

# Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church

**Heaven, A Real Place**  
 Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going... I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:1-4, 6)

Sooner or later you are going to experience physical death. You have a specific quantity of days to inhabit this earth and God alone knows their number. God's Word is clear, "Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment..." (Hebrews 9:27)

Physical death is part of the curse that has come upon man since Adam and Eve. God told them after their sin, "...you [will] return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." (Genesis 3:19) Until Christ returns, all of mankind will experience physical death. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," (Romans 3:23) and "the wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23) However, Jesus shares a powerful truth that is for all who have accepted Him as Savior and Lord.

Twice in today's text, Jesus refers to heaven as being a "place." Heaven is not a surreal, fairy-tale kingdom. It is literal and more real than the house you live in. The New American Standard Bible has the best

translation when saying "In My Father's house are many dwelling places..." "Places" (Greek topos) means places in which one dwells, an abode or a home. These are permanent habita-

tions of eternal rest and peace. Revelation Chapter Seven records the beloved John's vision of seeing a "...great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe,

people and language standing before the throne of God and in front of the Lamb [Jesus Christ]." Matthew Henry in his exposition of heaven in Revelation 7: 15-17 says, "[Christians will be] happy in their employment, for they serve God continually, and that without weakness, drowsiness, or weariness. Heaven is a state of service, though not of suffering; it is a state of rest, but not of sloth, it is a praising delightful rest."

Jesus is faithful. When He says He is preparing a place for Christians that is what He means. He also states another compelling fact that is a blessing to those who have lost loved ones who were born again

Christians and for the children of God who are facing the trial of death. Jesus declares, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die..." [spiritually, to be raised physically at the resurrection of believers]. After saying these words, the Lord asked a question of His listeners that is still relevant to us today, "Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26

It is important to note, Jesus said, "...whoever lives and believes in Me." This promise is only for those who have made the transition from the old life of sin-centeredness to Christ-centeredness, the born again, "...those who are led by the Spirit of God." (Romans 8:14) So the question lingers today, "Do You Believe This?"

**If you have ever attempted to build or repair something, you know that without the proper tools, your enthusiasm can quickly turn into frustration. You need tools that you can depend on.**

**In a sense, God needs dependable tools also. Aren't we His tools? He can work through us to build and repair His kingdom. He can depend on us if we open our hearts and have faith in Him. Faith is the foundation of God's house, a strong foundation to build upon. Love and forgiveness are important building blocks; reflecting God's perfect love and forgiveness to others can bring them hope. When we shine with the love of God, it is reflected onto everyone we meet. "Don't you know that you yourselves are**



**God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?" (1 Corinthians 3:16)**

**Invite a friend to church this week. As His tools, we can build His house, the church, by bringing others to Him, that they may experience the peace and hope and love that is found there. With**

**the Spirit of God dwelling in us, we can build and repair God's kingdom on earth ...one soul at a time.**

# BUILDING GOD'S TEMPLE

| SUNDAY                | MONDAY                    | TUESDAY                   | WEDNESDAY                      | THURSDAY                  | FRIDAY                         | SATURDAY                   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Philippians<br>4:2-23 | 1 Thessalonians<br>1:1-10 | 1 Thessalonians<br>2:1-16 | 1 Thessalonians<br>2:17 - 3:13 | 1 Thessalonians<br>4:1-12 | 1 Thessalonians<br>4:13 - 5:11 | 1 Thessalonians<br>5:12-28 |

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society  
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## NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER  
 A cool, Aug. 13 evening found many former parishioners and persons of neighboring communities enjoying the annual New Almelo Bazaar.

Three hundred fifty-one adult tickets and 39 children's tickets were sold for the barbecued beef and pork, all-you-can-eat meal.

Inside the parish hall was the bake sale with breads, cookies, pies, cakes, jelly and mixes. The fancy-work booth had many baby blankets and snuggles along with crocheted items and dish towels.

