

The Sawdust In Our Spiritual Diet

By Mike Riley

The story is told of a thrifty man who one day decided to save money on donkey feed. Every day, he would add increasing amounts of sawdust to the donkey's feed. Because the process was gradual, the donkey did not notice any difference as he cleaned up his manger. The man's plan was working well until the donkey suddenly died because of living on 100% sawdust.

Similarly, spiritual food that contains the pure Word of God, once mixed with worldly sawdust [watered-down or social gospel], will eventually lead to spiritual death (2 Peter 2). It is indeed sad to see some members of the church act as though they cannot understand why so many spiritually malnourished Christians die [abandon the Lord's church] even after being members of the church for many years.

The Psalmist tells us that God's word is "lamp" to the feet and a "light" to one's pathway (Psalm 119:105; cf. Proverbs 6:23). However, how can members of the Lord's body make application of that "light" in their everyday living if they remain ignorant of that light? (Hebrews 5:12-14). What is the use of chiding weak Christians about their little faith if spiritually strong Christians do not teach them enough of the pure Word for them to be able to develop strong faith? (Psalm 51:12-13; Romans 10:17; 2 Timothy 2:1-2).

All of the church pep rallies, sermons, and lectures about Christian duty won't do much good for weak-in-the-faith Christians until they are taught the pure word of God (Proverbs 30:5; Psalm 19:7-8).

Brethren, if there is any sawdust in our spiritual diet, we need to get rid of it, and start feeding our spiritually weak brethren, the pure "milk" of the Word (1 Peter 2:2), gradually bringing them up to the "strong meat" of the Word (Hebrews 5:14 KJV), so they might grow into spiritually mature workers for the Lord and His church (1 Peter 2:1-2; Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Peter 3:18; Colossians 1:3-10).



STERLINGTON Church of Christ



P.O. Box 82
1095 Highway 2
Sterlington, Louisiana 71280
www.sterlingtoncoc.com

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Those to Serve

Today

Announcements- Travis Rogers

Opening prayer- John Chisley

Communion- Wayne Fowler

Closing Prayer- Paul Simpson

Sermon- Don DeLukie

Next Sunday

Announcements- Wayne Fowler

Opening prayer- Lyle Russell

Communion- Jerry McDonald

Closing Prayer- David Repond

Sermon- Don DeLukie

Announcements

—There will be no Wednesday Evening Bible Class December 31st.

—**Church-wide Text Message List:** If you would like to be added or removed from the Church Text Message List, Please see Kathy Manning in person or contact her at 318-805-1961.



Please Pray For:

Vee Boren, Becky Baker, Luella Jacobs, Oddie Cameron, Glenda Wells, James Mardis, Mandy Purum, Jo Ellen Haltom, Emilia Gillikin, Sherrie Burgess, Ronnie Stutts, John Swayzer, Lester Pinkard, Rhonda Rogers, Gavin McDaniel.

Needing Long-Term Prayers:

Jo Darris Collins, Christy McDaniel, Joyce Moses, Pam Few, Debbie Walker, Carey Day, Leo & Shirley Goodwin, Tommy Franklin, Arthur Binford, Dan Ross Jr, Dena White, Larry & Joanne Randolph, Bettye Flowers, Dave & Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, Bobby Barker, Cindy Smith, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.

Bereaved: Family of Doris Jean Dulaney.



December birthdays

- 5 - Joanie Franklin
- 14 - Wayne Fowler
- 15 - Jonah Scharf
- 20 - Vee Boren
- 22 - Brad Farrington
- 23 - Randall Lambert
- 24 - Louvenia Dickson
- 26 - Matt Scharf
- 27 - Rick Cook
- 28 - Brian Johnstone

December anniversaries

- 5 - Dan & Ethel Ross
- 10 - Rick & Sandy Van Loon
- 18 - Gary & Sharon Harris
- 27 - Leo & Shirley Goodwin
- 28 - Tommy & Joanie Franklin

