

Youth NEWS



Thank you to the Sneering-Gonzalez Family for hosting the Jr./Sr. High Devo last Sunday!

Saturday, October 21 There will be a G.E.M.S. girls meeting at 9 a.m. at the church building.

Saturday, October 28

The Family/Youth Devotional will be hosted by the Jobs Family on Saturday, October 28 at 6 p.m. at their home.



Sunday, October 30

MidTown's Trunk or Treat will follow evening service. While adults prepare their vehicles, the children have pizza and then a brief devotional. Afterward, the children may wear costumes and visit the decorated cars to collect small toys or candy.



Education NEWS

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, October 22 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "The Judgment." Since each of us will one day face Judgment, we need to know Who will judge us, what the basis of that judgment will be, and how we can prepare for the Judgment Day. Will you be ready?

SUNDAYS

Bible Classes9:00 AM
Morning Worship10:00 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

OCTOBER 15, 2017

"Distracted by Golden Apples"

by Ronnie Scherffius

Most of us are familiar with the more popular heroes and heroines of ancient Greece. Mythological figures such as *Achilles*, hero of the Trojan War; *Jason* leader of the Argonauts; *Odysseus*, a hero and king of Ithaca whose adventures are the subject of Homer's *Odyssey*; *Pandora*, the first woman; *Helen*, daughter of Zeus and Leda, whose abduction brought about the Trojan War; or *Andromeda*, wife of Perseus, who was placed among the constellations after her death. But have you ever heard of *Atlanta*?

At birth, Atlanta was taken into the woods and left to die. She was found by a she bear and raised as one of her cubs until she was dis-

covered by hunters who took her and raised her as their own. As she grew she became more skillful with a bow and arrow and spear than any man. She was known as a great huntress and her fame spread throughout all of Greece. So great was her fame that she was invited by the men of Greece to join in a hunt for the Calydonian boar, a fierce creature with razor-sharp tusks that terrorized the countryside, killing cattle and man alike. It was her skill with the bow that wounded the beast allowing Meleager to kill it.

Atlanta was not only a great huntress but also an extremely fast runner. Being urged by her father to marry she challenged her suitors to race with her, if the suitor was victorious Atlanta would be his prize, but if she was the

"Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?"

Galatians 5:7

victor his death would be the penalty for losing. Many competed and as many lost their lives. Finally, a man named Hippomenes, a disciple of Chiron (instructor of such heroes as Achilles and Jason) and himself a famed Calydonian hunter, stepped forward accepting the challenge of Atlanta. Though not as swift a foot as his opponent, Hippomenes was a man of cunning and secretly concealed three golden apples as he entered the contest. As with the others, Atlanta outran him, falling behind Hippomenes threw an apple. Startled, Atlanta stopped to pick it up and he gained the lead. Soon, however, he found himself gradually slipping behind. At an advantageous time he threw his second golden apple and Atlanta, charmed by its glitter, delayed to seize it and fell behind once again. Nevertheless, as they neared the goal she gained on her crafty suitor and was about to pass him when Hippomenes threw his last golden apple. Again, lured by its charm, Atlanta stopped and lost the race.

Satan is the great deceiver of mankind: “And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, **which deceiveth the whole world:**” (Rev. 12:9). From time to time, our adversary throws golden apples along life’s pathway. In fact, one might say that he throws three golden apples that charm and destroy many a racer: “the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life” (1 John

2:16). This was the approach from the beginning in the Garden of Eden. Believing the lies of satan, it is record of Eve: “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food [*lust of the flesh*], and that it was pleasant to the eyes [*lust of the eyes*], and a tree to be desired to make one wise [*pride of life*], she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat” (Gen. 3:6).

Many Christians today are being distracted by the golden apples of the adversary. Tempted to enjoy the pleasures of sin, they are deceived not seeing that these pleasures are but temporary (Heb. 11:25). But, we are often distracted, not by sinful things, but just *things!* How many times have we allowed recreation, hobbies, or personal interests to hinder us from doing good? A close examination of our lives might also reveal that we have become distracted by our own “*busy-ness.*” We have become too busy to see that the work of the church is not being accomplished, too busy to see that a brother or sister in Christ is in need, too busy to notice that souls are lost and no evangelism is taking place, too busy to consider that the house of God is falling into disrepair and no workers are stepping forward to fill up the gap.

Have we turned aside from faithfulness to the will and work of God by the tempter’s tricks. Have we become distracted by golden apples? Are we falling behind in the race?

News

& ACTIVITIES

Sunday, October 22

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

Monday, October 23

There will be a “Get to Know You” gathering for all the ladies of the congregation at 6 p.m. at the church building. Come ready to enjoy finger foods and fellowship. It will be an opportunity for the sisters to get acquainted.

Sunday, October 29

You are encouraged to submit bible questions in a “mail box” in the foyer to be answered during the monthly Q&A session.

Sunday, October 29

Trunk or Treat will follow evening services. All are welcome to participate.

Records You Helped Make

For the Week of

OCTOBER 8, 2017

Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....125

Sunday Morning Assembly.....153

Sunday Evening Assembly.....107

Wednesday Attendance.....83

Offering: \$5,036

Keep in PRAYER



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
Cheryl Dobbs,
friend of Pam Clifton
Jennifer Dobbs,
friend of Pam Clifton
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
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