

## Make Jesus Your Banker

By Allen Webster, *Heart to Heart, House to House*

(continued from last week)

### CLUB BENEFITS

A bank or credit union may offer customers special incentives to place money in its care. These privileges may include discounts at restaurants, movie theaters, and wholesale clubs. Heaven's bank offers club benefits which no other can match. Christians are given "the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7), strength in weakness (Psalm 46:1; 2 Corinthians 12:9–10), comfort in distress (2 Corinthians 1:3), hope in death (Revelation 14:13), a listening ear (James 5:16), a loving hand (Psalm 73:23), a watchful eye (1 Peter 3:12), and a concerned heart (1 Peter 5:7). What bank can make these claims?

### NO DIVERSIFICATION

There are restrictions to our membership in heaven's bank. We are not allowed to diversify our interests at all. All must be invested here, or we lose the part invested. "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24). To divide allegiance is to invite defeat; yea, to assure it. We cannot serve Jesus and Satan, God's kingdom and the devil's. Jesus said, "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself, and is divided, he cannot stand, but has an end" (Mark 3:24–26). God is jealous (Exodus 20:1–5) and will have either all or nothing (Matthew 22:37; Romans 12:1–2; Revelation 3:15–17). "Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (James 4:4).

### MATURATION PERIOD

As with many high-yield, low-risk accounts, the maturation period is lengthy. The benefits of Jesus' bank can only be reached after death (cf. Hebrews 9:27). Many lose interest at this point, because they live for the here and now, caring little for the there and then. How foolish! The "there and then" may be just around the corner (Luke 12:20). "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away" (James 4:14). It will last forever, dwarfing this life by comparison (Matthew 25:46).

We do not actually own any money. God has entrusted some to us on a stewardship (Matthew 25:14–30) and expects us to use it wisely (1 Corinthians 4:2). Should not we all make Jesus our Banker since it is all His anyway?

We can never go wrong trusting Jesus.

# Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Aleta Collins was hospitalized Thursday and received two units of blood. They have determined she has a new fracture in her back. She will be on complete bed rest when she returns home probably on Monday.
- ◆ Harold Reynolds is out of the hospital but needs continued prayers.
- ◆ Don Luna had additional bladder surgery Monday and spent the night in the hospital. He will find out the results Tuesday.
- ◆ Karen Langston has had blood pressure and sleep problems.
- ◆ Denise Crisp had covid last week.
- ◆ Larry Butler had two falls due to vertigo. He will have a CT scan.
- ◆ Deborah Hogue continues to need prayers for healing.
- ◆ Sympathy goes to family and friends of Linda Hamblton. She died yesterday morning after being moved to Hospice House. Pray for Nancy and Dorice and the stress with both parents' health.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Barbara White, Faye Flaughers, Ruth Strain, Norma Jones, Steve Siebels, Aleta Collins.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Harold Reynolds, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Cindy Gibson, Leroy Collins, Fred Strain.
- ◆ Those in GHCC: Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes, Wilbern Uchtman. Jim Hamblton at Thayer. Bonnie Luna at Ava. Clifford Lansdown at River Lodge, Mtn. Home.



The best way to prepare for the coming of Christ is never to forget the presence of Christ.



Birthdays		Anniversaries	
12-6	Don Luna	12-9	Bill & Lana Cockrum
12-9	Pat Kirkland	12-27	Matt & April Lynne
12-9	Jim Lane		
12-10	David Stevens	Birthdays	
12-13	Dale Strong	12-21	Kim Anderson
12-14	Joe Walrath	12-25	Jessica Smith
12-14	Heath Maddox	12-27	Ranger Stevens
12-15	Dana Crisp	12-27	Alyssa Walski

Date	Event	Details
Wed. Dec. 20th	Christmas Program	Kids will have program instead of classes.

Melinda will be cooking meatballs, scalloped potatoes, green beans, rolls, and dessert for Wednesday night fellowship supper before Bible classes.

JESUS DIED  
FOR ME SO I  
WILL LIVE  
FOR HIM.

### December Worship Assignments

<u>Welcome &amp; Prayer</u>		<u>Communion</u>	<u>Shepherd's Prayer</u>
12-3	Dana Crisp	Tinker Langston	Don Luna
12-10	Spencer Wade	Paul Wade	John Abraham
12-17	Andrew Hambelton	D. E. Pleasant	Mark Lane
12-24	Ryan Stevens	Larry Butler	David Stevens
12-31	Jim Kirkland	R. J. Moyers	Don Luna

**Song Leader: Titus Smith—Today Sawyer Deakins**

**Greeters: Mark & Nichole Lane**

## The Family News

December 3, 2023

### Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655

[www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org)

### A Place to Call Home

*We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.*

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service Topic: ***Be Patient Until Jesus Returns***

#### Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

#### Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Prayer

Kids Singing up Front

#989, *Soon and Very Soon*; #590, *Jesus Is All the World to Me*

#147, *I Stand Amazed*; #162, *All Hail the Power of Jesus*

#176, *Lamb of God*; Communion Service

#414, *Anywhere with Jesus*

Scripture Reading by Howard Wade, James 5:7-8

Sermon and Invitation

#153, *Come, Let Us Worship*; #166, *He's My King*

Shepherd's Prayer

Offering baskets are at the back.

#### Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835

Don Luna 417-712-1945

David Stevens 417-679-4700

John Abraham 870-421-5632

#### Deacons

Larry Butler 817-504-1604

Dana Crisp 417-331-5090

James Langston 870-315-4355

#### Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

**Ministers:** Every Member—Each One of Us