



June 25, 2023

Volume XXXI—Issue 26

How To Listen To The Sermon

I've been preaching for just over 15 years. When I stop and think about it, that seems like a long time but I know there are preachers who have been preaching 50+ years. In the last 15 years, on average, I have prepared and delivered 2 sermons a week (not including Bible classes). If I subtract my vacation time, in 15 years I have prepared and preached approximately 1,500 sermons. I can tell you how I prepare, study, and put my sermons together, but I want to give some thought on how a person ought to listen and receive a sermon. Here are 6 things to do, so that you get the most out of a sermon.

- Remember God is speaking.** Although you are listening to the voice of the preacher, if the preacher is opening God's word, then you are listening to the authoritative voice of God. Peter says if anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God (1 Pet. 4:11).
- Make sure the preacher says what the Bible says.** Always filter what is being taught through God's word. I'm not saying you should listen with skepticism, but I am encouraging you to "fact check" and make sure that what is being taught is God's truth (Acts 17:11).
- Receive the message with meekness.** James instructs us to "receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21). When we listen to God's word, we have to listen with an attitude of humility and meekness, because God knows us better than we know ourself. We want a heart that will receive the word of God and allow it to bear fruit.
- Apply the lesson to yourself, not to the person beside you.** It's so easy to see faults in others. It's very difficult to see our own faults and allow the Spirit to work on us. Jesus addresses this idea in the sermon on the mount when He said, "First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye" (Matt. 7:5).
- Put the lesson into practice.** James says, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:22). Allowing instruction from God to go in one ear and out the other is of no value. But a lesson that is received with meekness and eagerness will enter the heart and spill over into application. Jesus says if we don't do what He tell us, then we have no right to call him Lord (Luke 6:46).
- Prepare your heart before you arrive to worship.** Pray for yourself. Pray for the preacher. Put your mind and heart in the right place to listen and receive God's word.

Listening to a sermon may seem like a passive activity, but receiving the word of God takes effort. If you want to be an active listener, open your Bible, read along, take notes, and prepare yourself to live out God's word. I love preaching, and more specifically, I love preaching for Woodland Oaks! All you make preaching so enjoyable!

God loves you,
Shawn

Have you been reading your Bible?

Welcome to Woodland Oaks Church of Christ

We are honored you have chosen to worship with us this morning. Thank you for visiting us today! We look forward to meeting you!

Schedule of Services

Sunday	9:00 AM	Bible Classes
	10:15 AM	Morning Assembly
	6:00 PM	Evening Assembly
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Bible Classes

June 25, 2023

Elder of the Day Butch Merriman
Communion Leader Glenn Addison

Adult Bible Classes:

- “**Isaiah; God’s Greater Deliverance**” by Chris Wright
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Auditorium
 - “**From the Sermon on the Mount to the Ascension**” by Bob Klemm
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A101
 - “**A Study of Galatians**” by Morgan Whatley
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A102
 - “**Both Jew & Greek; God’s Battlefield**” (Young Professionals) by Michael Yanochik
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Room C106 (Magnolia Rm)
 - “**Everything We Need**” (2 Peter 1:3-11) by Various Teachers
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center Auditorium
 - “**Young Adults**” (Ages 18-25) by Andrew Isherwood & Ross Riggs
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center Room C201
- Teen Bible Classes:**
- “**High School Bible Class**” (9th–12th) by Jordan Fontenot
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-107
 - “**Jr High School Bible Class**” (7th –8th) by Nathan Ray
Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-101
 - “**Boy Bible Class**” (7th –12th) by Nathan Ray
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-107
 - “**Girls Bible Class**” (7th –12th) by Various Teachers
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-101

Treehouse Kids Bible Classes:

0–1 year	A103
1 year	A105/A106
2 years	C106
3 years/Pre-K	A108
Kindergarten	B200
1st grade	B202
2nd grade	B203
3rd grade	B207
4th grade	B208
5th grade	B206
6th grade	B209

A **Facility Map** and other information is available at the Welcome Center.

A **Secure Check-in System** is active for children ages 0 to 4 years.

A **Nursery** is available during Sunday morning worship for children 0-23 months. For children 24 months and up, there is a **Training Room** available at the back of the auditorium, behind the glass windows.



