

SLIDELL CHURCH OF CHRIST

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December 12, 2015

Preacher's Point

By *Dan Schillinger*



Unless You Turn

Conversion is a process of change. Jesus talks about a very real change in our hearts, minds and souls (Matthew 18:1-6). In order for this to happen, we must change who we are trying to please. Self sits on the throne of most hearts today. We try to please the appetites of the flesh and it never satisfies the hungers of our hearts (Ecclesiastes 1:8; cf. Proverbs 27:20). We go about our daily routines and we are still longing for the bread that will truly meet our needs (John 6:35; cf. Matthew 4:4).

The human body dies, yet one's soul lives on forever. Earthly wealth and fame never will meet the true needs of one's soul. There must be a dramatic change inside us that connects us to he who made us. Jesus described this as becoming as a child. Children trust their parents. They will do what their parents tell them to do. This trust will cause them, without question, to follow those who guide them. Children are followers. They do not have a personal, selfish agenda. They spend no time on selfish pursuits. They are innocent of lying, deception and sinful pride.

The drama of what Jesus said when he told his disciples to become as little children, was not lost to them. They did as Jesus commanded in the beginning. *"Follow Me!"* (Matthew 4:18-19). They did follow him preaching to the lost of the world.



The Word of God!

Today's Sermon

One of our shepherds, Gerald Molina, is bringing us his first message this morning in our series on matters pertaining to marriage, divorce and remarriage:

a.m. *"From the Beginning It Was Not So"*

Matthew 19:1-9

p.m.

Opportunity for discussion and reflection on the morning sermon.

Welcome Visitors!

We are pleased to have the opportunity to welcome you to our service. We think you will find our congregation family to be one that enthusiastically embraces newcomers and warmly welcomes them into our fellowship. We hope you feel right at home as you join us in worship, praise and thanksgiving.

Sermon Series Reminder!

Continuing our Sunday morning sermon series on discerning God's will as it pertains to matters of marriage, divorce and remarriage, one of our shepherds, Gerald Molina, is presenting his first message this morning. Gerald is planning on preaching most of the remaining sermons.

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Children's Bible Hour  
Hosts Holiday Dinner &  
Cookie/Dessert Swap Next  
Sunday Evening--Mark  
Your Calendar!

Next Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, following early evening service the congregation is invited to attend a dinner hosted by our "**Children's Bible Hour Class.**" Dinner is provided, but everyone is asked to bring some cookies or a dessert to share for a cookie swap. If possible, everyone is also encouraged to bring another dozen cookies for our cookie ministry.

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The Ladies Bible Class & Stitches of Love will not meet again, due to the holidays, until January 5.

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## **"REMEMBER IN PRAYER & ENCOURAGE"**



**The victims of continuing Islamic terrorism around the world**

The family of **James Martinez** (nephew of Paul & Teresa Moragne), whose 17 year-old daughter perished in a vehicle accident on Tuesday morning. This in addition to James's mother passing away in September.

The family of **Dan Alderete**, a former member here, who passed away from cancer in San Anton-

io, Texas on Friday, 27 November (the day after Thanksgiving).

There were two deaths' in Joyce Carter's extended family recently: **Peggy Bourgeois** (Joyce's first cousin), and **Presley Vincent**, (Joyce's step-grandson), who died in a car accident in Lafayette on Thanksgiving Day. Pray for Joyce and the other family members in their sorrow.

**Robbie Miller** (friend of the Molinas) - passed away recently from heart disease complicated by long-time kidney dialysis.

**Andy & Chris Shoemaker** (two grandsons of Mr. Dale) - recovering from injuries sustained in a recent auto accident in Pennsylvania.

**Sydne Wilcox** (Mr. Dale's granddaughter) - recovering from foot and leg surgery recently.

**Lester Lee** (father of the boss of Paul Moragne, Jr) - has pancreatic cancer and had surgery last Monday.

**Roger Waters** (Shirley Fowler's brother, of Granada, MS) - recently diagnosed with lung cancer and has begun chemotherapy.

**Tim Woods** (husband of Jesse Fowler's niece) - has colon cancer that has metastasized into his lungs. Doctors do not give him long to live.

**Marvin Phillips** (well-known former minister at the Garnett Road church in Tulsa, OK, who led the Soul-Winning Workshops there) - in hospice care with heart problems.

**Dan Ledford** (a preacher of the church in Alabama) - diagnosed as having a brain tumor.

**Donald Boudreaux** (age 86, brother-in-law to Joyce LeBlanc) - diagnosed with renewed cancer.

The father-in-law of **Nancy Reece** (a member at the Tammany Oaks church) - hospitalized in Iowa with dementia and other problems.

**Martha Swint** (a member at the Tammany Oaks church) - age 82, suffered a recent heart attack.

**Kimberley Carter** - diagnosed with Epstein-Barr syndrome (mononucleosis). And her liver

enzyme readings indicate she may have some other issues as well.

**Toni Doreaux** (Jamie Lawrence's' sister-in-law) may require permanent dialysis treatments soon.

**Larry Covington** (co-worker of Dorsie's) - hospitalized in an ICU in Jackson, MS with breathing difficulties and low oxygen.

