

**DeKalb Church  
of Christ**

1265 E. Front St.  
Hwy. 82 East  
DeKalb, TX 75559  
903-667-2388

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**Schedule of  
Services**

**Sunday**

Bible Study 9:30

Worship 10:25

Worship 6:00

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7:00

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**Preacher**

Michael Gilbert

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**What must I do to  
be saved?**

1. **Hear the Gospel.**  
*(Rom. 10:17; Acts. 18:8)*
2. **Believe in Christ.**  
*(Jn. 8:24; 20:30-31)*
3. **Repent of my sins.**  
*(Acts 17:30-31)*
4. **Confess my faith in Christ.**  
*(Acts. 8:37; 1 Tim. 6:12)*
5. **Be baptized into Christ.**  
*(Acts. 2:38; Mk. 16:16)*
6. **Be faithful.**  
*(Rev. 2:10)*

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**Record (5-27-07)**

B.C. – 41  
A.M. – 64  
P.M. – 36  
Wed. B.C. – 40  
Offering – \$1,533  
Wkly Bdg. - \$1,702

**News & Notes**

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**Shut-Ins/Extd illness** - *(Remember with calls, cards, prayers, visits, etc.)*

Carlos Rodgers; Bessie Daniel; Paula Hodgson; Netia Ward; Neta Wilsford  
Pat and Mary Ann Davis; Homer Batchelor; Ashley Sowders; DeWayne Garner  
H. L. Jackson

**Prayer List** *(b/c of space, names appear only once)*

\*Giles Feazel had out-patient surgery on Wednesday @ Wadley. He is now at home recovering.

\*DeWayne Garner leaves for San Antonio this week.

\*Dylan McCullen is slowly recovering from his accident and is now in rehab.

**Announcements**

\*Happy Birthday to: Paige Phillips (6-2)!

\*Happy Anniversary to: the Booths (5-29) and the McCauleys (6-1)!

\*Congratulations to Lea'e Anderson who won a prize in the Special Olympics recently.

\*Congregational Singing practice - today @ 5pm.

\*Youth: Monday Night SYBSNET – N. Jefferson in Mt. Pleasant from 7-8:45.

The topic is "Culture Warriors: Equipping Ourselves to do Battle for the Souls of Men". The van will leave the building @ 6pm.

\*Youth: DeKalb will host the SYBSNET on Monday, June 11th (7-8:45pm). We need people to sign up to help with the refreshments. Ladies have been asked to bring "finger desserts" (i.e., cookies, brownies, etc.). Make plans to attend!

\*Youth: Wednesday Youth Night – June 27

**Brotherhood Events** *(see bulletin board for flyers)*

\*Camp Ida session 1: June 3-8 (theme: courtship & marriage)

\*Mountain Fork Christian Camp session 1: June 24-29

\*Gospel Meeting @ Atlanta Church of Christ, July 2-3 (6:30pm)

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**DeKalb Digest**

Volume 2, Issue 22

www.dekalbchurchofchrist.com

June 3, 2007

**Privileged To Serve...**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*Announcements & 1<sup>st</sup> Prayer.... Dickie Dalby*

*Song Leader (AM / PM)...John Gibbert*

*Lord's Table.... Craig Loe, Mitchell Weeks, and Phillip Raney*

*Scripture Reading (Communion): Buddy Ray*

*Scripture Reading (Sermon): Zack Booth (Mat. 5:1-12)*

**Prayers -- AM & PM**

*2<sup>nd</sup> prayer.....Doyle Raney*

*Closing..... John Loe*

*AM Sermon: Living the Beatitudes*

*PM Sermon: Buddy Ray preaching*

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**Welcome!**

The DeKalb Church of Christ is committed to the 'old paths' (Jer. 6:15). We preach Jesus Christ as the resurrected Son of God (I Cor. 15:1-4) and the Bible as His revealed will for all nations of the earth (Mk. 16:15-16).

We invite you to come worship with us at every opportunity you may have. Should you desire to study the Bible with us in your home, please let us know. We will be happy to give you a Bible answer for your Bible question.

We have three elders: Dickie Dalby, Pat Davis, and John Loe. These men oversee the congregation (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7, 17; I Tim. 3:1ff). We also have three deacons - Giles Feazel, Dwayne Jeffery, and Jim Reaves, who serve the congregation in various ways (Acts 6:3; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:8ff). Our preacher is Michael Gilbert (2 Tm. 4:2).

**Highlights From  
Highlighted Passages**

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*"Be not deceived: evil communications  
corrupt good manners"  
(1 Cor. 15:33, KJV)*

Heads up teens, this lesson is for you! Eddie Stubbs (host of the Grand Ole Opry) recently interviewed George Jones on the famous "AM 650 WSM" radio station out of Nashville, Tennessee.

During this interview, Jones spoke of his near fatal car crash a few years back (he was DUI), and of his battle with alcohol. Anyone who knows about Jones is familiar with his former drinking problem and would recognize his infamous drinking songs, but Jones didn't always partake of the "White Lightnin'" he sang about. In fact, in the interview Jones revealed how it all started more than 50 years ago.

He explained that early on in his career he drank Coca-Cola when playing the bars and honky-tonks. He resisted the temptation to drink alcohol for the first two years.

But as time went by, Jones said the pressure to "be a part of the crowd" got the best of him - he began to drink and didn't "kick the habit" until a car wreck nearly killed him in March 1999.