Woodland Oaks Church of Christ
7300 Crownridge Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77382
Phone/Voicemail: (936) 273-0010
Email: information@woodlandoaks.org
www.woodlandoaks.org



Elders

Scott Blake
Mac Brockman
Mark Freeman
Nathan Ingram

Butch Merriman
Marty Miller
Raymond Walker

Staff

Pulpit Shawn Montandon
shawn.montandon@woodlandoaks.org

Youth Jordan Fontenot
jordan.fontenot@woodlandoaks.org

Children’s Coordinator Jennifer Tolbert
jennifer.tolbert@woodlandoaks.org

Building Manager Larry Brabham
larry.brabham@woodlandoaks.org

Office Manager Karen Ardito
karen.ardito@woodlandoaks.org

Deacons

Administration Joel Blake
Audio/Visual & Media Mark Jetton
Building & Grounds Larry Brabham
Todd Watrous

Children’s Programs Richard Hyde
Education Preschool Matt Fitzgerald
Education Grade KG–2 Steve Baker
Education Grade 3-6 Quinn Tolbert
Family Life Center Chris Davis
Fellowship Tim Riggs
Finance Jeff Fleming
Brandon Smith

Foreign Missions Paul Gidden
Adam Fracht

Information Technology Al Ardito
Involvement Frank Kerze
Networks/Special Ministries Jeremy Haynes
Sharing Kyle Gordley
Bradley Welborn

Reaching Out Gavin Dao
Serving Hearts Daniel Fair
Ushers Tony Bloom

Welcome Center/ Visitor Contacts

Visitation - Hospital & Homebound/Men’s Ministry Robert Shock

Worship Eric Kirkland
Bill Malone
Kevan Taylor

Youth Brant Mathis
Scott Simpson

Contacts:

Faithful Fathers: Chuck Bryant
Celebrate Recovery: Nathan Ingram

Missions

For updates regarding the mission efforts supported by WOCC, please visit our church website, woodlandoaks.org, under Connect, click Ministries and Missions.

Last Week’s Attendance

Sunday, June 18, 2023

9:00 AM Bible Class	361
10:15 AM Worship	571 @ WOCC Views online 246
6:00 PM Worship	207
Contribution	\$25,868.01

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

7:00 PM Bible Class	252
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You may give online at:

<https://woodlandoaks.givingfire.com/>

Or mail contributions to our PO Box at:
Woodland Oaks Church of Christ
6700 Woodlands Parkway Suite 230-252
Spring, TX 77382

Budget

Actual unrestricted contributions through May 31, 2023 are \$770,671, compared with a budgeted amount of \$700,338 produces a surplus of \$70,333.

Notes

Announcements

Men's Breakfast will be this Saturday, July 1 at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center.

Congregational Singing will be Sunday, July 2 during the evening assembly. Song requests may be made at the Welcome Center.

There will be **NO Young Adult Bible Class** this Wednesday, June 28. Please stay in the Adult Auditorium Class.

The next **Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Supper** for those ages 60+ will be Monday, July 10 at 5:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and join us in the Chapel Center.

Bible Bowl Sign Up is now open! This year, we will be studying The Life of Moses for Bible Bowl. We will begin our study on August 13. **Please sign up by July 15** so we have enough time to prepare materials. Please sign up here:

<http://www.woodlandoakskidministry.com/bible-bowl.html>.

There will be a **Faithful Fathers Canoe Games Event** on Saturday, July 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at 10900 Buck Ridge Road, Montgomery, TX 77316 for all dads, grandfathers, boys and girls ages 8-18. Please wear swimwear and bring life jackets if you have them. You can sign up and pick up a flyer with more information at the Welcome Center. Contact Steve Aloway with questions

Canoes are Needed for the Faithful Fathers Canoe event in July. Please contact Steve Aloway if you can help.

Sympathy

Heartfelt condolences to Doug Walker at the loss of his sister, **Jana Walker**. Jana is also the aunt of Lindsey Thomas and Ashley Blake. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Thank You

Woodland Oaks Family,
Thank you for the prayers, calls, cards, text and meals.
Gary and I are so blessed to be a part of this family.

Love in Christ, Brenda Smith

Expectant Families

Katy & Jacob Britton
Angel & Matt Houser
Alix & Ross Randow
Tarah & John Splawn

Youth News

There will be a **Jabberwacky** area wide youth devotional at Lake Houston Church of Christ TOMORROW, June 26 at 7:00 p.m. There will be NO van transportation.

