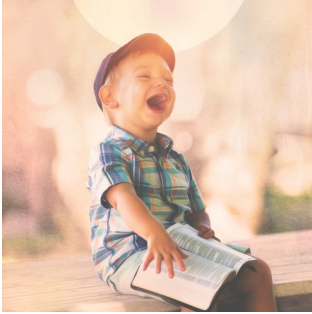


Through the Bible in a year



Tithe.ly

In the coming days the church is currently transferring our website to a new hosting account. There could possibly be a day or two when the church's website is unavailable. In that event, please don't forget that you can donate via **Tithe.ly** directly from their website (search for "Tithe.ly giving" in your preferred search engine). You may also use the Tithe.ly app from the app store on your phone and other devices. Simply search for "Church of Christ Deer Park," and you will be able to contribute as normal.



**STREAMED SERVICES
REMINDER**

This precious little boy is our **FACEBOOK LOGO**. If anyone needs help getting our streamed services, call the Office.

Search for:
Church of Christ Deer Park

How do I become a Christian?

Hear the Word: Romans 10:17

Believe the Word: John 20:31, Acts 16:31, Hebrews 11:6

Repent of your sins: Luke 13:3 & 5, 15:7, Acts 2:38

Confess Jesus to others: Matt 10:32-33, Romans 10:10

Be Baptized in the name of Jesus for salvation: Mark 16:16, Acts 2:37-38, Romans 6:4-5, 1 Peter 3:21

Live Faithfully: Revelation 2:10



THE WHEELHOUSE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVANGELISM

Wheelhouse Meal is the last Saturday of each month.

Next Scheduled: April 30th
& May 28th

10:30am—Noon



**THE TRUCK
PICKED UP MANY SUPPLIES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27TH**



CONGRATULATIONS to
AUDREY CABLE

Whose coaches selected her to the First Team, the Booster Club awarded her a \$500 Scholarship and was selected Defensive MVP

for

Deer Park High School
Girls Soccer 2021-2022

Way to go Audrey!!

WHAT SHOULD I TEACH MY CHILDREN ABOUT BAPTISM?

BY ALLEN WEBSTER

BAPTISM IS WHEN SOMEONE GETS MARRIED TO JESUS.

Most children have been to a wedding, or at least have seen the pictures on the wall of Mom and Dad's marriage ceremony. Baptism is a believer's wedding ceremony. Paul wrote "concerning Christ and the church" ([Ephesians 5:32](#)), picturing Christ as the bridegroom and the church as His bride ([Ephesians 5:25-27](#)). When we become a part of the church, then, we are in a sense getting married to Christ. We love Him and are making a commitment to Him "till death do us part." Actually, death will not part us as it is then that we will actually get to enjoy the wedding banquet ([Revelation 19:9](#)) and live happily ever after with Him ([Revelation 21:4](#)).

Teach the children well. One day they will teach your grandchildren what you have passed along to them ([2 Timothy 2:2](#)).



Church of Christ Deer Park
617 Avon Street
Deer Park, TX 77536

Church of Christ Deer Park Invites you to Worship with Us!

Pandemic Hours: Sunday Mornings

9:00am Donut & Coffee Fellowship
 9:30am Bible Class
 10:30am Worship &
 Worship Live on Facebook Page
 Church of Christ Deep Park, Texas

Pandemic Hours: Wednesday Evening

6:30pm Devo & Dinner

Normal Hours: Sunday Mornings

Donut & Coffee Fellowship 9:00am
 Bible Class 9:30am
 Morning worship 10:30am
 Children's Bible Hour offered for
 3yrs to 3rd grade during morning worship.

Normal Hours: Sunday Evenings

Evening Worship 6:00pm

We are located at:
 617 Avon
 Deer Park, TX 77536

Phone: 281-479-1010
 Fax: 281-479-1101
 E-mail: dpchurch.office@sbcglobal.net

Website:
www.dpcofc.org

Facebook Page:
 Church of Christ Deer Park, Texas



Service this Week

May 8, 2022

Coffee & Donut Fellowship 9:00am
Bible Class 9:30am
Worship 10:30 am

Song Leader: **R. J. Imel**

Scripture Reading & Prayer:
I Samuel 25:23-31

Prayers & Thoughts for the Lord's Supper:

Sermon: **Beauty from the Master's Hand
 by Justin Imel**

Closing Payer:
Scott Burke

Greeter **Tammy Adair**
Communion Prep: **Patsy Camp**
Livestreaming: **R.J. Imel**

Stay tuned to our One Call Now Messages,
 Email Messages, Everything happening on
 Facebook Page:
 Church of Christ Deer Park, Texas
 & our Web Site: dpcofc.org



Devo & Dinner
 6:30pm

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: I am blessed to be with brethren. I am blessed to serve. I am blessed to learn from others. I am blessed to hear the Word of Life. I am blessed to remember what's important. I am blessed to recharge my spirit. I am blessed to correct my life.

We look forward to seeing you Wednesday!