

☆ Shepherd's Voice ☆

Orcutt Christian Church Newsletter



Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

The Minister's Musings

Bro. Archie Miller

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60 Years of Answered Prayer

Sixty years ago a small group of believers saw that a congregation built on the pattern of the Church in the Bible was needed way down here in Orcutt. They looked with prayer into the future and saw that the cattle yards and pig pens “down there” would be replaced by housing tracts and lots of young families. For some months they met in a garage on Elizabeth Street, and prayed for Orcutt. They prayed for changed families and changed people. These farsighted prayer warriors saw the huge need for people in Santa Maria to change their thinking and behavior.

When they heard that a “Y area” chinchilla rancher had his property up for sale, they went out on a limb and purchased his property. It's my understanding that at that time only the Presbyterians had a congregation in Orcutt, so Orcutt Christian Church became the second congregation. These were not financially wealthy people, but they were rich in thankfulness and trust in God.

Billy Graham is right! An attitude of thankfulness produces change. In Hope For Each Day he says “Even when times are bleak, and the world scorns God, He still works through the prayers of His people.

John Knox prayed, and the results caused Queen Mary to say that she feared the prayers of John Knox more than she feared all the armies of Scotland.

John Wesley prayed, and revival came to England, sparing that nation the horrors of the French Revolution.

Jonathan Edwards prayed, and revival spread throughout the American colonies.

History has been changed time after time because of prayer. Since September 1959, eleven ministers have brought the Gospel of Christ to the “Y area,” and with with your commitment that can continue.

Through your thankfulness and prayers Orcutt Christian Church is still making a positive spiritual impact. Instead of raising chinchillas, we we are raising up a new people for God.

Now a word about my preaching and ministering stance here at OCC since 1997. Long ago, I made the decision to accept the teachings of the Bible as absolute truth, no matter what the subject, no matter how much pain it causes me, no matter how much I would like for it to be otherwise, no matter if I am in the minority, and no matter how much it costs me. To quote Martin Luther: "Here I stand; I can do no other. God help me."

Elder Ed Saunders

Building One Another Up

Jesus said, “²¹ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.” Matthew 7:21 (KJV). And that is why it is so important for us to teach the truth with a heart of compassion.



We are here to instruct people how to serve our Lord. It puts a great responsibility on all of us, especially the elders. The elders are to be the shepherds of the flock, that are to exhort and build up those who are weak or struggling. To be able to build up a congregation we need to have the rest of the congregation have confidence in the decision we are often required to make.

We have a fine group of people here in Orcutt Christian church, and I think we are blessed to have a family group that love one another.

Christ said, “²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light.” Matthew 11:28-30 (KJV)

The apostle Paul reminds us to “¹¹ comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (KJV), so let us all come to our congregation and continue to build up one another as we all strive for the truths found in God's word.

