

Wisdom from Doug Smith...

Why the Confusion?

The confusion that some have following the Bible has been a lifelong mystery to me. Although I have been a Christian since 1958, I am by no means a Bible scholar. I know what the Word teaches from lifelong exposure to it. Fortunately, most recently published Bibles have a concordance in them. I haven’t forgotten my ABC’s, I don’t think? At any rate, I seem to be able to find the verses pertaining to a subject that I am looking for. I will be listing a few verses below that I know you have all been exposed to.



In **Romans 1:16**, Paul stated, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to every-one who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”* That scripture is as plain as the nose on your face. In **Galatians 1:1** Paul writes, *“Paul an apostle, sent not from men, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father.”* In verse 8 of the same chapter he says, *“But if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is accursed.”* That to me, a simple person for sure, also is as plain as the nose on your face. There is only one gospel that will assure you a place in heaven, **IF YOU STUDY AND FOLLOW IT!!!!!!**

In **2 Peter 1:3**, Peter wrote *“Seeing that His divine power has granted to you everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.”* If anyone thinks that this scripture does not mean that the Bible is our consolation through every issue and circumstances that we face in life, then I don’t know how they read it and not understand it. The Bible has been my consolation through the loss of a child and loss of a wife. It has guided me through my search for understanding, salvation, and happiness that I thought I could never have again. All who know me, know that God did not forget me. I am as happy as I have ever been and I thank HIM immensely for guiding me to meet Jackie. As the hymn says, “Without Him I Would Be (and am) Nothing.

In **Revelation 22:18-19**, John wrote, *“I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book. If any man adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.”* There doesn’t seem to be any legitimate claim for salvation other than God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit indwelling us.

In conclusion, please pray for all of us who have children who have neglected to be faithful to this point in their lives. We are hurting for them.

Doug Smith

Don’t forget that we have an ongoing Disaster Relief fund for people facing hardships after catastrophic events. This fund will go to places that have been affected by disaster as decided by the elders. Please earmark your check for Disaster Relief or give online under disaster relief. The running balance is listed in the bulletin each week. Thanks!



Meadows Leadership

ELDERS:

- Jerald Bass (409) 926-7998
- Derrell Hart (409) 769-0099
- Donnie Landrum (409) 842-3236
- Brad Mansfield (409) 781-3987
- Doug Smith (409) 767-1824
- Carl Sundgren (409) 658-0027

DEACONS:

- Andy Bailey
- Micah Bell
- Duane Browning
- Bobby Case
- Joey Case
- Guy Crabtree
- Bradly Hailey
- David Owens
- Daryl Phelps
- Ben Terry

PULPIT MINISTER:

Rick Walker (303) 359-9160

YOUTH MINISTER:

Seth Pearman (580) 812-2550



April 27, 2025
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Schedule of Services:

Sundays:
Morning Worship 9:30 AM
Bible Class 10:45 AM
Evening Worship 5 PM

Monday Night Study:
On Break

Tuesday Ladies Bible Class:
Tuesday Mornings 9:45 AM

Wednesday Night Devo / Bible Class:
5:15-6:15 PM Meal
6:30 PM Service

Beaumont Nursing Homes
Service Times

Harmony @ Beaumont
(2660 Brickyard Rd., Bmt)
Sunday @ 2 pm

Birchwood of Beaumont
(4195 Milam St., Beaumont)
Sunday @ 3:30 pm

Brookdale Dowlen Oaks
(2250 Dowlen Rd., Bmt)
Sunday @ 2 pm

Meadows Church of Christ
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409-892-7063 Office
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On the web:

Meadowschurchofchrist.com

Meadows Messenger



Contentment vs. Complacency:

Knowing the Difference

In the Christian walk, both *contentment* and *complacency* may appear similar on the surface—both involve a sense of peace or rest—but they are spiritually and practically very different. One is a virtue; the other, a subtle danger. Understanding the contrast between the two can help us grow in godliness without falling into spiritual stagnation.

