

Survey says benefits are important in life

We live in a society that is big on benefits. When people go for a job interview, one of the questions that most will ask is, "What is the benefit package?"

One survey ranked the most popular benefits employees look for as medical benefits, paid vacation days/holidays, and employer pension and retirement accounts. Computer world produced a list of the top 10 places to work because of benefits. Those places offered flexible hours, adoption assistance, on site concierges, dry cleaning, elderly care, oil changes, and a cafeteria that prepared dinners for you to take home.

Well, those work environments are a long way from here, but the desire for benefits is universal.

When you come to 1 Corinthians, Paul is writing a letter to a church



Steve Rains

• moments from calvary

that is struggling with some stuff. He loves this church even though there is division, pride, sexual immorality and a host of other issues. Before he gets to dealing with those issues he wants to remind them of something that is so important. He wants to remind them who they are as Christians.

He says this in 1 Corinthians 1:2, "To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy..." The King James Version of the Bible uses the word saints in place of holy.

A saint isn't just someone on a stain glass window somewhere, it is anyone who loves and knows the Lord. They are the holy ones, the ones called to be like Christ

That is pretty amazing isn't it? You go to church and you see those beautiful windows and you think, "Oh, to be like Paul. He was such a saint." Or you say, "To have the courage of Martin Luther who began the great reformation of the church." God smiles from heaven and says if your mine than you are a saint just like them.

As Paul starts this letter he reminds them of who they are, and they arrive at that identity because of what Christ did for them. He is

summarizes the benefits of being a Christian. Perhaps you are asking why should I become a Christian? Why should I carry on in this deal?

Paul gives us some benefits for being a Christian. I guess you could say that this is a heavenly sales pitch. The benefits cover all of life - past, present, and future. I guess you could boil it down to this. Our past is forgiven, our present is taken care of, and our future is guaranteed.

Verse four tells us that in the past there is grace. The first benefit of being a Christian is grace. There is a moment in a person's life when you hear the gospel story and you embrace that story and say, "I believe" and you commit your life to it. Salvation just isn't holding to a set of beliefs or teachings.

Salvation comes when there is a miracle that occurs in your heart and

you become one with Christ so that you are in Him.

Do you understand how special grace is? What is grace anyway? How does one define it? The best way I can define grace is this - undeserved kindness. When we receive grace it can't be paid back.

A lot of people think they can earn their way to heaven. If they live a good life, have some morals, are nice to their neighbors, and maybe give a little money to church or charity then they will be ok. But you can't earn grace. Grace is undeserved kindness. If you can earn it then it is not grace.

If a person can earn salvation (which you can't) then you do not have saving grace.

If you are relying on the things you do to get you to heaven, then you don't have saving grace. Be-

cause nothing you ever do could get you into heaven. We can't earn salvation or God's grace it is impossible. Quit trying. He loves you from the inside out! Quit trying to do it on your own merit, and fall into His arms.

Why would God give you grace? Because He loves you, just read John 3:16. Because it is the heart of God to bless people, see Ephesians 1:3.

Because, He wants you to reach others, check out Titus 2:14. Enjoy His amazing grace, and we will pick up on the present and future benefits next week.

Steve Rains is the pastor at the Calvary Gospel Church, Fourth and College. Go to the church's web site at calvarygospel.net or e-mail Rains at calvarycolumn@st-tel.net.

Carnegie Arts to have photo display

People will be able to see an exhibit of photographs that were taken for the 22-page feature section "The Flint Hills: A Kansas Treasure" in the National Geographic Magazine's April 2007 issue at the Carnegie Arts Center from Sunday, to Friday, May 25.

The pictures were taken by Kansas native Jim Richardson. The exhibit has 32 large-scale photographs some of which were in the magazine.

The Flint Hills extend from near the Nebraska border south into Oklahoma. The center of the region is bordered by I-70 on the north, I-35 on the south and east and K-15 on the west. A national scenic byway runs for 48 miles from Council Grove to Cassoday.

Explorer Zebulon Pike named the area in 1806 for the cobbles of

flint-like chert that glistened through the tall prairie grasses. In this nearly treeless region the big bluestem grass nourished by the minerals in the limestone grew so tall that the early explorers wrote of having to stand up in the saddle to get their bearings. The grass drew large herds of buffalo that native hunters followed.

In the mid 1800s cattle replace the buffalo with homesteaders replacing the Indians.

The traveling exhibit is sponsored by National Geographic Magazine and the Kansas Division of Travel and Tourism. Locally the exhibit was sponsored by Jane and Royal Reid.

The Carnegie Arts Center is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at 120 W. 12th.

