

Oaks-West church of Christ

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. • Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Services are live-streamed to our website: oakswestchurchofchrist.com

JULY 21, 2024

God Isn't Through

by George Slover

“A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth. (Isaiah 42:3)

This great passage is found in the midst of Isaiah's Messianic prophecies. “My servant” (vs.1) is God's servant, the Messiah. We know this prophecy had a specific reference to Jesus from an account found in Matthew's gospel (Mt.12:15-21).

Isaiah, in very vivid terms, speaks of the nature of the Messiah's ministry. He tells us that it would be 1) universal in scope ministering to the Gentiles, 2) based upon truth, and 3) without much fanfare. These promises were certain and sure because the God who “created the heavens” foretold these things.

In anticipation of the Messiah, one would look forward to the gentle nature of his ministry. He would come ministering to the weak and the outcasts. The figures found in verse 3 are proof of this. The “bruised reed” and the “smoking flax”

represent the kind of people toward whom God is patient.

The reed grew in river marshes and was used for making writing instruments. They were so plentiful that a broken reed was considered worthless. The flax was used as a wick in a lamp. When it gave off more smoke than light it was snuffed out and thrown away. Those two pictures represent those to whom Jesus ministers! He will mend the reed and fan the flax – hoping for a flame! He is so tender and so patient with us. God isn't through!

When counseling a weak brother, remember the exhortation of Paul – “support the weak”. (I Thess.5:14) When we are down on ourselves we must remember the patience of Jesus! He still cares and is still “working' on me”.

Kindness In Action

by Rickie Jenkins

This story is old and has been told many times, but it is so

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends. We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Summer Series - Bulverde church of Christ is having their summer lesson series each Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Singing - Cedar Park August 9

Gospel Meeting - San Marcos, August 16-18

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

poignant and says so much that it always carries a timeless message:

Shortly after the end of World War II, Europe was in ruins. Perhaps the saddest sight was the little orphaned children, starving in the war-torn streets. Early one chilly morning in London, an American soldier was making his way back to the barracks. Turning the corner, he spotted a little boy of six or seven, standing with his nose pressed to the window of a pastry shop. The hungry boy stared in silence as the baker kneaded dough for a fresh batch of doughnuts. The soldier pulled his Jeep over, got out, and walked quietly to where the little fellow was standing. Through the steamy window, he gazed at the mouth-watering treats. The soldier's heart went out to the child, so he asked, "Son, would you like some of those?" Startled, the little boy peered up at the tall American and cried, "Oh, yes, sir, I would!" Quietly, the soldier stepped inside, bought a dozen doughnuts, and exited into the London fog. Turning to the child, he smiled, held out the bag, and said simply, "Here you are." As he turned to walk away, he felt a tug on his coat. He stopped and smiled back at the boy, only to hear him ask, "Mister, are you God?"

Compassion, kindness, and tender-heartedness are just as needed today as when Jesus walked the earth. We are not God, but we are to be like Him. What a lesson this story gives

us. We sing, "We are the only Bible the world may ever read." Let us be that genuine, unsung hero. Let us be that encourager who demonstrates, even to a child, that there are kind and compassionate people in the world. Do you think this little boy ever forgot that unknown soldier who helped to fill the emptiness in his life?

Do a simple deed regularly and often. We never know how far a simple gesture, or a kind word planted in the grateful heart, will take that person, even a child.

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

Dinah Williams continues to have mobility issues and has been ill recently.

Don Simmons is at home and still on constant oxygen.

Debbie McMurray is doing well but will require regular testing.

Terry Behrns is recovering at his sister's home

Jay Parker's father has cancer and they have been traveling to help him.

Jimmy Stinnett is struggling from his leukemia and is under treatment.

Syble Hargrove passed away.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

"praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints," (Ephesians 6:18)

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

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