

## 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

December 11, 2022 Newsletter Number 892

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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, Velma Hammond, Don Hammond and Families, 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, Shirly 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, Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan the work in Thailand, Elder Raul and the work in Romania.

### ***Thoughts from our Pastor:***

#### **Walk Worthy of the Lord.**

*"So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."* Proverbs 3:4 - 6

What a blessing in a believer's life, to "*find favour and good understanding in the sight of God*". God gives us grace by His measure of grace, our walk-in life is ordained by God as He ordained for us before the world began. "*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*" Ephesians 2:10 But even though God controls our walk-in life and accomplishments, we need to remember to walk strong for the Lord. Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica, "*Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power: That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*" 2 Thessalonians 1:11 -12 Every believer no matter what God has called you to do, ought to do it good enough to find favor in God's sight by walking worthy of God's calling. Any Believer that is not walking to please God in every area of their life are not walking worthy of their calling or walking to find favor in God's sight. The Lord went on to say, "*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart*" We are to trust the Lord with everything we have within us, all faith should be on the Lord. If you look back in the scriptures, you will find those that God blessed the most walked worthy of their calling no matter what that calling was. Moses, look how God used him and blessed him. How about Noah, God blessed him and his family because of his faithfulness. God blesses Enoch by allowing him to escape death, and God said of him "*...for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.*" Hebrews 11:5 Look at Abraham God said of him, "*...Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*" Not only because Abraham walked worthy of his calling, but he also trusted God with all his heart. We see many of people both men and women that walked worthy of *their calling but also showed great faith in God. There is only one way to walk worthy of our calling and that is to trust the Lord with all our hearts. However, this can only be accomplished by "...lean not unto thine own understanding*" Our understanding is not God's understanding, God is always right, and people are always wrong. Our own hearts will always mislead us, our understanding, knowledge, and

wisdom must come from God. God said, "*So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels.*" Psalms 81:12 but why did God give them up, "*But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.*" Verse 11. If Christians are not going to walk and be guided by God's voice (which is His word) then they are going to follow their own understanding. We must realize that the only good in us is what God has graciously put in us. Total depravity means that there is no good in us, we cannot walk on our own understanding. Therefore, so many believers have walked away from the Lord because they follow their own foolish hearts. It is never wise for a believer to think for themselves too much, we will find ourselves falling away from the Lord. The Lord also said "...*In all thy ways acknowledge him...*" Notice the Lord did not say in some ways but in all our ways "*acknowledge him...*" because He is directing our path in everything. If we are doing something, if we are accomplishing something, then God is not acknowledged. "*And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;*" Colossians 3:23 That is, in your heart do as the Lord directs you and you will always, please the Lord. It is because of this that the Lord is pleased and because of this that the Lord will bless you. You will find all the people in the scriptures that the Lord talked positive about followed the Lord and not their own understanding. And if we do then God promised, "...*he shall direct thy paths.*" What a blessing.

***A thought from Octavius Winslow, 1858***

*"And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God." 2 Thessalonians 3:5*

Love to God is the governing motive of the spiritual mind. All desire of human admiration and applause pales before this high and holy principle of the soul. Its religion, its devotion, its zeal, its toils, its sacrifices spring from love. Love prompts, love strengthens, love sweetens, love sanctifies all. This it is that expels from the heart the rival and false claimant of its affections, and welcomes and enthrones the true. It may, at times, like the pulse of the natural life, beat languidly; yet, unlike that pulse, it never ceases entirely to beat. The love of God in the soul never expires. Fed from the source from where it emanates, the holy fire, dim and dying as it may appear at times, never goes out.

Have you this evidence of the spiritual mind, my reader? Does the love of Christ constrain you? It is the first and the chief grace of the Spirit—do you possess it? "Now abides faith, hope, and love; but the greatest of these is love." It is the main-spring, the motive power, of the spiritual mechanism of the soul; all its wheels revolve, and all its movements are governed, by it. Is this the pure motive that actuates you in what you do for God? Or, do there enter into your service and your sacrifice anything of self-seeking, of thirst for human approbation, of desire to make a fair show in the flesh, of aiming to make religion subserve your temporal interests? Oh, search your hearts, and see; sift your motives, and ascertain! Love to God—pure, unmixed, simple love—is the attribute of the spiritual mind; and, in proportion to the intensity of the power of love as a motive, will be the elevated tone of your spirituality. Nor need there be any lack of this motive power. "God is love," and He is prepared to supply it to the mind's utmost capacity. We are straitened in ourselves, not in Him. The ocean on whose margin we doubtfully, timidly stand is infinite, boundless, fathomless. The Lord is willing to direct our hearts into its depths, but we hesitate and draw back, awed by its infinite vastness, or stumbling at its perfect freedom. But to a high standard of heavenly-mindedness, we must have more of the love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, which He has given unto us. We must love Christ more.

***Man hates the gospel with all his heart! By Charles Spurgeon***

Brethren, there is nothing in the gospel, apart from the Spirit of God, which can save a man, for man hates the gospel with all his heart!

Though the reasonableness of the gospel of Jesus ought to make the belief of it universal, yet its plain dealing with human sin excites deadly antagonism. Therefore, the gospel itself would make no progress were it not for the divine power.

There is an invisible arm which pushes forward the conquests of the truth. There is a fire unfed with human fuel, which burns a way for the truth of Jesus Christ into the hearts of men.