Elevate will be June 23 - July 1. The students are expected to return this Saturday, July 1.

There will be a **Youth Devo** Sunday, July 2 immediately following the evening assembly in the Youth Center.

Summer Camps

Registration for this year's summer session at **Camp Red Oak Springs** is open. Visit www.campredoaksprings.com to register. We attend Session 5, which runs from July 3 thru July 8. A packing list and other details can be found on the camp website. If anyone has questions, please contact Matt Fitzgerald.

Camp Wyldewood: July 9—20 Find more info and register at: <https://www.campwyldewood.org/>.

Prayers

- ✠ **Levi Buras**/grandson of Freddie and Donna Sepulvado and Ann Gilbert/MRI results were good with no swelling and very little bruising.
- ✠ **Ann Gilbert**/was hospitalized with severe back pain.
- ✠ **Kaye Shock**/had hand surgery June 22.
- ✠ **Ethan Jetton**/began basic training last week.
- ✠ **Karen Farr**/elbow surgery scheduled for June 27.
- ✠ Please remember our members: **Bobby Joyner, Sterling Lockwood, Penny Murdaugh, Laurie Riggs, Jolene Rhodes, Brenda Smith, Tonnie Solis, Gina Talbott, Debra Thompson, Larry Voorhees.**
- ✠ Please remember friends & family: **Alejandro Bloom, Jordan Bowlby, Danielle Grace, Pat Higginson, Shelia Hooks.**
- ✠ Members battling cancer: **Tony Bloom, Bill Blumenshine, Bobbie Fellabaum, Pharis Fowler, Don Gilbert, Cynthia Haney, Cynthia Lockwood, Erica Lunn, Roger McDonald, Bob McDougal, Joanie Roberts, Pam Sharp, Janice Tadlock, Scottie West, Michael Williams.**
- ✠ Friends & family battling cancer: **Mary Aldaz, Joel Boone, Darren Brooks, Judy Chandler, Tesa Cornett, Dorcas Dillard, Paul Hendrickson, Melissa Hightower, Toni Mansker, Phil Martinez, D'Ann Norwood, Jerry Smith, Barbara Starr, Nancy Stewart, Rose Talbott.**

This Week

Today	9:00 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Women
	7:00 p.m.	Jabberwacky (Lake Houston CoC)-No Van transportation
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball (Intermediate/Advanced)
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Intermediate/Advanced)
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball (Beginners)
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Bible Class—Ken Stegall (Adult Class)
Thursday	6:15 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's on 1488)
	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Beginners)
	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Class
	7:00 p.m.	Celebrate Recovery
		Basketball
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Intermediate/Advanced)
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast

Upcoming Events

July 2	Congregational Singing
	Youth Devo
July 3-8	Camp Red Oak Springs
July 4	Church Offices Closed
July 9	Guest Speaker—Jim Cranfield
	Youth Invasion
July 9-20	Camp Wyldewood
July 10	Senior Saints Potluck & Game Night
	Jabberwacky—Champions CoC
July 11	Men's Luncheon—Pitmaster BBQ on Sawdust
July 15	Faithful Fathers Canoe Event
	Sign up for TX Bible Bowl Due
	Youth Invasion
July 16	Jabberwacky—Westside CoC
July 17	Jabberwacky—Westside CoC
July 21-22	Youth Mission Printing
July 23	Youth Invasion
July 24	Jabberwacky—Fulshear CoC
July 31	Jabberwacky—Jersey Village CoC
August 2-6	Camp Awesome
August 5	Men's Breakfast
August 6	Congregational Singing
	Youth Devo
August 7	Jabberwacky—Hosted by WOCC
August 11	JR High Night
August 13	TX Bible Bowl Kick Off
	Youth Invasion
August 19	Back 2 School Bash
August 20	Speed Fellowship
August 22	Senior Saint Potluck & Game Night
August 27	Impact CoC Meal
September 4	Church Offices Closed
September 9	SNL Devo
September 10	Youth Group & Parent Meeting
	TX Bible Bowl Kick Off

A cart for all donations is in the Worship Center foyer.
The **WOCC Sharing Pantry** is in need of soups & crackers.