

## Youth NEWS



The next Jr./Sr. High Devotional will be hosted by the Sneeringer-Gonzalez Family on **Sunday, October 8** following evening service.

## Education NEWS

### In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, October 8 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "The Second Coming." The Lord Jesus promised to return to earth someday. Predictions abound, but no one knows when. Every eye will witness His return. In this lesson we'll study what the Lord will do when He comes for His own.

**SUNDAYS**  
Bible Classes .....9:00 AM  
Morning Worship .....10:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 5:00 PM

*Tuesdays (September through May)*  
Men's Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Ladies' Bible Study..... 10:00 AM

**WEDNESDAYS**  
Midweek Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

### EVANGELIST

Ronnie Scherffius

### SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock  
*Hamilton, New Zealand*

John Moore  
*Bible Land Passages*

Mani Pagidipalli, M.D.  
*India*

Cecil Shaw  
*Ocho Rios, Jamaica*

Student Support  
*Southwest School of Bible Studies*

THE MIDTOWN MESSENGER IS THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5901 N. MAIN, VICTORIA, TEXAS 77904 . 361-573-0030  
[www.midtowncoc.org](http://www.midtowncoc.org)

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR MID-TOWN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

# The Midtown CHURCH OF CHRIST Messenger

OCTOBER 1, 2017

### "WATCH OUT FOR THOSE BISCUITS!"

by Ronnie Scherffius

The following story can be found on the internet in varying forms (one man even claiming that he personally knows the woman to whom this happened!). It is most certainly more *urban "internet" legend* than truth! Nevertheless, there are some practical lessons which may be learned from this *fanciful fabricated fiction* which may help us to understand the mindset of many people when it comes to religious belief and practices.

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be condemned."

Mark 16:16

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins"

Acts 2:38

"While visiting her in-laws, Linda went to a nearby supermarket to pick up some groceries. Several people noticed her sitting in her car with the windows rolled up, her eyes closed and both hands behind the back of her head. One customer who had been at the store for a while became concerned and walked over to the car. He noticed that Linda's eyes were now open and she looked very strange. He asked her if she was okay. Frantically, Linda replied that she had been shot in the back of the head! The man immediately called 911. When the paramedics arrived they broke into the car because the doors were locked and Linda refused to remove her hands from her head. When they finally got in, they found that Linda had a wad of bread dough on the back of her head. A Pillsbury biscuit canister had exploded from the heat, making a loud noise that sounded like a gunshot, the wad of dough hitting her in the back of her head. When she reached back to find out what it was, she felt the dough and thought it was her brains. She initially passed out, but upon awakening she attempted to hold her brains in for over an hour."

Linda is the picture of many in the religious world today—faith based on feeling without evidence! How certain was Linda that she had been shot! She heard the ‘bang’ of the gun, she felt the impact of the bullet and she held in her hands her ‘oozing brains.’ So completely certain was she of her desperate situation and so emotionally overwhelmed was she by the circumstances, that for a moment she even lost consciousness! BUT Linda never looked; she never searched for adequate evidence to verify “what she *felt* to be true.”

Such is the picture of many in the religious world today. *Feeling* they are secure, satisfied that what they feel *in their heart* is right, and overwhelmed by *emotion* they go through life without putting forth a diligent effort to establish the truth of God’s Word. Some attest to an *impression made on the heart* by a miraculous working of the Holy Spirit, suggesting that this “evidence” of pardon addressed to their senses which they can hear, see, or feel is sufficient. They are not satisfied until they have been abducted by the Holy Spirit, and by His power thrown to the floor. They seek to turn salvation into a seizure and to make conversion into a convulsion. This heightening of the senses and overwhelming emotion, they would contend, gives *certain knowledge* of the fact of their forgiveness. But the fact is that emotions are not evidence.

God appeals to the higher principles of our nature and through the gospel seeks to stir faith (Rom. 10:17). The apostle Paul wrote, “For we walk by faith, not by sight” [sight put for all the senses] (2 Cor. 5:7). When a person

says, “I know my that sins are forgiven because I feel it,” that man’s religion is based on the lower principle of feeling not the higher principle of faith.

This belief of evidence addressed to the senses, stems from a misunderstanding of forgiveness. Forgiveness is *not* an internal operation in the sinners heart but rather a mental act of the one who forgives. Brother N.B. Hardeman used the following to illustrate the point: If a man was sentenced to death but just prior to his execution the governor resolves to pardon him, at the moment the governor determines to pardon—does the convict just then feel some internal operation, some emotional experience? NO! Not until the message is delivered does a change in his feelings take place. It is facts that direct emotions *not* emotions the facts. Similarly, when the sinner obeys the gospel he is pardoned in the mind of God (Heb. 8:12), but one is not required to wait for a message from heaven of the assurance of pardon, for the same word that states the terms of pardon for man also states the promise of forgiveness.

The assurance of pardon is based on fact not feeling and the facts are believed on testimony. A jury declares innocent or guilty base on the testimony of facts. Here are the testimony of the facts: “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:16); “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38).

## News & ACTIVITIES

**Today!** The Monthly Men’s Meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m.

### Sunday, October 22

The Fourth Sunday Fellowship Meal will be held following evening worship. Please bring a potluck dish.

- You are encouraged to submit bible questions in a “mail box” in the foyer to be answered during the monthly Q&A session.
- Listen to lessons from MidTown’s gospel meeting by visiting the website at [www.midtowncoc.org](http://www.midtowncoc.org)
- Congratulations to Melissa and Garrett Crooks on the birth of Jordan Duane, 5 lbs., 17 inches; and Liam Allen, 4 lbs, 12 oz., 16.5 inches on Sept. 12. Proud grandparents Rex and Marilyn Horst, aunt Karen Wilkinson and cousins Emma and Jackson.

Records You Helped Make  
For the Week of  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

#### Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....122  
Sunday Morning Assembly.....159  
Sunday Evening Assembly.....104  
Wednesday Attendance.....109

**Offering: \$4,568**

## Keep in PRAYER

### BAPTISM:

We rejoice in the baptism of **Myra FitzSimmons** and pray her walk with Christ will bear much fruit.

### MidTown Members:

Buster Bailey  
Jeff Cannady  
Les Daltry  
Jan Farris  
Faye Henderson

Dee Gilpatrick  
Betty Key  
Kathy Laws  
Sandy Malone  
Ann Pantel  
Glenodine Pitts  
Paul Purswell  
Mickey Tisue  
Clark Withers

### & Friends Family:

Victor Benitez,  
*brother of Virginia Escojido*  
Bert Haynes,  
*father of Pam Stryker*  
Kim Neel-Farthing,  
*daughter of Joyce*  
Gillette Ferguson,  
*brother in Vernal, Utah*  
June Green,  
*mother of Janice FitzSimmons*  
Rose Leske,  
*sister-in-law of Sandra Marie*  
Barbara Lopez,  
*mother of Rosalba Barton*  
Liz Lopez,  
*friend of Nina Siegel*

Janell Marshall  
*family of Karon Barton*  
Fred Porter,  
*brother-in-law of Della Rampley*  
Larry Purswell,  
*father of Paul*  
Sarah Randle,  
*mother of Steve*  
Harish Reddy,  
*brother-in-law of Archana Verma*  
Brian Rutherford,  
*Nephew of Clifton*  
Sammy Snead,  
*brother-in-law of Ronnie*  
*Scheffius*  
Prem Verma,  
*father-in-law of Archana*  
Kennedy Young, Sr.,  
*uncle of Naomi Flonnory*