

**DeKalb Church
of Christ**

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

**Schedule of
Services**

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30

Worship 10:25

Worship 5:00

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00

Preacher

Michael Gilbert
69 CR 3204

DeKalb, TX 75559

903-701-6700

gilbertfamily2000@

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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)

Record (1-6-07)

B.C. – 29

A.M. – 70

P.M. – 30

Wed. - 20

Offering – \$1,896

Wkly Bdg. - \$1,702

News & Notes

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; DeWayne Garner; Joey Almaraz;
Kellie Fletcher

Prayer List

***Jean Jaggers** (tests for cancer were negative, but she still needs our help and prayers)

***John Loe** (recovering, but slower than he would like)

***Sandy Smith Crawford** (in Little Rock hsp; F. Ramsey's niece)

***Layler Morgan** (in Shreveport hsp. b/c of strokes; Bill Hawkins' aunt)

***Ed Moore** (in Dallas hsp. with pneumonia; friend of the Dalby's)

***Jane Turner** (medication made her hands & feet blister badly)

***Bill Bible** (going in for a biopsy on his lungs this week; Michael's uncle)

Announcements

***Schedule Change** - beginning tonight, our Sunday PM service will be held @ 5pm, until Daylight Saving Time resumes on Sunday, March 9. On March 9, our PM service will resort back to 6pm.

***Ladies' Bible Class** begins today @ 4pm.

***Birthdays:** Alex Evans (1-15), Delores Brewer (1-17), Ophelia Walraven (1-18)!

***Anniversary:** Bill & Jo Hawkins (1-16)!

***Bible Bowl** - study Matthew (chps. 13-16) for tomorrow's competition (7pm).

We will be hosting the Bible Bowl in February (11th). This means that we will bring food down to the N. Jefferson congregation on Feb. 11th. Those traveling to the Bible Bowl tomorrow should leave DeKalb no later than 6:15pm.

*The DeKalb chapter of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life will host a **spaghetti lunch** (donation only) @ the Family Life Center, beginning @ 12 noon today.

Brotherhood Events(see bulletin board for flyers)

*Bible Bowl of Northeast Texas - Jan. 14th @ 7pm. (Matt. 13-16).

*We have a Gospel Meeting planned for Feb. 24-27 with David Williams of Nashville, AR!

*Teacher's Workshop (for ladies' only) @ N. Jefferson congregation, Jan. 28th (9am - 3pm, lunch will be served).

*Holding to the Traditions meeting @ Murfreesboro, AR, Sat., Feb. 23rd, 9am

DeKalb Digest

Volume 3, Issue 2

<http://dekalbcoc.wordpress.com>

January 13, 2008

Privileged To Serve...

January 13th

Announcements & 1st Prayer.... Buddy Ray

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

Lord's Table.... Doyle Sikes, Dickie Dalby, Charles Lee

Scripture Reading (Communion): Michael Gilbert

Scripture Reading (Sermon): Mitchell Weeks (Jn. 12:42-43)

Prayers -- AM & PM

2nd prayer.....Pat Davis

Closing..... Doyle Raney

AM Sermon: *The Christian & Compromise*

PM Sermon: *He That Soweth Discord Among Brethren*

Welcome!

The DeKalb Church of Christ is committed to the 'old paths' (Jer. 6:16). 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 two elders: Dickie Dalby 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**

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank..." (Dan. 1:8)

It's easy to compromise! I suppose there is a place for compromise...wouldn't you agree that it is better to choose a restaurant that all can enjoy rather than pursue an argument? Of course!

Sadly, though, many compromise Biblical truth without the slightest violation of their conscience. When this happens to an individual, that person has stepped off the path to heaven.

Sinful compromise begins with small things such as skipping a worship assembly, telling "just one" off-color joke, or watching "just one" wicked movie. Someone has said of compromise that it is "an inability to deal with the Biblical data as God intends us to deal with it, because we are so overwhelmed by our own personal desires, and so we set up ourselves as the one to be pleased instead of God - Scripture calls us to do just the opposite" (MacArthur).

Daniel was a man of God who refused to compromise, even in the least. He didn't compromise because he "purposed in his heart" (Dan. 1:8) to obey his Creator.

What about you dear friend? Have you resolved in your heart not to compromise your faith in God and His Word?

Let's make "compromise" a bad word again!

Play Ball or Praise God?

Daniel Hope

Growing up in the Hope household, sports were a big part of almost every week. My dad had grown up playing sports and pitched in college for Oklahoma Christian, two of my sisters played volleyball and basketball in high school, and I played basketball practically year round throughout middle school and high school. But even though sports were a priority in our lives, we always knew that sports were nowhere close to the top priority in our lives.

