

**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**

**69 CR 3204**

**DeKalb, TX 75559**

**903-701-6700**

**gilbertfamily2000@**

**gmail.com**

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

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

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**Record (3-02-08)**

**B.C. – 41**  
**A.M. – 62**  
**P.M. – 40**  
**Wed. - 34**  
**Offering – \$1,714**  
**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; DeWayne Garner; Joey Almaraz;  
Kellie Fletcher

**Prayer List**

- \*We extend our sympathy to **Sherry Ray** in the loss of her grandmother, Naomi Harris, this past week.
- \***Dewayne Garner** (traveling to San Antonio this weekend and would appreciate your prayers)
- \***Sharon Jeffery** (has been dealing with severe knee pain, and hopes that new medication will give her some lasting relief)
- \***Jean Jagers** (really needs visits and encouragement)
- \***Ophelia Walraven** (bit by a Black Widow spider & requests our prayers, but is not up to visits or calls at this time)
- \***Bill Hawkins** (we're glad Bill is recovering so quickly from recent surgeries)
- \***Pat Davis** (could use a lot of encouragement)
- \***Bobby Hodgson** (saw an eye specialist yesterday. He and the family would appreciate your prayers)

**Announcements**

- \***Birthday:** Frances Ramsey (9th) and Craig Loe (12th)
- \***REMEMBER** that our evening services will be returning to **6 PM tonight**.
- \***Ladies' Bible Class** today @ 5pm.
- \*The next **Bible Bowl** of Northeast Texas (BB-NET for short) event will be tomorrow night at 7pm (be reading Matt. 21 - 24!).
- \***Devotional @ Sunny Acres** is next Sunday @ 3PM
- \***Birthday Party @ Sunny Acres** is next Wednesday @ 2 PM. Make sure you sign up to bring a cake.

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

- \***Bible Bowl of Northeast Texas** - March 10th @ 7pm. (read often Matt. 21-24).
- \***Dotson St.** is hosting a Health Fair next Saturday (15th), beginning at 9am.
- \***Gospel Meeting @ Atlanta** - March 16-19, with Barry Grider of the Memphis School of Preaching.
- \***Congregational Singing @** Westside in Idabel, March 28th @ 7pm.
- \***Ladies Day @** Blodgett, Sat. March 29th, Phyllis Holt Davis will be speaking on "Swept Away in Kingdom Living".
- \***Gospel Meeting @** Westside in Idabel, March 30-April 4
- \***Memphis School of Preaching** Lectures - March 30 - April 3.
- \***Prom Alternative @** the Franklin County Airport facilities, on April 4th. This formal event is presented for all the Christian teens (freshman through senior) who refused to partake of the activities of their school's Prom. There will be a formal meal, live entertainment, and a professional photographer. Contact the Richard & Wendy Rutledge (903) 537-4645.

**DeKalb Digest**

Volume 3, Issue 10

<http://dekalbcoc.wordpress.com>

March 9, 2008

**Privileged To Serve...**

**March 9th**

**Announcements & 1<sup>st</sup> Prayer....** Buddy Ray

**Song Leader (AM / PM)...**Parker Turner/Alex Evans

**Lord's Table....** Dickie Dalby, Phillip Raney, Mitchell Weeks

**Scripture Readings**

**Communion.....**Michael Gilbert

**Sermon.....** Charlie Gonzalez (Jn. 20:30-31)

**Prayers -- AM & PM**

**2<sup>nd</sup> prayer.....**Dwayne Jeffery

**Closing.....**Doyle Raney

**AM Sermon:** *Believing in Jesus*

**PM Sermon:** *The Great Commission*

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**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**

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*"Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet"*

*(Acts 4:36-37, ESV)*

In the difficult task of being a Christian, we (this author included) sometimes forget about the important work of "encouragement". It seems that Barnabas' moral character earned him the nickname "son of encouragement". He was a great encourager of downtrodden brethren, a lifter up of "drooping hands" and "weak knees" (Heb. 12:12; Acts 9:26-27). Surely smiles graced the faces of all who saw him - for they well knew that Barnabas was "for them" and not "against them". They trusted that he desired their soul salvation - and they were right.

Even Barnabas wasn't perfect, though, for the 'son of encouragement' experienced difficulties with one of God's greatest servants - the apostle Paul (Acts 15:37-39). Who is to say which man was right? Either way, discouragement must have entered both men's hearts. Even so, Barnabas kept on keeping on, and traveled to Cyprus - preaching the gospel and encouraging the brethren. His work of encouragement was (and is) a vital part of God's work on earth.

*Many good brethren are providing this needful ministry here at our congregation, often it is "behind the scenes". To you, we gratefully encourage you in your ministry. May God help us all to be more encouraging to each other!*

# Get Ready for some "Good News Today"!

"Good News Today" brings you some good news in the midst of a disappointing world. It is produced by the *Gospel Broadcasting Network*. **GBN** is unique in the world of religious TV - it is commercial free - and they NEVER ask for money! Sponsored by the churches of Christ, it can now be seen on DirectTV (channel 323, 7am CST) and on the DishNetwork (channel 9407, 11am CST) Sunday through Friday in our area! New programming is produced each week and is available free via the internet. Go to [www.gbntv.org](http://www.gbntv.org) and click on "live broadcast".

