



## Clay's Corner

Deuteronomy 6:4-9, words to live by: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

Perhaps the single greatest command, the most important ever given, were these words spoken by Moses prior to Israel claiming the land God had promised Abraham he would give to his descendants. These words summed up all the Law and the Prophets according to Jesus, thousands of years after they were first spoken. And their importance holds as true today as they did back then; "Love God with all of your heart, soul, and mind."

But there is something else in this passage, something very important, something oft over looked. Moses didn't just give the greatest command. He commanded that the people of Israel put them at the forefront of all that they did, every day. He said, talk about them. Anytime, anywhere, in your conversations together and with others, put God in the conversation. And to make sure you never forget, write them down and display them in places where you will always be reminded, your door posts, your gate posts, etc. He commanded them to make and wear bracelets with these words written in ink upon them and also to wear them as a ceremonial band around the head.

I get the idea that Moses feared Israel, given their propensity to forget things, would soon forget God. This sounds eerily familiar.

Thus I wonder, would we be well advised to do the same? Not because doing so would ensure our salvation? But because doing so would help remind us every day both who and whose we are. In a world fraught with distractions, would we not be well advised to talk more about God, more about Christ, more about the Church and all things spiritual than the things we talk about daily? I think so.

My challenge to you all: start this day, and spend more time talking about God. Interject Him into your conversations. Make a sign, make several signs, write upon them this passage from Deuteronomy and hang them on your gate posts, on your door posts, in your dining room, anywhere in and around your house that people tend to congregate. And talk about God.

As a side note, I know far too many people who claim to be Christians who can tell you more about sports stats than they can about God. I know far too many "Christians" who can tell you more about their job than they can tell you about Christ and the role of His Church. Are you one of them? Let's make 2016 more about the year of our Lord than about things that don't matter. Let's change the dialog and start talking about God.

## PRAYER LIST

- **Monty Allen** (Susan Barnick's friend's brother—cancer)
- **Pauline Alvarez** (recovering from knee surgery)
- **Lauren Babb** (health)
- **Brooke Bertling** (Haley Ratliff's friend—breast cancer)
- **Terry Boaz** (Haley Ratliff's step-mother—recovering from surgery, Hendrick League House, Abilene)
- **Sonny Bransom** (recovering from hip replacement)
- **Dawn Clarke** (Shirley Kuchynka's daughter)
- **Betty Cox** (Brent Barnick's sister—homebound, rheumatoid arthritis)
- **Eric Davis and Rose**
- **Joyce Faires** (recovering from knee surgery)
- **Lance Fougerat**
- **Chestly Gobar, Jordyn and Lucy**
- **Herb Hahn** (health)
- **Sandra Jetton** (health)
- **John Jobe** (Clay and Mary Mason's friend—health, stroke)
- **Debbie Jalufka** (Clay and Mary Mason's friend—health)
- **Katy and Family** (Kelly Mason's friends—Katy's sister injured in motorcycle accident)
- **Jason, Lizzie and Luke Klinger** (Sarah Weaver's cousins—Luke, 4 mos old, cancer)
- **Evlynn Lawrence** (Sweeneys' granddaughter)
- **Justen Lawrence, and Stacia and Phil, and family**
- **Guy Lowe** (Clay Mason's friend—health)
- **Sanford Mason** (Ralph's brother—heart health)
- **Emory Meier** (Cheryl Pitts's father—health)
- **Claudia Morris** (Perry Winegeart's sister—health)
- **Mason Ratliff** (recovering from surgery)
- **Sid Roberts** (Faireses' friend—health)
- **Paris, Lexus & Maelyn Robertson** (Johnsons' friends—Maelyn born 10 weeks premature)
- **Alex and Tiffany Rodriguez** (Chestly Gobar's friends—Alex suffered stroke)
- **Ruth** (Joyce Faires's sister-in-law)
- **Sharon Saint** (Zach Babb's mother—recovering from surgeries)
- **Maria Vasquez** (Joyce Faires's neighbor—health)

If you have any announcements or prayer requests you wish to have included in the bulletin or to sign up for weekly e-mail updates, please contact Victoria Johnson: 325-518-9205, [victoria@gonzaleschurchofchrist.org](mailto:victoria@gonzaleschurchofchrist.org).