Contentment is a *spirit-led satisfaction* in God’s provision, presence, and purpose, regardless of external circumstances. It’s not laziness or passivity, but a peaceful trust in God that allows a person to be at rest, even while striving to honor God. **Philippians 4:11-13** – *“I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content... I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”*

Complacency is a *fleshly satisfaction* with one’s current state, often leading to stagnation, lack of growth, and disregard for needing to change. It resists challenge and becomes indifferent to deeper obedience. *“You say, ‘I am rich, I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked”* – **Revelation 3:17**

Aspect	Contentment	Complacency
Focus	Trust in God’s sufficiency	Trust in self or status quo
Attitude	Grateful and humble	Indifferent or proud
Action	Active pursuit of godliness	Passive acceptance of mediocrity
Growth	Desires spiritual growth	Stagnates spiritually
Response to sin	Repents and seeks God’s help	Justifies self or ignores sin
Dependency	Depends on God	Self-sufficient or apathetic

What are some ways that we can practically apply this information to our lives and be more content...

- **Check your heart regularly:** Are you resting in God's promises, or resisting to grow spiritually?
- **Cultivate contentment** through the spiritual disciplines of prayer, gratitude, simplicity.
- **Reject complacency** by setting spiritual goals, seeking accountability, and embracing godly challenges.
- **Stay teachable** and sensitive to God’s word and the Holy Spirit’s conviction.

Conclusion: Contentment is a fruit of maturity and faith in God. But complacency is a symptom of spiritual apathy. The difference lies not in external activity, but in the heart’s posture toward God. May we seek gratification in Christ alone, while refusing to become comfortable with anything less than His best for us. **Romans 12:11**, *“Not lagging behind in zeal, but fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.”* So..., are you “content” or just “complacent”?! Rick Walker



Current Events & Activities:

Upcoming Meadows Events:

This Morning ... KINGS (Kids in God's Service) Special new activity for children 5th grade and under every Sunday morning at 9:25 am. There will be a 5 minute singing/lesson by Seth in the first 3 rows at the front of middle section. Parents are welcome to come sit with their children or send them on their own. We can't wait to see your little ones!!

Wednesday, April 30th...Annual Fish Fry @ Lamar Student Center

This is the Student Centers way of saying thank you for your support of the Lamar Student Center. Menu: Catfish, hush-puppies, dirty rice, baked beans, banana pudding, cakes.



May 2 - May 3rd (Friday~Saturday) ... First Ever Men's Retreat & Workday. Arrive on **Friday by 7 pm**. Meals included will be supper on **Friday, breakfast & lunch on Saturday**. There will be Bible study, small group discussion, & prayer time. Saturday afternoon will be used for various projects around camp to get ready for camp sessions.

Sunday, May 4th ...VBS Planning Meeting This meeting will take place in the Hot Spot Coffee area at 3 pm. Bring ideas for a theme and Saturdays that are good for you.

Friday, May 9 ... Ladies Bible class ladies will be caravanning to **Camp Red Oak for a day of FUN!**

Saturday, May 17th ... Camp Red Oak BBQ Tickets can be purchased at camp on that day and the plates cost \$10 each.



Sunday, May 18th ... Family Bowling meet @ Crossroads after PM worship and bowl from 6-8 pm. This is for all school-aged kids and any brave adults too!

The Wednesday Night Ladies class will be having the final lesson from the book "I Love Me, I Love Me Not" on May 21st. A new series of lessons will start on **Wednesday, May 28th** titled **"Through Jesus"** over **Colossians 1:13-20**. The purpose of this series is to help us develop a deeper appreciation for Jesus by understanding what the term **"through Jesus"** means.