**Paul Moragne** - recovering from gall bladder removal surgery recently in Bogalusa.

**Rose Acker** - is experiencing periodic brief hospitalizations for congestive heart fluid retention

**Ronald Molina** (Gerald's brother, in E. Tennessee) - receiving radiation treatments for prostate cancer.

**Roger Whitley** (in-law of the Moragnes) - suffering from emphysema in North Carolina.

**Angel Mangus** (of Houston, TX, niece of Carl Mangus) - afflicted with inoperable stage 4 brain cancer.

**Jase Roig** (premature infant son of Colton Roig) - pray for God's healing hand to be upon through his long-term health problems of an arachnoid cyst in his brain, and cardiac openings that have not yet healed.

**Jessica Jackson** (daughter of a friend of George Roig) - age 26, suffering chronic headaches and depression which have only recently begun.

**Marie Peterson** - recovering at home from recent surgery.

**Mildred Tymkiw** - continuing her recovery at her daughter's home here in Slidell. Calls are very much appreciated, but not visits please at this time.

**Jerry Kimbrough** (former member here, now at the church of Christ at S. Baton Rouge) - diagnosed with cancer in his eye, and will be undergoing chemotherapy soon.

**Shirley Ervin** - thanksgiving that she is healing following recent neck surgery and is striving

now to return to normal activity levels.

**Stephanie Smith** (sister of Kevin Cox) - needs surgery for her right shoulder, but a calcium deficiency won't permit this now.

**Zach Steele** - suffering now from abnormal cells in his blood called myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS). It is what can be called a "second cancer." It's not cancer, but can be, and in his case is a result/side effect of previous treatments for cancer.

Zach will be having chemo and selective radiation treatments periodically for the foreseeable future.

**Rosa Nuñez** (good friend of the Vargas family) - having serious painful health problems.

**Jessica Fowler** (Jesse and Shirley's granddaughter, a resident of Lockport, LA) - facing severe personal problems.

**Terri Jones** - pray that she'll come to feel better through her negative phases in her Epstein-Barr disorder.

**Dale Epperley** - awaiting a new prosthesis that will relieve the pain and inflammation in his leg.

**Gerald Molina** - still seeing doctors for spinal stenosis.

**Sharon Honoré** (sister of Anita, and a member at the Crowder Blvd. church) - has advanced breast cancer.

**Clara Leonard** - overall pain continues to subside somewhat, though her ankle bothers her now.

**Bobby Leonard** - awaiting test results from his recent appointment with a kidney specialist.

**Alexis Leonard** (Joyce Carter's granddaughter) - recovering very well following the surgical removal of recently implanted knee hardware.

**Butch Acker** - suffering from fluid retention.

**Joyce Carter** - recovering from another injection in her left eye.

**Devon Nelson** (Roig's grandson) - enlisted in the U.S. Army last month and is in basic training at Fort Benning, GA.

**Marisol Vargas** - returned home to Slidell this week from an extended stay with her parents' in Costa Rica after caring for her mother, **Maria Aurelia Alsaro**, who has recovered very well from two recent infections.

**Jesse & Shirley Fowler** - travelling in north Mississippi to visit ailing relatives.

**Pray for all who are travelling.**

**Pray for Latino evangelism in our area.**

**Pray for our elders: Courtney Cheri, Dwight Jones and Gerald Molina.**

**Pray for President Obama and all our elected officials.**

**Pray for our men and women in our armed forces, both here and abroad!**

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***The Old Testament Narratives:
Their Proper Use (continued)***

Adapted from Fee & Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* (3rd edition)

Principles for Interpreting Narratives

The Ruth Narrative (continued)

A major thought stemming from one's study of the Ruth narrative is that one cannot read the narrative carefully (and in comparison with Judges) and not see again and again how exceptional Bethlehem was! Nowhere does the narrative actually say "Bethlehem was a town remarkable for its piety in those days." But that is exactly what the narrative tells us--in ways just as forceful and convincing as the outright words could ever be.

These examples, we hope, will demonstrate that careful attention to details and to the overall movement of a narrative and its context are

necessary if its full meaning is to be obtained. What is implicit can be every bit as significant as what is explicit.

Implicit does not mean secret! You will get into all sorts of trouble if you try to find meanings in the text that you think God has "hidden" in the narrative. That is not at all what is meant by *implicit*. Implicit means that the message is capable of being understood from what is said, though it is not stated in so many words. Your task is not to ferret out things that cannot be understood by everyone. Your task is to take note of all that the narrative actually tells you--directly and indirectly, but never mystically or privately. If you are not able confidently to express to others something taught implicitly, so that they can understand it and get the point, too, you probably are misreading the text.

(to be continued)

Our Leaders!

Elders

**Dwight Jones
Courtney Cheri
Gerald Molina**

Preacher

Dan Schillinger

Deacons

**Jesse Fowler
James Richardson
Hector Urbina**

Our Services

<i>Sunday Morning Bible Class</i>	9:30 a.m.
<i>Sunday Morning Worship</i>	10:30 a.m.
<i>Sunday Evening Worship</i>	5:00 p.m.
<i>Wednesday Evening Bible Class</i>	7:00 p.m.
<i>Stitches of Love</i>	Tuesday 9:00 a.m.