

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 25 JUNE 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Drew Bean** received some tests this week on his heart that ruled out some possibilities but were not entirely conclusive. He has a follow-up appointment in a couple weeks to try to accurately determine the causes behind the irregularities. Please pray for Drew.
- **Anna Miekle** continues to be in very ill and is in much pain. She is scheduled to see a doctor in July. Please pray for her.
- Continue to pray that **Pat Butler** remains healthy and strong and that all reports from the doctors are good from this point forward.
- **Holly Ann Villanueva, Sharon Alexander's daughter**, had successful surgery last week and will begin to undergo a series of radiation treatments. Please continue to pray for complete healing.
- Keep praying for on-going health concerns: **Bob Stark, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn.**
- **Sermon Title: Finding Stability When You Feel Insignificant**
- **Calendar Items:**
 - **Ladies' Class** will be held on this coming Saturday (July 1). The class will be at the home of Greg and Mechelle Williams. See Shannon Morolez for more details!
 - Next Sunday (July 2) will be our **singing and prayer service**. Make plans to come back to the building at 1:30!
 - Don't forget our group meeting Sunday is the second Sunday in July (July 9). Be looking for an email from your group host!

WHO ARE WE?

A group of God's children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament

ELDERS

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Mike Pharris

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

EVANGELISTS

Daniel Broadwell
Steve Garrett

CONTACT US

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DIRECTORY UPDATES

Email:
danieljady@gmail.com

SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Bible Study

SERVICE

Welcome - D. Broadwell
Song Leader - W. Hodge
Opening Prayer - L. Williams
Lesson - S. Garrett
Communion Talk - J. Seale
Announcements - M. Mann
Closing Prayer - T. Walker

BIBLE CLASSES

Psalms (Auditorium)

- Daniel Broadwell
- Michael Krueger

Classes for children

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Is Jesus God?

Among other key themes, the apostle John puts quite a bit of emphasis in his gospel on the divinity of Jesus. The opening of the book is extraordinarily clear: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that has been made.” (John 1:1-3) ‘The Word,’ of course, is Jesus, as John makes clear when He says, “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” (1:14) Jesus is God, and as God, He was in the beginning and the creation of the world happened through Him.

Then, as John’s account moves forward, Jesus Himself will speak to His divine identity on several occasions. Some of them are more implicit, while some are very direct. Here is a sampling of Jesus’ statements in the gospel of John:

- **“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)** It isn’t clear whether this is Jesus talking or John the narrator, but the statement is the same. Jesus is the Son of God, implying that He is divine.
- **“Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.’” (John 8:58)** In a stunning statement, Jesus not only references his eternal nature (existing before Abraham), but also uses the covenant name of Jehovah God to refer to Himself (“I AM”). The Jews knew exactly what He meant, and consequently took up stones to kill Him.
- **“I and the Father are one.” (John 10:30)** In another clear statement, Jesus identifies Himself as being one and the same with the Heavenly Father. Again, the Jews knew exactly what Jesus meant, and again they take up stones to throw at Him.
- **“Thomas answered and said to Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Because you have seen me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed.’” (John 20:28-29)** Thomas, after seeing the resurrected Jesus, proclaims that Jesus is God. Jesus’ response is not to rebuke him or correct him, but to say that this statement by Thomas demonstrates his belief.

There is one more statement from the Gospel of John that I think offers a strong conclusion to this discussion. Immediately after the story of Thomas in chapter 20—after Jesus blessed those who would not see Jesus and yet believe—John makes the following statement: **“Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and by believing you may have life in His name.” (John 20:30-31)**

There are two things that John emphasizes here that are important to the discussion of Jesus’ divinity. One is faith, or belief. We will never be able to fully explain what it means for Jesus to be totally human and totally divine, or how that is even possible. But we can accept it by faith—and through that faith have life in His name. Second, John makes clear that this faith is based on evidence, namely the signs that Jesus performed. We can confidently believe that Jesus is the Son of God because of what He did when He was on the earth, culminating in His greatest sign—the resurrection from the dead. When Jesus rose from the dead, He proved Himself to be who He said He was. When Jesus rose from the dead, He proved Himself to be God in the flesh.