

**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?**

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 (3-16-08)**

B.C. – 32  
A.M. – 56  
P.M. – 25  
Wed. - 25  
Offering – \$1,703  
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; Jean Jagers; Homer Batchelor; DeWayne Garner; Joey  
Almaraz; Kellie Fletcher

**Prayer List**

- \*Jean Jagers (has returned to Sunny Acres)
- \*Ricky Wilson (at home recovering from having a stint put in)
- \*Jim Reaves (had some medical tests last week, results were good)
- \*Dwayne, Sharon, and Jessica Jeffery (all have been "under the weather")
- \*Delores Brewer (left Friday traveling to New Orleans, she requests our prayers)
- \*Jack Williams (recovering from back surgery, room 338 @ St. Michael's)
- \*Letha Robbins (doctors have ruled out cancer, but have ordered more tests, still haven't told her much up to this point)
- \*J.M. Gilbert (has battled pneumonia this past week, but is doing better)
- \*Darrin Cowley (diagnosed with stage 4 cancerous tumor on his heart, he has a wife and 3 children; he works for Craig Loe)
- \*Mike Rhoden (diagnosed with brain tumor which is wrapped around his brain stem; 1st cousin of Buddy Ray)
- \*Donna Harp (diagnosed with cancer, and recovering from surgery @ Baylor; co-worker of Wendy Salinas)
- \*Martha Shifflet (diagnosed with cancer; she lives across from Benny & Paula, and she is Wade Burns' mother)

**Announcements**

- \***Birthday:** Katelyn Bynum (3-26) and Jessica Jeffery (3-29)!
- \***Anniversary:** Bobby & Laura Batchelor (3-27-08)!
- \***Ladies' Bible Class** today @ 5pm. They are studying a new book, *Harmony of the Gospels*.
- \*The last **Bible Bowl** event for the 2007-2008 season will be April 14 @ 7pm (be reading & studying Matt. 25 - 28).

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

- \***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.
- \***Gospel Meeting @ N. Jefferson** - March 30-April 2, with an area-wide men's dutch-treat luncheon @ Western Sizzlin' (12 noon Monday). Sun. - Wed. @ 7pm.
- \***Prom Alternative** @ the Franklin County Airport facilities, on April 4th. This formal event is presented for all the Christian teens who refused to partake of the activities of their school's Prom. There will be a fancy good meal, live entertainment, and a professional photographer. Contact the Richard & Wendy Rutledge (903) 537-4645.

**DeKalb Digest**

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visit us @ [dekalbcoc.wordpress.com](http://dekalbcoc.wordpress.com)

March 23, 2008

**Privileged To Serve...**

**March 23rd**

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

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

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

**Scripture Readings**

**Communion.....**Michael Gilbert (1 Cor. 11:23-26)

**Sermon.....** Mitchell Weeks (Rom. 10:17)

**Prayers -- AM & PM**

**2<sup>nd</sup> prayer.....**Pat Davis

**Closing.....**Dwayne Jeffery

**AM Sermon: Faith Cometh By Hearing...(part 2)**

**PM Sermon: Blessings in Christ**

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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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*"And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him"  
(Heb. 5:12)*

The English word "obey" translates both Hebrew and Greek words that express parallel ideas – that of listening, being attentive to someone who possesses authority. Thus, the words suggest an active response to instruction, not merely awareness of sound. Note: "Then [Moses] took the book of the covenant, and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, 'All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient'" (Ex. 24:7 RSV).

In the NT, the Greek word for "obey" is hupakouo, literally, to "hear under." This pictures the student, under the teacher's authority, listening with a view to obedience. Obedience proceeds from: (a) being exposed to the message; (b) having confidence in the integrity of the message; (c) believing the instruction; and, (d) accepting responsibility for yielding to its demands. Obedience must be: (a) from the heart (Rom. 6:17), i.e., sincerely offered – not out of false motives; (b) completely rendered – partial obedience is no obedience (I Sam. 15:1-23).

Obedience is doing what the Lord prescribed, in the manner authorized, and for the purpose specified. Christ is the Author of salvation to the obedient, not the disobedient (Heb. 5:8-9; see Jn. 3:36 ASV). (Jackson, p. 129)

# 12 Signs of a Good Boyfriend/Girlfriend

Michael Gilbert (adapted)

Last week we looked at "12 Signs of a BAD Boyfriend/Girlfriend" - this week we will "flip it over" and look at "12 Signs of a GOOD Boyfriend/Girlfriend". I hope this helps our young people as they choose who to "date" and who to marry. It is so easy to get tangled up with the wrong person. Choosing the right spouse greatly influences our happiness in this life, and our eternal destiny in the next. Know that Elizabeth and I are praying for all of our teens in regard to who they date, and who they eventually marry. We are praying for J.M. as well! I hope you will keep this article through your dating years, and I pray that you will find that special person *who will help you go to heaven!* Go home, look up the Scriptures for each point, and seriously consider what is said. Don't forget to ask God to help you choose your mate!