## **DirectTV subscribers**

channel 323 (7am CST)

## **DishNetwork subscribers**

channels 9407 (11am CST)

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## **About the Gospel Broadcasting Network (GBN)**

(taken from [www.gbntv.org](http://www.gbntv.org))

"Preach the Gospel to every creature" is a charge current in every generation until the end of time. Admittedly, reaching every soul with the message of salvation is challenging, considering the world's population of over six billion could double by the year 2040! Coupled with the fact that about a hundred precious souls are dying every minute, the problem the Lord's people face in reaching a world rapidly rushing into eternity is obvious.

However, since God desires that all men be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, we must believe He has given His people the power and potential to solve the problem of reaching every soul with the truth.

A large part of the solution to the problem is now in production...

## **"GOSPEL BROADCASTING NETWORK"**

...a satellite network, broadcasting the truth and nothing but the truth, 24 hours a day, seven days a week...

GBN is under the oversight of the elders at the Highland Church of Christ in Dalton, Georgia. The primary thrust of the network is:

- To establish in viewers of all ages a strong belief in the existence of God through a heavy concentration of Christian evidences,
- To establish in viewers the conviction that God has revealed Himself and His will to man through the Bible; and
- To encourage the proper response to God's Word—obedience to the plan of salvation and adherence to the New Testament pattern of worship, work, and Christian living.

In many places brethren are threatened by false teaching. A saturation of sound Bible teaching via GBN may help strengthen them to withstand error and to stand for the truth. In areas where the church is practically nonexistent and brethren are striving to grow in the faith, GBN's programming may be viewed, possibly videotaped, to edify these Christians and assist them in their evangelistic efforts. Visit <http://www.gbntv.org>!

## **Preaching Should Be Increased** (or, Kill the Church - Downplay Preaching) by Michael Gilbert (part 2 in a series)

Among God's children, gospel preaching is not as popular as it used to be. We've come a long way since the in-depth sermons of the pioneer preachers that really grew the church. Preachers no longer study as they once did, and Christians have a noticeably smaller spiritual appetite. This author believes the Lord's church was stronger, more faithful when we actually looked forward to a good biblical sermon - and we believe that preaching deserves a higher place in the hearts of both preachers and Christians than it currently occupies.

The section of Scripture that we are studying (2 Tm. 3:1 - 4:4) hinges on Paul's command to "preach the word" (2 Tm. 4:2). He didn't want Timothy to stop preaching or to change his message because of opposition. Paul was mindful of Timothy's tears (2 Tm. 1:4) as he encouraged the preacher to "stir up the gift of God" (2 Tm. 1:6) that was in him. Timothy's critics must have been playing havoc with his faith, else Paul would not have urged him to replace his "spirit of fear" with a spirit "of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Tm. 1:7). Paul knew that God's Word was (and is) the need of humanity, so, he wrote Second Timothy to keep a preacher from giving up. He gave Timothy at least five reasons to continue preaching "the word" - let's notice the first reason together.

Paul wrote, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come" (2 Tm. 3:1). The Bible student understands that "the last days" mentioned in our text began in Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1, 16-17). Timothy, then, was already preaching in the "last days", and they will last until the Savior returns (1 Cor. 15:23-24). During these "last days", the Lord's church would face "perilous times" (i.e., 'dangerous seasons, or epochs' in the Greek; 2 Tm. 3:1) that would come and stay ("shall come", in the Greek, carries the idea of 'coming and staying'). During these dangerous, stressful, and trying periods, God would need faithful preachers like Timothy to "...hold fast the form of sound words" (2 Tm. 1:13).

To give you an idea of what these "stressful, difficult seasons" might be, some church history is in order. One of the first "stressful seasons" for the church involved Christians who began teaching gnosticism, which is basically the idea that Jesus did not come in the flesh. John wrote against this doctrine (1 Jn. 4:2-3). This doctrine distressed Christ's church for many years. Another difficult time that burdened the church was when the saints opted for a hierarchy system of church government instead of the simple scriptural idea of local elders, deacons, and members (c. 100-150 AD). Obviously, this period came and it stayed - we still have the result of that departure evident in the Catholic church today. Early on, the family of God also faced the false doctrines of sacerdotalism and sacramentalism - which two ideas still plague us.

In more modern times, you might recall when the church began to fight against liberalism, anti-ism, rationalism, and emotionalism. During these "perilous times", God's word must be preached without compromise. Timothy, preach the Word!

Oh, how much we need to encourage our faithful preachers, Bible class teachers, home Bible study teachers! A big "thank you" is in order for those who work diligently to prepare for their Bible classes each week - for their work is perhaps the most vital of all to the life of a congregation! Teachers, as you labor diligently each week, remember two things: 1) your service of preaching & teaching God's Word (and only His Word) is *important* and *needed* because of the "perilous times" we live in, and 2) we are praying for you!