

For Our Information

Carolynn Richmond goes back to Houston, TX for tests this month.

Dottie Henderson, Dan's Mom, has not had any more spells with her heart. She is to see her heart doctor again in a few months if nothing else happens.

Judy Thrasher, Dan's aunt has not recognized family as well in the last week or so. This could be an indication of her illness advancing.

Remember one another as we pray to the Father each day

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

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We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

than we are. Is that true?" "Yes, that's true," the mother replied. "He also said that God lives within us. Is that true, too?" Again the mother replied, "Yes."

"Well," said the girl. "if God is bigger than us and he lives in us, wouldn't he show through?"

I like that little girl's way of putting it. If God lives in us, then there's no way of keeping Him from "showing through". That's the essence of Christian living----living in such a way that people around will see God in our lives. (He'll show through)

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16).

A simple question as you start this day: Is God "showing through" in your life?

Seeking His Righteousness

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Elder Shortage

J. F. Dancer, Jr.

I read a lot today about a great "preacher" shortage among churches. There may be such. But there is another "shortage" that in my mind brings more danger to men's souls and that hinders the growth of the Lord's people even more. This is a shortage of men qualified to do the work of elders!

Many congregations are existing (and have existed upwards to 50 years) without men qualified to serve as elders. The Bible teaches there should be a plurality of elders in each congregation. Now, I know that a



For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you,

Titus 1:5



Meet With Us

Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

TannerSt.com

congregation CAN exist scripturally for a time WITHOUT elders. I also know

that when It does it is working under a handicap and is not as God wants it to be.

What is being done to alleviate this "shortage"? Some congregations are disregarding the Bible and installing men who do not even come close to qualifications given in 1Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. Men have been appointed without any children and with children who are not believers. Men are in the "eldership" who could not teach a person the first principles much less convince the gainsayer. Others are designated as elders who are barely 25 years of age and only a very short time as children of God. This is no way to properly solve this shortage.

Brethren, to disregard God's qualifications and appoint the "best we have" or "those who do the work anyhow" is sinful. To appoint novices, adulterers, quarrelsome men, impatient men and/or men who cannot control their families and who failed to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord to oversee the church and to watch for the souls of saints does not solve the problem. It only creates another problem to add to those already present.

We need to concentrate on teaching and training more young men to develop the qualities Paul presented as necessary to do the work. We could not think of casting aside any part of the "plan of salvation" yet we disregard (thus cast aside) this part of God's instructions to his people. We need more men with faithful families who have learned self

Store In My Heart

Galatians 6:14

But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

No matter our accomplishments in life, we are only able to live by the Words of Jesus. None of us can of our own self rise from the mire of this world into the home of God. We are unable to keep our self from getting involved in the mundane issues of this temporary world. If we memorized all of Scripture and could recite the proper passage for the needs of our peers, we still could not boast of what we had done. We would have only given the message of God to a needful soul.

Boast of Christ and what He has done!

control and who love God enough to accept the responsibility of becoming and then being set into the work of overseeing the flock of God (1Peter 5:1-4). This may take another generation to "grow up" in both years and spiritual maturity but IT MUST BE DONE! Let's work to the end that there will be enough elders to OVERSEE the flock and insist they are men who fit the pattern set forth by God.

This will relieve the "shortage" in a way pleasing to God. It will allow God's people to function in a way pleasing to him as we follow the Bible. It provides proper oversight for God's people.

(From the December 1989 issue of "The Reflector" as found on EdsSermonsAndThings.com)

(It seems to me that the Lord's people are still without the shepherds that He designated should be guiding His flock. We have seen brother Dancer's generation grow older and another step into their place but we still are without elders in many of the Lord's congregations across this nation. Will we let another generation pass without making effort to correct this lacking? DLH)

Is God Showing Through?

Monty F. Parker

A little girl, on the way home from church, turned to her mother and said, "Mommy, the preacher's sermon this morning confused me."

The mother said, "Oh! Why is that?"

The girl replied, "Well, he said that God is bigger