1. If he/she is a faithful Christian - you are off to a good start (**Gen. 6:1-2**).
2. If your intended watches his/her language, especially in regard to what is said about other people - this is commendable (**James 3:9-10; Eph. 5:4**).
3. Look closely at your loved one's credit and job history. They are sure predictors of what your life will be like if you marry this person (**Rom. 13:8; Col. 3:22-23**).
4. If your loved one comes from a family of *faithful* Christians - he/she is more than likely a "good catch" (**Gen. 18:19**).
5. If the person you are dating hangs around other Christians - he/she realizes the importance of good associations - this is a good sign (**Acts 2:44; 1 Cor. 15:33**).
6. If your boyfriend/girlfriend does not equate "love" with pre-marital sex, then he/she has a good understanding of God's will regarding sex (**Gen. 2:24, Heb. 13:4, 1 Cor. 7:2-5**).
7. Investigate the moral, social, and political views of the one you are dating - if the teaching of the Bible has shaped his/her views, this is a big plus (**Eph. 5:1-5, 1 Cor. 15:33, Micah 3:1-3**).
8. If he/she respects authority (parents, teachers, police officers, judges, etc), this person should be treasured (**2 Pet. 2:9-11**).
9. If your "sweetie" doesn't try to change you - latch on to him/her (**Rom. 12:1-2**).
10. If the boy or girl you date refuses to miss a worship service - they are probably worth marrying (**Heb. 10:25**).
11. If your loved one respects his/her parents, they are "a cut above" the rest (**Eph. 6:2**).
12. If "divorce" is not an option with your boyfriend/girlfriend, they have been taught well. You will probably have a great, life-long relationship (**Gen. 2:24; Mt. 19:1-9**).

## Preaching Should Be Increased (or, Kill the Church - Downplay Preaching)

by Michael Gilbert (part 4 in a series)

A third reason Timothy was called upon to continue preaching was this...he knew intimately the sacred writings and their power. Paul reminded him, *"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus"* (2 Tim. 3:15). Those who know God's book and its power have a responsibility to teach it to others.

Timothy had known God's book, *"...from childhood..."* (2 Tim. 3:15, ESV). The Greek word for 'childhood' (*brepous*) gives some insight into the parenting style of Timothy's mom. *Brepous* refers to young babies, even unborn babies (see Luke 1:41 where "the babe leaped in her womb..."). One is left with the impression that Timothy's mom, Eunice (2 Tim. 1:5), began his spiritual training early, perhaps with the help of his grandmother, Lois. Would it be unreasonable to assume that a pregnant Jewish woman sang to her unborn child, thus beginning his spiritual training before birth?! It is never too early to train children in the way they should go (Prov. 22:6)! In our culture, many Christian mothers can be found singing, reading, and even playing music to their unborn child.

Not only had Timothy known the Scriptures *"from childhood"*, but Paul reminded him that he knew their saving power - *"...from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus"* (2 Tim. 3:15). The Scriptures, and only the Scriptures, can tell us how to be saved because they point us to Christ. Jesus once chastised the Jews for thinking that mere possession of and knowledge about the Scriptures are enough to save a person. Jesus urged them to, *"Search the scriptures...they are they which testify of me"* (Jn. 5:39). The Scriptures (both Testaments) point us to a saving relationship with Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God.

The power of God's Word is seen in that it saves us from our sins. Peter wrote, *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever...and this is the word by which the gospel is preached unto you"* (1 Pet. 1:23-25). Paul wrote, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth..."* (Rom. 1:16). This message of Christ's sacrificial, atoning death is foolishness to many, but *"...it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe"* (1 Cor. 1:21).

One might rightfully ask, "How do the words spoken by God save us?". Paul answers this question in 2 Tim. 3:16. He wrote that the Scriptures are profitable for 1) doctrine, 2) reproof, 3) correction, and 4) instruction in righteousness. *Doctrine* is simply the totality of the message of the Scriptures which is meant to shape our view of life. *Reproof* simply means that Scripture tells us when we are wrong. *Correction* is when Scripture tells us how to "right the wrong" we have been reprovved of. *Instruction in righteousness* refers to the lifelong training that is provided to the child of God through the Scriptures. The Scriptures, then, tell us what is right (doctrine), what is wrong (reproof), how to get right (correction), and how to stay right (instruction in righteousness). All this is to make us *"...perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works"* (2 Tim. 3:17).

Preachers, teachers - the Word of God must be taught by those who know the Scriptures, and the saving power thereof. So continue following the godly examples of preachers and teachers who have gone before you. Always bearing in mind that only God's Word can bear us through the perilous times in which we live.