

Send the Fire Truck!

In a small eastern Kentucky town, the local police chief also served as part of the Volunteer Fire Department. His job was to answer the phone and in the event of a fire was to ring the fire bell to summons all the volunteer firemen in the county.

One Saturday morning, the phone rang and the chief answered, "Fire department." Out of the ear phone came the terrified voice of a woman yelling, "Hurry, send the fire truck!", but immediately hang up the phone. The chief sat there stunned. "Send it where?"

In a very few minutes, the phone rang again, and the chief again answered, "Fire department." Once more, in hysterical cries, the voice on the other end of the phone cried, "Hurry! Hurry!, send the fire truck," and again immediately hung up the phone.

The chief was even more perturbed. He ran out into the street and surveyed the scene for a full 360 degrees, looking for smoke. No smoke. Where was the fire? Whose house was going up in flames? Were there children who were in danger? All these things flitted through his mind.

He heard the phone rang again, and on the way back to the station office, he devised a way to keep the lady on the phone long enough to find where to send the fire truck. He grabbed the phone, and yelled, "Where's the fire?" The voice on the other end returned the yell by saying, "In the kitchen!" and promptly hung up the phone once more.

So much of what is called religion is a lot like this humorous situation. Insufficient information leaves people insufficiently informed and the lack of information promotes nothing but insufficient confusion. Only the full truth of God satisfies every situation in life.

It is by "every word" that comes from God's mouth, that our Lord says life in him is possible.

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

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Evant, TX 76525

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January 10, 2016



Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."

Sunday Worship:

Will Vann, Preacher

9:30 am Bible Study

863-899-0987

10:20 am Worship

Email: wvann@yahoo.com

12:30 pm Afternoon

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

Wednesday Night

7:pm

Paul And The Sinner's Prayer

By Ron Boatwright

In Acts chapter 9, Saul of Tarsus, who later was named Paul, was struck blind when he met the Lord on the road to Damascus . Then we read in Acts 9:6 about Paul, "So he, trembling and astonished said, 'Lord, what do you want me to do?' Then the Lord said, 'Arise and go into the city and you will be told **what you must do**". Notice, Paul would be told "**what you must do**". Then we read "But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus . And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank" (Acts 9:8-9). Did Paul have faith in the Lord? Yes. Was Paul saved by "faith only" at this point? No; as we will see, Paul still needed to be baptized to wash away his sins.

The Lord sent a man, named Ananias, to tell Paul **what he must do**. The Lord told Ananias to "Arise and go to the street called Straight and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying" (Acts 9:11). Paul had been praying, but he did not receive forgiveness of his sins through praying. Paul still had all of his sins. Paul was told by Ananias "And now why are you waiting? Arise and **be baptized and wash away your sins**, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). Paul was not saved and his sins were not forgiven until Paul did what he was told he must do; that is to "**arise and be baptized and wash away your sins.**"

Today men have come up with the idea of "accepting Jesus as your personal Saviour" and saying the "sinner's prayer" in order to be saved. This is a ploy of Satan which will cause many people to be eternally lost by not obeying what the Lord says that we must do in order to have our sins forgiven and to be saved. Satan knows people are not saved by saying the "sinner's prayer". "Accepting Jesus as your personal Saviour" and saying the "sinner's prayer" in order to be saved is foreign to the Bible. Why wasn't Paul's sins forgiven by his praying before he was baptized? Paul's sins were not washed away until after he was baptized. Paul was not told to pray the "sinner's prayer", but to "Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins". I cannot think of a more flagrant crime against God and man, than to tell lost sinners who want to be saved something different than what God says in the Bible.

Those to Serve

(B) Calvin Burks FV) Jeffrey Burks
(O) Doug Pruett (A) Kyle Stifflemire
1st prayer Vernon Houts
2nd prayer Mike Mallett

Announcements: Keith Stifflemire Singing: Judd Wall

Dates to Remember

Jan 31st Fellowship Meal
Feb 7th Mission Sunday

Prayer list: Mildred Lovell, Darrell Debo, Naomi Wall, Gene Payne, Sylvia Straley's Family, Lloyd Crownover, Pray for our nation, our Troops and Law Enforcement

It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

In this Book will be found the solution of all the problems of the world. CALVIN COOLIDGE

I've Never Known

1. A farmer who failed in life because he quit early to attend Wednesday night Bible lessons.
2. A farmer who became poverty stricken because he refused to plow on Sunday but rather chose to go to worship.
3. A business man who ever lost his business because he closed on Sunday.
4. Anyone who was too tired to go to worship on Sunday and also too tired to go to work on Monday.
5. A Christian to ever be strengthened by engaging in recreation when he should have been worshipping God.
6. Anyone ever being made better by staying away from the worship because he did not like someone who was there.
7. A strong spiritual Christian who neglected the assemblies of the church.

Have You?