I couldn't have been more than seven or eight years old at the time. After all, the baseball league I was playing in was called the "pinto" league. It was a beautiful Wednesday afternoon, and I was on the pitcher's mound as my parents watched from along the third base line – mom sitting in her lawn chair and dad standing up behind her. When we were scheduled to play the afternoon game on Wednesdays, it was never a problem getting to church on time.

But you know what they say - "never say never." We were tied when the time expired, which meant we were going into extra innings. When I saw my dad make his way to the car and leave, I knew there wasn't much time left before Bible class. I did still have a little breathing room, though, since my dad was the preacher and always got to church a little earlier than everybody else.

As dad was driving to the church building, a player on my team was stepping into the batter's box. As we were batting, I was calculating how much time was left before we had to leave for church. When we finally got our third out, the coach told me to get back on the mound and finish the inning. As I took the field and began warming up, I had a feeling that if we didn't leave right away we were going to be late for Bible class. So, after a few minutes of private deliberation, I dropped the ball, ran off the field to my mom, and we left the game to get to Bible class on time.

Looking back, I don't know exactly how my parents did it, but somehow they instilled in me at a very early age the importance of gathering with God's family to worship Him and study His Word. Throughout adolescence, they helped me understand that "bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come" (I Tm. 4:8).

As summer approaches, there will be plenty of fun activities that will threaten to distract you from worshiping God as faithfully as you should. That's why you need to decide now – once and for all – that worshiping God is your first priority. Then, when a conflict arises, it won't even be an issue with you because you've already made up your mind to "seek first the kingdom of God" (Mt. 6:33). Remember, playing ball may be somewhat important, but it's not nearly as important as praising God.

Hand Me A Pill...My Syndrome Is Bugging Me! (2 of 2)

by Wayne Jackson, M.A. (continued from last week's DeKalb Digest)

Depression Redefined

John Cloud, a journalist with TIME magazine, recently reviewed a new book by Allan Horwitz and Jerome Wakefield titled, *The Loss of Sadness: How Psychiatry Transformed Normal Sorrow into Depressive Disorder* (2007, 56). Horwitz is dean of social and behavioral sciences at Rutgers University and Wakefield is an expert on mental-illness diagnosis at New York University.

The authors insist that America now has a "legal drug culture," because we have come to believe that "sadness" is a form of "mental illness." (To this we might add laziness, inattentiveness, super-sensitivity, self-centeredness, over-indulgence, etc.).

Over the past twenty years outpatient medication for "depressed" people has skyrocketed a staggering three hundred percent. Today some seven percent of all Americans are on some kind of antidepressant—and the drug companies are getting rich because of it. Some doctors, with more patients than they can handle effectively, quickly dispense "nerve" drugs as a quick "fix" for problems that do not nearly rise to the level of a bona fide neurotic condition. One does not need a drug just because he is tired, lonely, frustrated, or aggravated about some irritant.

These professionals do not deny that mental health disorders can result from "biological roots," but they contend that every normal person experiences periods of sadness. It's just a part of human existence and such need not be characterized as a "mental illness" that necessitates medication. Being "blue" because of a job loss, the break-up of a marriage, conflict with a neighbor, or "I don't have a steady sweetheart," is not a "syndrome." Such common problems do not require anti-depressants. In fact, these professors contend that sadness is not necessarily bad for a person. It even may be healthy! The reviewer points out that in 1980, the American Psychiatric Association radically changed the definition of "depressive neurosis." Up until then, the expression signified "an excessive reaction of depression due to an internal conflict or to an identifiable event such as the loss of a love object." A new definition was crafted omitting "excessive," and requiring certain symptoms, e.g., a mood change, fatigue, insomnia, weight gain, and indecisiveness—which traits are sustained for at least two weeks. Two weeks to go from normal to neurotic!

While the loss of a loved one is considered an exception, other crises (e.g., a divorce, a severe financial loss, or a life-threatening illness) should not generate a "neurosis"! This is why some physicians will prescribe anti-depressants at the snap of a finger; many people are expected to "flip" within two weeks of a crisis!

Are we that fragile? What has happened—especially among Christians—to faith, prayer, encouragement, courage, and fortitude? Whatever happened to a good old self pat-on-the-back wherein one says: "You are better than this. You can get over this. Pull out. Shape up. Don't become self-centered. Help someone else."

The author concludes his article by making this surprising confession. Sadness is a natural feature of the human makeup. He says it appears "we are sometimes meant to suffer emotional pain so that we will make better choices" (emphasis added). He attributes the "meant to suffer" to the blind forces of evolution, but the phrase itself clearly implies a benevolent purpose.

The Christian should say: "God has allowed suffering to follow in the wake of human sin—as a disciplinary tool to educate us in making 'better choices' so that we will be better people." Even Jesus suffered that he might learn obedience to his heavenly Father (Hebrews 5:8-9).

[**Note:** For further study, see the author's book, *The Bible and Mental Health*. For information call: 1-888-818-2463.]