The white elephant tables were overflowing with many unusual items. Also on display were the 10 handmade quilts which were auctioned at 8 p.m. along with three baby quilts and a large afghan as well as the two needle work pictures and the hand-painted pictures.

Outside, the children's games were busy with young people as well as the fish pond, baseball throw and basketball throw with its little tykes goal. Greg Otter's train was busy giving rides all evening.

The smell of hamburger and porkburgers cooking filled the evening air after the hamburger stand opened at 7:30 p.m.

At 8 p.m., the quilt auction got under way with Gary Gillium donating his auctioneering talents to help raise money for the bazaar. There were 10 handmade quilts, a full-sized afghan, baby afghan, three baby quilts and three afghans. Lelia Hall bought "Country Classic" for \$675; Steve Otter bought "Country Manor" for \$700; Lisa Mindrup bought "The Star" for \$800; David Otter bought "Flowers" for \$325; Randy Gassmann bought "Lone Star" for \$675; Rod Bates bought "Roses" for \$875; George Gassmann bought "Dresden Plate" for \$475; Charlotte Otter bought "The Eagle" for \$1,025; Jo Hessig bought "Blue Floral" for \$675; Julie Haines bought "Blue Delft" for \$775; Wes James bought the afghan for \$160; Jim Ninemire bought a colored block afghan for \$25; Jeremy Gassmann bought a baby afghan for \$115; Gary Bruinekool bought "Stained Glass" afghan for \$55; Helen

Kitzke bought "Flower Block" afghan for \$55; Judy Garrison bought "Sophia's Star" for \$245; Bob Nelson bought "Up, Up and Away" baby quilt for \$55; Lisa Mindrup bought "Sweet Dreams" baby quilt for \$50; Lelia Hall bought a needlepoint picture, "Flower Garden" for \$40; Betty Otter bought a needlepoint picture "The Girl" for \$65. A framed and matted oil painting of two deer by Janice Linden was bought by Adrian Streit for \$170.

The give-away winners were: quilt-Julie Scheetz; barbecue grill-Freddy Haines; afghan-Roberta Bruinekool; \$200-Meg Mindrup; \$100-Madison Haines; and \$50-Carla Emmons.

Don Ammon of Hoxie provided music for the dance and listening. Family coming to visit at the home of Marion and Lorraine Long and also to attend the bazaar were Bill and Rita Barker, Hays.

This weekend, Tom and Jan Long, Hays, visited his parents. Emily and Gary Kessler, Robert and Alan, Lakin, and Steve Otter, Wichita, visited their parents, Marion and Marlyn Otter and attended the bazaar.

Joni and Dustin Shellito and girls, Colby, spent the weekend with her mother and brother, Bridgett and Zack Otter. They also attended the bazaar.

Coming to visit their homes-away-from home and to attend the bazaar were Adrian Streit and Jo Hessig, Omaha; and Connie and Charlotte Otter, McPherson, and their son, Jim and Cindy Otter and family, Pittsburg.

Family spending the weekend at the home of Alfred and Betty Otter and attending the bazaar were Mike Otter, Ulysses; Jim and Jolene Moss and family, Jewell; and Karl Otter, Great Bend. Mark and Marshall Otter, joined them Sunday for dinner.



## Cross Roads

### CELEBRATION!



The congregations of Community Full Gospel and Living Word Baptist Churches of Norton have agreed together to unite and be known as CrossRoads Church. We look forward to serving the Lord together as a non-denominational Body. We anticipate giving glory to the Lord Jesus Christ by using the gifts He has given us and obeying His call to follow Him in all He desires us to do.

We are inviting all to come and celebrate with us on August 28th. Former Pastor Ronald Scheimo of Community Full Gospel Church will share. Then, ENJOY one of Kansas' greatest gospel quartets—

### The Calvary Echoes

At  
**CrossRoads Church**  
 313 W. Lincoln  
 Norton, Kansas

On  
**Sunday, August 28, 2005**  
 at  
**7:00 PM.**

**Free Will Offering**

For More Information:  
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