

Good News

From Getwell

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The Spiritual Sword Lectureship

Radio Program

The Truth in Love

WHBQ-AM 560 / FM 87.7

Sundays, 8:00 a.m.

The Getwell congregation sends monthly support to the following:

Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN
 West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN
 Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY
 Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.

Worship.....10:20 a.m.

Worship.....5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

Bradley Smith first radio broadcast aired this past Lord's day, "The Truth In Love" program. His inaugural broadcast was entitled, "How The Church of Christ is Identified" An unsung hero behind the scenes of these broadcasts is Charles Shappley who coordinates the recording of these programs. Charles also coordinates our sound system here at the building.

The most current issue of The Spiritual Sword has just come out. The theme of this issue is "A Handy Guide To New Testament Churches". It is the practice of Alan Highers, the editor, to dedicate the July issue to a theme "A Handy Guide To..." Past handy guide themes have been:

2008 : A Handy Guide To Church History

2009: A Handy Guide To Denominationalism

2010: A Handy Guide To Biblical Morality

2011: A Handy Guide To The Restoration

2013: A Handy Guide To False Systems of Belief

2014: A Handy Guide To Understanding The Bible

2015: A Handy Guide To The Instrumental Music

Question

2016: A Handy Guide To Final Things

2017: A Handy Guide To The New Testament Church

2018: A Handy Guide To Spiritual Leadership

If you do not have any of these issues, let me encourage you to order a copy and read and study it.

Contributors to the current issue in addition to brother Highers are Allen Webster, Dan Jenkins, Wayne Lankford, David R. Pharr, Charles R. Williams, Gary Colley, Steve Higginbotham, Hugh Fulford. The editorial by brother Highers at the beginning sets the bar for all the following articles. This issue as usual is well worth the time set aside to read and study.

The Gate Ajar

Bradley Smith

A song by this name is sometimes sung. It was published in 1870 and written by Lydia Baxter. This song is often used as an invitation song, urging any who have a need to respond to the Lord's invitation to do so before it is everlastingly too late. The song, through its lyrics, convey the idea of opportunity. As Christians, we have many opportunities laid out before us, or gates that stand ajar, if you will. Some of these opportunities will be examined in this article.

The Gate Ajar for Benevolence

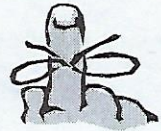
We have the charge to care for the orphans and widows that may be around us (James 1:27). These opportunities are ample, but how often they are left "on the table." There are those in the community which have various needs, which we are commanded to assist (Mat. 25:31-46). Are we meeting the criteria given by the Lord? Something is interesting about this account from Matthew 25. Those who were on the left hand (goats, or disobedient) asked the Lord when they saw Him hungry or thirsty, etc. What is interesting is that there were cases all around them (Mat. 25:45), yet they chose not to see them. A gate has been left ajar by which we can care for the needy around us, will we walk through it?

The Gate Ajar for Evangelism

Christians have been given the "Great Commission" (Mark 16:15), but it is too often treated as the "Great Omission." For some "unknown" reason, many Christians fall short in this very important duty of the Lord's church. Opportunities abound, but will we let fear, laziness, or any other reason stand in the way? The overwhelming majority of Christians will encounter at least one non-Christian on a daily basis, what will we do about it? Why do Christians pray for doors to be opened, yet when those doors are opened, the Christians fail to walk through them? A new program is not needed. New methods are not required. What is needed, however, are dedicated Christians who are willing to follow the commands of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Mat. 28:18-20).

Many "gates" have been "left ajar" for us. We know that "faith only" is not a Biblical doctrine, yet many practice it by their lifestyles. Will we allow gates to stand ajar, or will we walk through them and fulfill the commands of God?

RON'S REMINDERS



This article was written by Jeff Jenkins. It was taken from The Jenkins Institute website resource [4YourMonday](#). I found this article especially moving in light that brother Jenkins recently lost his beloved wife Laura.

The grief is real. The pain of losing the dearest person on earth or an extremely close friend is real. The broken hearts are real. The loneliness is real. The fear of the unknown is real. The emptiness is real. The hurt caused by broken friendships is real. The worries about the possibility of losing a job are real. The financial concerns are real. The hurt caused by someone you love walking away from the Lord is real.

It's all real, or at least it feels real as you walk through it. Can I tell you what else is real?

The promise that God will never leave us or forsake us is real. The knowledge that He has provided a Comforter for us is real. The love of family is real. The compassion of people who understand the real meaning of friendship is real. The support of other Christians who sincerely care is real. The blessings of being a part of God's Family are real. The commitment from our Loving Father that all of this is temporary is real. The call of God for His people to come before His throne at any time is real. The glory and the promise of Heaven are real. The fact that we someday will live forever in a place where there is no cancer, no disease, no sin, no pain, no sorrow, no heartache, and no loss; this fact is real. All of the promises of God are real, and they are Amen.

Dear brothers, let's do everything we can to make sure that the painful realities of this life do not overshadow the joys of this life or the life to come.

The article below was taken from the most recent issue of the *Spiritual Sword*, Volume 50, July 2019, Number 4.

THE FAR REACHING INFLUENCE OF THE SPIRITUAL SWORD

THE SPIRITUAL SWORD goes into more than 90 different countries around the world. We regularly hear from readers in many different nations. The Getwell church is teaching and encouraging believers in places where we could never go in person. We strive to present lessons that are fundamental, foundational, and biblical. There are multitudes of people who are longing for the truth and searching for "sound doctrine" and "the faith which was once delivered" (II Tim. 1:13; Jude 3). They are hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

Our friend, Neil Richey of Atlanta, Georgia, recently wrote the following to us: "I was on the island of Bohol in the Philippines last week. A preacher there asked if I had heard of THE SPIRITUAL SWORD. I said sure, and that I knew the editor. He said that he learned of a judge in the Philippines who was given a copy of the publication by a 12-year old boy. The judge read it, and two months later he was baptized into Christ."

In addition to reaching out to those who have never obeyed the gospel, we are endeavoring to strengthen congregations to "preach the word" and to "stand fast in the faith" (II Tim. 4:1-4; I Cor. 16:13). See, for example, the straightforward article in this issue on "The Crippling of the Church." We want to see the church remain aloof from denominational tendencies and to declare "the whole counsel of God" Acts 20:27, ASV).