

JUNK BENEVOLENCE

After the family had come home after worship, their little girl asked for a can of food to help fill a food basket for needy people. As her mother scanned the pantry shelves, she suggested, "You can take these cans of sardines that none of us like."

The little girl's face fell in disappointment. "But that means the poor people are helping us."

The story has helped me re-evaluate my benevolence.

There is nothing wrong with giving what we no longer use. In fact, I gave a suit to our clothes bank this week.

However, I do not want closet cleaning to be my total expression of compassion. If I do, then the poor people are helping me and I am not getting the spiritual benefit of helping others.

David understood this principle. He wanted to offer a sacrifice to the Lord. A man offered to give him animals for the sacrifice and wood for the fire.

However, David refused by saying, "No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing" (II Sam. 24:24).

Not only do people need to be helped, I need help. And, if it doesn't cost, it does not count.

--Jerrie Barber

Arenas Valley Church of Christ
5 Racetrack Road
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THE REMINDER

ARENAS VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST
5 RACETRACK ROAD
SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO 88061

May 6, 2018

MINISTERS

Ed Young—590-3010

Floyd Robertson—538-2971

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Class.....10:00 A. M.
Worship.....11:00 A. M.
Afternoon.....1:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class.....11:30 A. M.

THURSDAY

Bible Class.....6:30 P. M.

YOU WILL ALWAYS BE WELCOME
arenasvalleycofc@yahoo.com (email)
www.avchurchofchrist. (website)

NEWS AND NOTES

WELCOME VISITORS! Please fill out a visitor's card so we will have a record of your visit.

PRAYER LIST: Ryan (Jessica's son - neurofibromatosis,, Kyle and Brad Young-health issues, Deby Maldonado, also her son Michael- health issues, Verdos & Wanda Mullins-heart issues and cancer, also John and Dorothy Callahan their care givers, Larry Rogers-stroke, Rita Blair, Linda Thrall's mother and son, Patsy Robertson, Debbie Breshears.

PRAVY for our congregation and the efforts to reach the lost. Let us all work together to make the church the best it can be, and remember to pray for our fall meeting, September 9-12 with Mike Bonner.

SPECIAL DAYS: July 8th, presentation on World Bible School.

June 17th, presentation of the church's Disaster Relief Effort Inc.

Billy Palmer and family will be here May 19th and 20th. Please plan now to take part in the activities of that weekend..

NEW BROTHER: Tommy Spurgeon confessed Jesus as the Son of God, and put Christ on in baptism last Monday. Let us all encourage the new members!

JUST FOR THE RECORD Last Week Last Year

SUNDAY:

Bible Class 19 8

Worship 36 25

Evening 13 10

EVENING

Bible Study 9 14

CONTRIBUTION \$1507.00 \$863.00

DON'T MISS THE PLANE!

Have you ever been in an airport and watch people as they rush to the gate to catch their flight? What a panic it is when a person is five minutes late. All the passengers have passed through the gate and boarded the plane, except that person that was late. The doors have been closed, the engines were started, the plane is beginning to taxi down the runway, and the person rushes up to the desk and exclaims, "Oh, no! They can't leave me! I must be on this flight!" The lady at the desk smiles, offers an apology and says, "It is too late, there is nothing we can do about it now."

You can see the disappointment on that person's face. Can you imagine how many will be disappointed on the judgment day because "They were too late."

We think of Noah and the flood. How the people must have felt when he closed and barred the door and the rain began to fall. Think about those that had made fun and joked about that silly old man building a boat 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high, hundreds of miles from the nearest ocean. But it wasn't so funny after it started to rain.

How many will be lost because they missed the boat? How many will be lost because of their transgression of God's Word, or their failure to obey the Gospel? How many that knew what they ought to do, but are lost because they simply put it off.

When the thought really strikes home is when a person is dying and not prepared to meet God! The same panic, the same hopelessness, the same despair that was on the face of the person who was late to catch the plane, will be felt by the dying person. The difference between the person who missed the plan and the dying person, is the person that missed the plane will be given a chance to catch another flight, but there will be no second chance for the one unprepared to meet God when death overtakes them or the Lord comes.

Paul said, ". . . I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2). Don't miss the plane!

--Floyd