

## Upcoming Events...

**Galatians Class:** Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

**Ladies Bible Class:** Today, March 18 at 4:00 p.m.

**Barnabas Group Meeting:** March 27

## Motivation...What Matters?

*“What matters most is how well you walk through the fire”*

Charles Bukowski

*“The things that matter the most in this world, they can never be held in our hand.”* Gloria Gaither

*“It is not living that matters, but living rightly.”* Socrates

## March Birthdays

4 Joseph McKnight 8 Drina Zamarripa

9 Jessica Aguiar 18 Buddy Cashion 30 Barrett Hoffman

## March Anniversaries

6 Harold & Dortha Gentry

### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Sunday.....6:00 p.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

### Preacher:

Mike McKnight

### Church of Christ

81-377 Ave 46

Indio, CA 92201

(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

# Indio Informer

Vol. 29 No. 11

March 18, 2018

## WHAT MOVES OUR HEART?

By Scott Hoover

One of the problems living in the abundant lifestyle that we have is the same problem that the Israelites had centuries ago in the times of the judges. When the Israelites would be in trouble from a nation, then God would send them a judge. With God's help the judge would deliver the people from their troubles. After the deliverance, as long as the judge lived, the people would be true to God and experience prosperity. These good times, however, would cause the people to become lax in their service to God.

Unfortunately, today we're still people, and we haven't learned the lessons much better. When the church is persecuted, it becomes stronger, but with prosperity, it begins to weaken from within. We begin to bicker between ourselves and forget our purpose. Satan wins as he sees the church argue and quibble instead of evangelizing.

Part of the problem is we forget the message of the gospel story. When was the last time that thinking about Jesus dying on the cross really moved your heart to action? Of course, we're glad He did this for us, but that was a long time ago, and it's “old news”, isn't it?

One of the most moving films that I have ever seen was entitled, "The Bridge". Let me share with you the story.

The film opens with a loving husband and father leaving for work. His wife is expecting and the time is near. He says good-bye to his wife and son and leaves for his job at the bridge. He tells the son to come get him if his mother needs him. The job the man has is to secure the bridge across the river. In order for boats to travel up and down the river, the bridge swings on some heavy machinery,

parallel with the river. When a train is scheduled to come, the man starts the machinery to move the bridge back across the river. It's not a difficult job, but a necessary one to make sure that everything goes as planned. On this particular day, he begins to swing the bridge into position for a passenger train scheduled to come down the track. As he watches the bridge connect, he notices that it doesn't snap into place as it should. This means derailment for the train, plunging its passengers into the river below. Knowing what must be done, the man goes out to the track and with a crowbar snaps the track into place. Unfortunately, it won't hold except with the man holding the crowbar. He can do so without harm, so he resolves himself to hold it. The roar of the train gets louder as it approaches, when he looks up to see his son crossing the bridge to bring him the message about his wife. Suddenly the task before him is an impossible one. If he lets go of the bar the train will crash, killing many. If he holds to the bar, the train will be spared, but his son will die. He yells at his son, but the noise is too loud.

In the film we see the crowd on the train having a party, drinking, laughing without a care in the world. The man makes the most difficult decision in the world. He holds the bar. That's the decision that God made for you. He sent His Son knowing that we wouldn't always care, but hoping that knowing the story, we would serve Him. Think about what God did for us. After all, what does it take to move our heart?

## CONCLUSION OF THE MATTER

By Lawrence Barr

*"The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person."* Ecclesiastes 12:13 (NASB) "The Preacher," as he calls himself, had set about to discover what would really give him a way to succeed and enjoy life. He tried pleasure, wealth, wisdom, foolishness, even the learning of God's word (in an intellectual way). Look in the mirror; you won't be satisfied. Try to make yourself lots of friends; they will disappoint you. See if you can

learn more than your peers. It really won't make you a better person. Win all the theological arguments with your friends; you won't have done what God designed for you. What really matters is not what we own, or know. What matters is how we incorporate into our lives what God has said. To know is not enough, but to do. To do is not enough, but to become. The more we become in our world what Jesus was in His days here on earth, the less we will worry about those things that drive our neighbors.

Finally, that will leave the way open for God to really bless all those areas of our lives that we've been trying to "fix" all these years. We will forget ourselves, and God will remember us. We will lose our lives in service to others, and so God will give us our lives. We will forget about being handsome or pretty, and God will make us beautiful. Having friends won't matter so much; therefore, God will give us souls saved for eternity. Thanks be to God for giving us the victory! (1 Corinthians 15:57; 1 John 5:4).

## REFLECTIONS ON GETTING OLDER

By Charlie Thomason

Birthdays are an annual occurrence--for most folks, at least! To me, birthdays are not that big a deal; however, they serve as a yearly reminder of a daily fact: all of us are getting older! James wrote, *"What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."* (James 4:14.) To children, time can't pass quickly enough. To grown-ups, the days pass all too hurriedly. How should it affect us? Here's how it touches me. Knowing how quickly the days go past...

I want to become more and more like the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 8:29). I want to be the best husband I can be (Ephesians 5:25). I want to be the best daddy I can be (Ephesians 6:4). I want to influence as many people as possible (Matthew 5:14-16). I want to live life to the fullest (John 10:10). I want God to use me to teach the lost as much as He can (Proverbs 11:30). I want to set my mind on things above (eternal things) because I know I won't be here forever (Colossians 3:1-4). Though we may not like to be reminded of the fact that we're getting older, it is good to rethink and reprioritize our lives in light of that simple truth. Make the most of every opportunity!