

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

“...churches of Christ salute you” (Rom 16:16)
Established 33 AD

July 8, 2024

Volume 16 Number 28
1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, TX 75061
972-790-8606

Web site:
www.beltlinechurch.com

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
AM Worship 10:00 a.m.
PM Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

MINISTER

Doug Post

Email:

doug.post@beltlinechurch.com

ELDERS

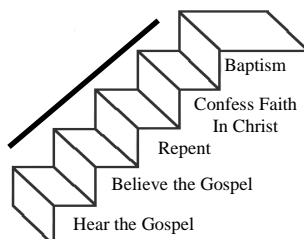
Darrell Allen
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear - Romans 10:17
Believe - John 8:24
Repent - Acts 17:30
Confess - Romans 10:10
Be Baptized - Acts 22:16
Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



“STRENGTHENED” (Part 3)

Doug Post

That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man (Ephesians 3:16).

We have noted two things not taught in the above passage – an alleged “indwelling” of the Spirit, and a direct, supernatural manipulation of the inner man. Nowhere does it say we are strengthened DIRECTLY by Deity. Rather, it clearly says “**with power** (Rom.1:16; Heb.4:12, Psa.29:4; 1 Cor.1:18; Eph.6:1`6-17; Isa.55:10:11; Acts 20:32; cf. 1 Thess/2:13; 2 Thess.2:13-14) **through the Spirit.**”

The Spirit worked directly on certain ones (apostles and prophets) whom God chose, receiving power from the Spirit in order to preach and confirm their message. Their teaching strengthened and comforted the people. Both strengthening and comforting, were accomplished by means of the word taught. In fact all Scripture is written by the Spirit, through men, and those words both strengthen and comfort us today. After all, the sword, which the Spirit uses, is God’s word (Eph.5:16-17 & 6:16-17; 2 Tim.3:16-17).

Paul just finished explaining how the Spirit worked supernaturally and directly upon him, so he could reveal that message to the Ephesians (Eph.3:2-4). This message could be read and understood, providing the Christians with strength in order to stand against the attacks from the devil (6:10, 14). The Spirit strengthens the inner man by means His sword, which is the word of God – **the faith** (6:10-17). Now let’s consider more of the context.

“... that Christ may dwell in your hearts through **the faith**; that you, being rooted and grounded in love”

Paul prayed that they **might** (not will be – automatically) be strengthened with power/might **through the Spirit**, meaning through the Spirit’s teaching given to the apostles, namely Paul, for instructing those in Ephesus. In fact, Paul said the same thing in verse 12: “...**in whom (Christ) we have boldness and access in confidence through the faith of Him**” (Christ). Christ provided them boldness and confidence through **the faith** – the word of God – “**the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints**” (Jude 3). Of course, their being strengthened is condition upon them abiding and applying the word – **the faith**.

The phrase “**the faith of Him**” means the teaching from Him. It is the body of teaching (instruction) Christ gave to the apostles, who were guided by the Holy Spirit into all truth (John 16:13; cf. 14:26). They proclaimed this message both orally and in writing. Through these Scriptures – **the faith** – we have boldness and confident access. The Spirit influences our minds (not directly), only through the word. Paul speaks to the same point elsewhere: “**rooted and built up** (strengthened) **in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it. Being rooted, built up, and established in the faith**, is done through teaching. The Spirit, therefore, provided **the faith** (inspired teaching in Scripture), and serves as the means by which we are strengthened. It is in this sense the Spirit strengthens us, and in no other.

Paul prayed they might be “**strengthened with power through the Spirit into the inner man, so Christ might dwell** (rule and reign) **in your hearts through the faith** (Eph.3:17)” The “heart” here is not some literal residency of Deity within our literal, blood pumping organ. It is the figurative heart – the mind. We are told Christ may (**might**) dwell through **the faith** – the word of God. The whole point of being strengthened through the Spirit is so Christ might dwell (rule and reign) our hearts **by the faith**. Deity dwells figuratively, in our figurative heart, and only through **the faith** – the word of God – as we submit to it.

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line Road Church of Christ

Call in your information to the office at:

972-790-8606 by Sunday evening



Ongoing Health Concerns: Grady Fowler, Polly Roses, Nancy Pond, Jerry Baker, Eula Hedrick, Katherine Cox, Myrtle Wade, Michelle Reed, David West, Patti Kidd, Charlotte Burrows, Carol Partridge, Dean Webb, Jackye Jewett, Karen Rathbun, Alice Worthy, Lacy Allen, Billy Whitfield, Frank Young, Jackye Jewitt

Home Bound Members: Gearldean Jones

Rehab: Elma Lawrence (room #516) and Fernando Ybarra (room #510) – **Villages on MacArthur**
Polly Roses (room #206) – **West Fork Village**
Glen Kelly – **Christian Care** – (room #118) - (Mesquite, Tx.)
Virginia Stull – **Morada** – (room #B-118) – (Grand Prairie, Tx.)

UPDATE:

Lautricia Williams has requested prayers for her oldest son.

Jackye Jewett has been moved to Avante. She is doing better.

Dave Sherrill's daughter is having some heart issues and will be having a stint put in today. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Dorris Walker is making some improvement.

We have many of our number who are experiencing various health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers. Daily prayers are also needed for our missionaries, military, first responders and weather-related victims.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON – Our luncheon for **July** will be on Sunday, **July 14th** right after morning worship services. Invite your friends to worship service and to stay after for the luncheon. Please bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy the wonderful fellowship after worship service.

There are **Green Cans** in both foyers for you to take and fill with your loose change for **The Foster's Home for Children** in Stephenville, Texas. They can be turned into the office when filled up. The cans will be picked up some time in December.

Also, there is new literature in both foyers for you to take to read and pass on to your family, friends and neighbors for them to read also. Take as many as you want. There are also booklets on a rack at the back of the auditorium.

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – July 14, 2024

Front Foyer: *Sandy Hall & Nora Phillips*

Back Foyer: *Joseph Paul & Mary Elaina Vaughan*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7/10/24 – Wednesday Night Bible Study – 6:30 pm

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Sharon Haynes 7/13
Clarine Henson 7/22
Melissa Allen 7/25
Linda Hogan 7/25
Robert Taylor 7/28
Don Herriage 7/28

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Joseph & Pramoda Paul 7/22
Mike & Sandy Hall 7/31

THOSE TO SERVE ON: July 14, 2024

Announcements – Richard Renfro

Song Leaders – a. m. Jerry McKey
p. m. Nathan Allen

Prayers – a.m. Dean Webb
George Tripp
p.m. Doug Post
David Cofer

Scripture Reading – a.m. Joseph Paul
Matthew 10:11-16
p.m. Doug Post
Various passages

Lord’s Table – (Both Services) Darrell Allen & Walt LaHaye

ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>7/7/24</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday Class	28	31	50
A.M. Worship	50	57	100
P.M. Worship	33	34	50
Wed. Class	28	30	50
Contribution	\$4,206	\$4,971	\$4,871

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – Lagos, Nigeria
Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Christ’s Haven Children’s Home – Keller, Texas
Foster’s Home for Children – Stephenville, Texas
Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED

Southeast School of Preaching – Trevor Tattersall

Honor True **Widows**

1 Timothy 5:3

Honor **widows** who are really **widows**.

Acts 6:1

Now in those days, when *the number of* the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their **widows** were neglected in the daily distribution.

There are some members at Belt Line, who give extra to help the poor widows and their children with food. Almost every month we have sent funds to trusted ministers in Africa to help the poor widows and the hungry children. These faithful ministers have sent reports every month without fail. If you would like to help in this effort, please see me.

Richard Renfro

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