Worship warms the heart

Calvary Gospel Church
Pastor: Steve Rains, Ben Coats, youth pastor
 Fourth & Collee • 890-3605
Sunday: Kid's Church: 10:30 am
 Morning Service: 10:30 am
 Evening Service: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Royal Rangers Missionettes 6:30 p.m.
 Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m.
 Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.
 Small Group Ministries meets through out the week.
www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Pastor: Father Norbert Dlabal
 307 W. 13th • 890-7205
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment
Mass Schedule:
 Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am
Spanish Mass:
 Sunday: 12:30 pm



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640+/- ACRES CROPLAND, CRP & GRASS AUCTION

SHERMAN COUNTY, KS

TUES, MAY 6, 2008 @10:30 AM, MDT

AUCTION LOCATION: HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS, GOODLAND, KS

SELLER: LYN MORGAN ET AL.

MANNER OF SALE: This real estate will be offered as a "MULTI-PARCEL" auction in 3 individual tracts and in combinations of tracts. Auction procedure & increments of bidding are at the discretion of the auction company.

TERMS: 10% down day of sale, with the balance to be paid on or before June 6, 2008. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over printed material and previously made oral statements.

MINERAL RIGHTS: All of the Sellers' interest will transfer to the Buyer(s) at closing.

CROPS: There are approx 240 acres planted to wheat with 100% of the 2008 growing wheat crop going to the Buyer(s). 2,700 bushels of wheat have been contracted at Frontier Ag, Inc., at \$8.23/bu which will be prorated over the acres of growing wheat and the Buyer(s) will be required to fulfill this contract.

FSA INFORMATION: Cropland acres - 459.1
 CRP acres - 142.4
 Grassland acre - 25.3

	TRACT 1	TRACT 2	TRACT 3
Cropland acres	312.90	146.20	
Planted Wheat acres	160.00	80.00	
CRP acres		6.03	19.23
Wheat Base/Yld	288.20/33	126.7/33	
Grain Sorg Base/Yld	12.86/45	10.5/45	
Barley Base/Yld	20.21/38	7.1/38	

Buyer(s) will receive 100% of any FSA payments associated with the 2008 crop year.

CRP INFORMATION: 142.4 acres are currently enrolled in the CRP program at \$34.14 per acre for a total annual payment of \$4,862 with an expiration date of 9/30/2009. Buyer(s) will receive 100% of the 2008 CRP payment, which will accrue from October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2008, and all future years' CRP payments under the current CRP contract.

POSSESSION: Date of closing with Buyer(s) having the right to enter upon execution of the purchase contract.

CLOSING: Closing will be on or before June 6, 2008.

LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS:
 TRACT 1: W/2 of 33-9-39
 TRACT 2: SW/4 of 19-10-39
 TRACT 3: NW/4 of 20-10-39

REAL ESTATE TAXES: Seller will pay all of the 2007 taxes and prior years. Taxes for 2008 will be paid by the Buyer(s).
AGENCY: Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc., its agents and representatives, are the Exclusive Agents of the Seller.

Word of Life
A Foursquare Church

10th & Clark • 899-5250

Pastor: John Coumerilh

Associate Pastor: Ben Coumerilh

Sunday: Worship Celebration and Kids' Church: 10:30 am

Life Groups - call for times and locations
www.wordoflifegoodland.org

Pleasant Home Church

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Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70

Pastor: Perry Baird
890-3375

Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m.
 Sunday School: 10 a.m.
 Evening Service: 6 p.m.

Bible Baptist Church

Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks
Fifth & Broadway
890-7368

Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.
 Morning Service: 10 a.m.
 Evening Service: 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO
(719) 346-7984

Sacrament Meeting: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.

United Methodist Church
Brewster:

Pastor: Dorine Chambers

Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST

Winona:

Minister: Sheryl Johnson

Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST
 Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Pastor: Rev. Ted Amos
Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233

Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship

Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler Nurseries Available

Church of the Nazarene

Pastor: Bob Willis
Third & Caldwell
899-2080 or 899-3797

Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship Service: 10:50 a.m.
 Evening Service: 6 p.m.

Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 p.m.

First United Methodist Church

1116 Sherman 899-3631

Pastor: Rev. Kasey Crosby

Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m.
 Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live
 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering
 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

First Baptist Church

Pastor: Travis Blake
Bateman's Funeral Home, 211 E. 11th
890-3450

Sunday: Sunday School for all ages:
9:30 a.m. (Child care provided)
 Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.
 Wheatridge Center

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

13th & Center
Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969

Priest: Father Hal Lycett

Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday
 10:00 a.m. Thursday

Morning Prayer: Daily, 8 a.m. Thursday and Sunday
 For emergencies 890-6969

Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail

Pastor: Mike Larson

Saturday: Sabbath Service: 9:30 a.m.
 Worship Service: 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161

Sunday: Christian education/fellowship:
10:15 a.m.
 Worship Service: 9 a.m.
Wednesday: Confirmation: 6 p.m.

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