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Sovereign Grace Missionary Baptist Church

"Where the Truths of God's Word Have Been Taught for Sixty-One Years" Since October 21, 1961

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501

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Elder Randy Johnson, Pastor

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Please Join Us As We Pray For:

Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son's Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Daughter Shannon, and Brother Philip Thornsberry, Johnnie Stephens, Alecia Stephens, and children, Buckie Thompson, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, Tyrell Loyd, Ted O'Bonion, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Reich, Tyler Castle, Danny Mollette, cousin Kayla, Lee & Mary Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ronnie Henderson Jr. & Children, Ricky Henderson and Family, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Nathan Fails, Jacob Ramsey, Jerry Hughes, Gina and Kirk, Brother Kelley and Sister Hinson, Patricia Hinson, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Vickie Adkins, Shirley King - Son David – and family, Elder Robert and Sister Jennifer Keller, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Roselyn Pardillo and Family and those that work with her, Hailey Beaver, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Dakota Sutton, Sister Velma Hammond, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family and church, Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan the work in Thailand, Elder Raul and the work in Romania.

Thoughts from our Pastor:

Walking in the Light

"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." 1 John 1:5 - 10

What a beautiful blessing, for sinners born enemies of God, we can walk in the light of God through Jesus Christ. Light means holiness, which is accomplished by walking in the light of His Word. God, by grace accepts us as sinners but as sinners saved by His grace thru the blood of His Son and forgiven. God never accepts sin, nor is God ever happy with us when we do sin. As the most blessed creatures of all God's creation, we ought to constantly remember our blessings within God's grace. God said of us, "*If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*" Galatians 5:25 If we live "spiritually" by the power of the Holy Spirit, and through the blood of Jesus Christ, then we ought to be walking in the Word of God. Paul wrote these words, "*For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*" Romans 8:13 The Holy Spirit mortifies our sinfulness when He saves us from our sins as He does from the power of sin over us. However, it is our responsibility as Christians to do away with sinfulness in our daily lives. We have been blessed with our cleansing thru the blood of Jesus Christ, but it is us who must walk in the Spirit of light every day. The life of the believer is about our daily walk, in the light and avoiding darkness because in God there is no darkness. If we are walking in darkness we are not in fellowship with God, because in Him darkness is not allowed. Our second walk in life must be in Truth, because walking in the Spirit means we are walking in His light, that walk must include walking in the Truth of His Word. John wrote, "*God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*" John 4:24 For us to have true spiritual worship with God, we must be believing the Truth of the word, which is walking in the Spirit. God measures a person by what is in their heart, the Prophet

Samuel wrote, "*But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*" 1 Samuel 16:7 The heart of a Christian is their living spirit. Just as our worship is spiritual and not an outward view of God, neither is our sinfulness. God searches our heart, and it is there He finds our righteousness. The Psalmist wrote, "*If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:*" Psalms 66:18 If we are sinful in our hearts, it is there that the Lord sees our sins. It is with our hearts or our spiritual walk that controls our outward walk and if God is satisfied with our spiritual walk, then our outward walk will be in the Spirit according to God's word, in Truth, and in fellowship with God. God said this of outward worship, "*This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*" Matthew 15:8, 9 Without right spiritual worship we will never please God nor walk in fellowship with Him. Our third thought is our happiness as Christians. Happiness for Christians is for those that are closet to the Lord in fellowship. When we are full of spiritual happiness, dwelling spiritually in fellowship with the Lord and in fellowship with other Christians who are also fellowshiping with the Lord. Our happiness is never in this sinful world because you cannot not mix the two, you cannot serve God and the world, not even in happiness. Things in this world takes away from what God has given to us by grace. Be careful of your walk in this world and do not allow it to take your happiness in the Lord or your fellowship with the Lord.

"That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ." 1 John 1:3

"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" Amos 3:3

Thoughts for Your Heart!

If you hunt the butterfly of wealth too eagerly!

By Charles Spurgeon

He who loses godliness to gain gold--is a great cheater of himself.

Keep yourselves entirely for Christ. Live above the world. Its goods will come to you--when you do not bid too high for them. **If you hunt the butterfly of wealth too eagerly**--you may spoil it by the grasp with which you secure it!

When earthly things are sought for as the *main* object, they are degraded into rubbish, and the seeker of them has fallen to be like Bunyan's *man with a muck-rake*, turning over a dunghill to find nothing. Set your heart on nobler things than lucre! Let us so live that it will be safe for God to add to us the blessings of the present life; but that can only be done with safety, when we have learned to keep the world under our feet.

"Seek *first* His kingdom and His righteousness--and all these things will be given to you as well."
Matthew 6:33

Church News:

As church members please be alert while at church, because we live in a very wicked time. Satan has caused much worldly hate against Christians and churches. If you see anything suspicious, please alert our Pastor. Always pray for our safety in these evil days, because the fact that we are a small church does not eliminate the possibility of trouble.

Prayer Update.

Pastor Hille Update: Brother Hille is continuing to do better. We praise the Lord he has been moved from ICU. However, he is still in the hospital. The family still has a great need financially and if you would like to help this family, please see Brother Justin Bookout our Church Treasure.