Camp Red Oak Camper Registration ... 5 Summer Sessions with 5 different directors. There are flyers in the foyer with a QR code to scan and sign your camper up early to save your spot and get a early bird rate (**\$170**) before June 1st. **Kids from 10-18 years old.**



Family Bowling Sunday, May 18th from 6-8 pm @ Crossroads Bowling Alley

This is for all school-aged kids and any brave adults too! Or just come to watch and cheer them on!



Nate Simmons (Meadows' teen) has been a scout for years and is working on his Eagle Scout Project to become an Eagle Scout. His project will be to install 12 trash receptables for Camp Red Oak Springs. These will be installed in different areas of camp to keep our beloved camp clean and beautiful. Nate is currently in the process of raising funds to purchase the materials for the project. If you would like to donate towards Nate's Eagle Scout Project, please donate through either Sherri or Preston's CR Code below or give to them in person. Thanks!



Meadows Prayer List:

Members:

Reatha Barina / Health
Tiggie Boswell / Health
Reba Riggs / Rehab, no cancer
Linda Landrum / Toe surgery 4/28
Elmer Sabrsula / Health
Steve Wilson / Heart issues

Members Unable to Worship With Us:

Charles Baird
John Beard
Mildred Campbell
Majorie Crabtree
Floyd & Georgia Guillory
Marsha Hoskins
Mary Kattawar (severe eye issues)
Annie Pearl Leigh
Betty Jo Sorrell
Shirley Sturm

Our Friends & Family:

Charlotte Barrett / sis of J. Smith / fell, broke hip
Diane Bellamy / home recovering & taking treatments
Sheila Corley / former member, rehab
Josie Galvan / C. Barnes' mom, stroke symptoms & blood clots
Leslie Grymes / C. Bailey's mom, recovering from stroke
Kristi (Barnes) Langham / Auston's sister, cancer, treatments
Aubrey Rodriguez / Cindy Rodriguez' 5 yr old granddaughter, has Hpoylori
Don Roerick / health
Carolyn Southerland / sister inlaw to George, heart valve repl, blood clots
Jennifer Welch / Cathy H's sister inlaw, cancer, chemo

Members & Friends taking Treatments/Chemo:

Rhonda Crabtree * Sharon Hood
Terry McNeel * Keri Robin
Mark Thompson

"Remember, there's nothing too big or too small to share with your Heavenly Father."

Listed below is the list of 2025 High School graduating Seniors that the office has knowledge of. If your Senior (High School or College) is not listed, please let the office know. Please keep our Seniors in your prayers as they graduate and move into the next phase of their lives.

Matthew Case * Paxton Jones * Abran Leyva
Elias Leyva * Gunner Sattler * Wade Simmons
Zoey Cook



Sunny Glen Children's Home Grocery Run
Item Requested: Baby Food / Baby Cereal
Pick Up Date: Tuesday, June 10th



*****If you checked out a Sunny Glen Change Can, they have to be returned by June 10th also. Put the cans on Debbie's desk. Thanks!**

Dear Meadows Ladies,
Thank you so much for the lovely Easter Basket that was delivered by Ladies Bible class. I was thrilled when I received it. I love and appreciate you so much! I love & miss you, Mary Kattawar

Ladies Bible Class
Teachers / Activities
April 29th Thelma Robinson
May 6th Cathy Henley
May 13th Doris McQueen
& Summer Luncheon
Bring your favorite summer dish

***Don't forget the Camp Red Oak ladies trip on Friday, May 9th. Meet at church parking lot and leaving at 8:30 am sharp. Bring a lawn chair and wear

Attendance & Contribution

2025 Weekly Budget:
\$12,950.00

Collection 4/20/25:
\$15,570.73

Sunday AM (4/20) ... 222
Bible Class (4/20) ... 105
Sunday PM (4/20) ... 35
Wednesday PM (4/23) ...92

Weekly Averaged Collection for March:
\$12,752.48

Building Fund / Parking Lot: **\$28,699.25**

Disaster Relief:
\$441.60