Young people, Jones' story perfectly illustrates Paul's point in 1 Cor. 15:33, "Do not be deceived: Bad company ruins good morals" (ESV).

Remember, "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil..." (Ex. 23:2).

(<http://wsmonline.com/onair/archives.shtml>)

# True Religion Is Not Free Religion

by David McCain

We live in a society where it seems most everyone wants most everything for free, including religion. Our society demands freedom from responsibility. The buck stops nowhere these days. No one wants to pay the piper. We want all of the frills, but none of the bills. We live it up, and we'll let our grandchildren pay for it. Criminals are no longer held accountable for their crimes. And to be "politically correct," don't blame anyone for anything these days, because we're all just innocent products of our environment, or of our genetic code.

This attitude has become so prevalent in our society that a recent article in Newsweek, reported that the "baby-boomer" generation now demands even a religion of convenience. Sadly, this attitude of irresponsibility has made inroads into the thinking of some brethren. Many ungodly preachers are saying we must change the church to meet the needs of a changing society. But they're not just talking about modernizing methodology to keep pace with our electronic society, rather they think we must change Christ's doctrine to make it more palatable to an irresponsible society.

However, whether we like it or not, it still costs to be a disciple of Christ. Jesus said, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? ...So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple" (Lk. 14:26-33). Jesus also stated the cost of discipleship when he said, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (Mt. 10:34-38).

Being a Christian requires sacrifice. Daily, we must offer ourselves as living sacrifices for Christ (Rms. 12:1-2, Mk. 8:34-38, Lk. 9:23). It is high time the real men of God stood up to proclaim a costly religion. It cost Jesus His life. He expects no less of us. Where are the men like David of old, who when offered free of charge the threshing floor of Araunah, the Jebusite, as a place of worship and sacrifice said, "Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which cost me nothing..." (II Sam. 24:24)? Where are the men like Joshua, who challenged his generation to stand up and be counted, when he said, "...choose you this day whom ye will serve; ...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Jos. 24:15)?

*The religion of Christ remains a costly business. It still requires repentance, change, obedience, and sacrifice to be a child of God. Are you willing to pay the price to be a true disciple of Jesus? How much has it cost you to be a Christian? Are you ever guilty of trying to offer God worship or service, which has cost you little or nothing at all? The simple truth is, though the grace of God is freely offered to all mankind, Christianity is no free ride. If you want to inherit eternal life, you must willingly pay whatever price He asks, for there is no true religion, which is also free religion!*

## ***A Preacher's Perspective...***

by Michael Gilbert

What do the 10 lepers (Lk. 17:11-19), false teachers (2 Tim. 3:1-5), the butler who was imprisoned with Joseph (Gen. 40:23), and the Hebrews in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1-4) all have in common? They were all ungrateful.

Ingratitude is very terrible attitude. There is too much for which we should be thankful, and we rarely express enough gratitude to anyone for the kindness shown toward us. Here are just a few things for which I am thankful...

### ***My Grandfather's Bible***

My brother and I used to stay with my grandmother a lot when we were small. Before we pillowed our heads at night, she would read to us from my grandfather's study Bible. I still remember the various passages being marked with different colors, although I no longer remember what the colors meant. She read about the Roman soldiers that pierced Jesus' side, and about Jonah being swallowed by the great fish...two stories I will never forget. My grandfather died before we were old enough to remember him reading to us, but I am thankful that my grandmother used his Bible to teach us the things of God.

### ***My Bible Class Teachers***

Teacher's...when you think your class isn't listening, they are. I still remember J.B. Renner teaching us the book of Acts, especially the first couple verses when he taught us that a man named Luke wrote the both "Luke" and "Acts". He made a great impression on me.

During the teenage years, John Taber taught us things such as "the inspiration of the Bible" and "Do's and Don'ts for the Christian". He also compiled a folder for me and my brother that I still use today.

Who could forget the sobering presence of Mac McClure as he would stand and teach the adult class. As an older teen, we were moved to the adult class because, as our teacher put it,

"we knew more than most of the adults". I am sure he was just encouraging us, but those words did more to teach me that the Bible can be understood than perhaps anything else I have ever heard...and I am grateful for that lesson.

Today, when I think of a Bible class teacher, I think of dedication, knowledge, and sincere love for the truth. But just saying "thank you" is not enough.

### ***Ingratitude Is Shown By Our Actions***

Ingratitude is a rejection of the Giver (Rom. 1:21; 1 Thess. 5:18). It leads to an unholy life, as evidenced by the Gentiles sinfulness in Romans 1.

Ingratitude has been displayed toward many people including children toward parents (Mk. 7:11-12), employees toward their employer (Eph. 6:5-6), citizens toward the government (Rom. 13:7), Christians toward the local congregation (Acts 5:1ff), etc.

What is the cure for the sin of ingratitude?

### ***The 3-Fold Cure For Ingratitude***

*Remove pride from our hearts.* Pride causes us to believe a lie, namely, that we can stand on our own two feet. The truth is, everything we have, we have received. Paul wrote, "...What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do boast as if you did not receive it?" (1 Cor. 4:7). Whether physical or spiritual blessings, we have received all from God.

*Observe the "little things" others do for us.* After observing them, give honor to whom honor is due (Rom. 13:7). Be ready and willing to say "thank you" either in person, with a card, or over the telephone.

*Pass along the kindnesses you receive.* As the song says, "Count your many blessings, and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done". There aren't enough thank you cards to keep up with all that God and/or others have done for us.

May we always have an "attitude of gratitude".