## PRAYER UPDATES

Please continue to keep **Justen Lawrence**, and **Stacia and Phil** in your prayers.

**Mason Ratliff** is recovering from surgery to remove his tonsils and adenoids. It has been a rough recovery for him, and he hasn't been feeling well and has not felt like eating or drinking much.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Wednesday Evening Meal & Bible Study

Please join us **this Wednesday at 5:15 p.m.** for dinner in the annex on Wednesday. This week's entrée is tacos. Anyone who is able is asked to bring sides or desserts to share, but everyone is invited! If you cannot bring a dish, please do not let that be a deterrence to joining us for dinner. Classes for all ages follow at 6 p.m.

### Service Sunday: Youth & Family Valentine's Project

Please join us **today at 2 p.m.** in the annex to make Valentines for our special friends at The Heights.

### Service Sunday: Singing at The Heights

Please join us **today at 3:30 p.m.** for our monthly singing at The Heights nursing home. (701 N Sarah Dewitt, Gonzales)

### 5th Sunday Fellowship

Please join us **next Sunday, January 31, at 5 p.m.** at the Linds (1001 S Lancaster, Moulton) for our 5th Sunday Fellowship meal. Please bring soup or stew, sides, drinks, or desserts to share. Transportation will be available.

### Monthly Men's Meeting

The men have their monthly meeting **next Sunday, January 31 at 1 p.m.**

### Thank You Note

The congregation received a thank you note from the family of Elsie Egger. That note will be placed on the large bulletin board in the foyer.

**A very special congratulations to Rea'Anna Flores who was baptized into Christ on Wednesday, January 20! Happy new birthday, Rea'Anna!**

### Ladies Bible Class

Ladies, are you interested in attending a weekly Bible study on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m.? We are currently trying to gauge the interest level in re-starting our Ladies Class. If you are interested or if you have material you would like to suggest, please see Jennie Chrismon or Victoria Johnson.

### Youth & Family Super Bowl Party

Mark your calendars for our youth & family Super Bowl Party on **Sunday, Feb. 7** at the Chrismons. More details to follow.

### Youth Sunday: Valentine's Luncheon

The youth will serve Valentine's lunch on **Sunday, Feb. 14**. Please sign up in the foyer to assist with this event.

### Tuesday Morning Men's Meeting

All men are invited to the annex each Tuesday morning at 6:20 a.m. for a time of breakfast, prayer and fellowship.

### New Directories Available

Hard copies of the new directory are now available. Be sure to pick up your copy from the table in the foyer.

## YOUTH ZONE

**MONDAY, JAN. 25**  
GIRLS BASKETBALL  
SHINER JR HIGH V. WEIMAR, 5:30 P.M.  
**TUESDAY, JAN. 26**  
BOYS BASKETBALL  
GONZALES VARSITY V. CANYON LAKE, 7:30 P.M.



**THURSDAY, JAN. 28**  
BOYS BASKETBALL  
GONZALES 8TH "B" @ CUERO, 5 P.M.  
GIRLS BASKETBALL  
GONZALES 7TH "B" V. CUERO, 5 P.M.  
GONZALES 7TH "A" V. CUERO, 6 P.M.  
**FRIDAY, JAN. 29**  
BOYS BASKETBALL  
GONZALES VARSITY @ YOAKUM, 7:30 P.M.

Jacy Chrismon—Shiner Jr High Girls Basketball  
Fernando Garcia—Gonzales 8th Boys Basketball

Tyler Hendershot—Gonzales Varsity Boys Basketball  
Coach Kevin Johnson—Gonzales 7th Girls Basketball

COLE HENDERSHOT IS SHOWING A HEIFER AT THE STOCK SHOW IN FORT WORTH THIS WEEKEND.

