

STGMA *"news you can use"* GOSPEL NOTES

STGMA founded 1999



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Walking in His Shadow...

By: Christine Scott

Have you ever had a child walk beside you trying desperately to remain in your shadow that was cast by the sun onto the sidewalk? Though it takes great effort, their little legs gladly step in closer. Our shadow is their safe place to walk and a shield from the heat.

No matter what troubles we face in this life, God is our safe place. He is the place of refuge we can run to. It reminds me of the 9-1-1 scripture I love. *"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty."* (Psalm 91:1) This verse doesn't say we should make sure we know where the shelter is should we need it. The word "dwell" means to "take up permanent residence in". Oh, that we would stay and live in His presence. What a difference it is to remain, abide and stay sheltered in Him; safe from the storms of life. Remember that a shelter doesn't stop the storm from coming but it provides a refuge in the midst of the raging winds! A shadow is a cooler place to reside and escape the heat. The heat of stress and pressures in life can be overwhelming. God is calling us to walk by His side, in His shadow, where we'll find rest, peace and a calm not found anywhere else. Often we forget we need God's protection and the comfort that comes from being in His presence. The entire chapter of Psalm 91 is filled with the goodness and power of God that reminds us how He faithfully works on behalf of those who love Him. Verses 14-16, God says:

- "I will rescue him..." (deliver, cause to escape)
- "I will protect him..." (set him on a high place)
- "I will answer him..." (respond to, speak)
- "I will be with him in trouble..." (in afflictions, in distress)
- "I will deliver him..." (rescue, to bring into safety)
- "and honor him..." (to make rich, strong, heavy with honor)

(continued on page 3)



From the
President's Desk

Greetings,

Why do we continue to blame God? It seems to me that we are constantly blaming God daily for our continued problems. My thought for this month's newsletter is: Why? I remember a story in God's word found in 1 Kings Chapter 18. It talks about Elijah and Ahab the king at the time. For many years prior to Ahab becoming ruler of the land that all of the Kings before him were wicked. They were worshipping everything but God.

We find in 1 Kings 16:30-33 where Ahab's trouble started. "And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord above all that were before him. And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him." Now who was causing the problem? It was not God. Look at verse 31. Once you separate yourself from the fellowship of the Lord, it gets easier for you to commit sin. This verse reads: "as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins." Sin blinds us from the truth. We become accustomed to doing wrong. We begin to blame everyone around us for the bad that we're doing.

Then the Lord sent Elijah to Ahab with a warning in 1 Kings 17 verse 1. "And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word." This shows us that we need the Lord and all that He supplies for us. Elijah explains there will be no rain for the next three years. The scripture records that after awhile, Ahab sends out his servants to find Elijah because he wants him dead. At the end of the three-year drought, we find this scripture: "And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim." 1 Kings 18:17-18

Even after three years, Ahab has still not got the message as he says to Elijah: Are you the one that is causing us problems? Elijah simply says: It's not me, it's you. It is time we quit blaming the Lord for all of our problems and take a good long look at our lives and our ways. If they are not the Lord's ways, then we are to blame. Seek the Lord while He may be found.

Until next time...Be Blessed...

Floyd

(continued from page 1)

- "With long life will I satisfy him..." (to have abundance in the journey)
- "and show him my salvation." (let him see my deliverance & victory)

Friend, there's great blessing in seeking after God and choosing to walk in His ways. No hope can be found in the darkness of this world yet God's promises are sure, true and strong! He constantly reminds us we're not alone. He's with us always. When you allow that thought to sink in, it will change your entire life. If God is with you in all circumstances and through every trial you face, what do you have to fear? Nothing. Absolutely nothing. You may think "Right, Christine, but you don't know what I'm going through!" You're correct but God does...and He still made that promise to you and to me. Nothing surprises God. Nothing just occurs to Him. He's aware and already has it worked out for our good and His glory. His Word goes on to say, *"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."* Matthew 6:28-34

Rest in Him, sweet friends. It's time to get so close to God, we dwell in His shadow singing praises unto the lamb of God all the remaining days of our life. Serve Him and minister the gospel sheltered in the shadow of the Almighty who never leaves or forsakes you... People need the Lord! Guide someone to Him today!



DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Do People Mistake You For Jesus

A few years ago a group of salesmen went to a regional sales convention in Chicago. They assured their wives they would be home for dinner on Friday evening. In their rush, to catch the plane, one of the salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table which held a display of apples. Apples flew everywhere. Without stopping to look back, with tickets and briefcases, they all managed to reach the plane in time for their nearly-missed boarding. ALL BUT ONE!!! He paused, took a deep breath, got in touch with his feelings and experienced a twinge of compassion for the girl whose apple stand had been overturned. He told his buddies to go on without him, waved good-bye, told one to call his wife when they arrived at their destination and explain his taking a later flight. Then he returned to the terminal where the apples were all over the terminal floor. He was glad he had returned. A 16-year-old girl that was totally blind was softly crying. Tears were running down her cheeks in frustration, and at the same time helplessly groping for the spilled produce as the crowd swirled about her. No one stopping and no one to care for her plight. The salesman knelt on the floor with her, gathered up the apples, put them back on the table and helped organize her display. As he did this he noticed that many of them had become battered and bruised. These he set aside in another basket.

(More to the story in the next issue. To be continued...)





STGMA

South Texas Gospel Music Association

presents
An Evening of Gospel Music

Saturday, July 22 • 6 pm

First Baptist Church of Schertz
600 Aero Ave
Schertz TX 78154



The Milburns



Pathfinders Quartet



Free Admission - Love Offering
For more information,
contact Fay Gassner at 830.217.4290

WE WANT YOUR OPINION...

If STGMA were to host a festival in Brenham Texas, when would YOU like it to be during the year? Keep in mind we always have our Convention the end of April! Send a quick email or text to Christine (979-824-3040) and let her know your preference!



STGMA

South Texas Gospel Music Association

presents
An Evening of Gospel Music

Saturday, August 26 • 6 pm

Live Oak Baptist Church
11560 Toepperwein Road, Live Oak TX 78233



Appointed By Grace



Faye Gassner

Free Admission - Love Offering
For more information,
contact Fay Gassner at 830.217.4290



Happy Birthday



Henry Talbott

2017 Convention Photos



SAVE THE DATE:
APRIL 28, 2018

Larry Green, MercySong Revival
(Floyd Scott, President in background)

Continued on page 6



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A stylized illustration of a sewing machine with a red heart on its side. The machine is shown with various threads and a piece of fabric being sewn.

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2017 Convention Photos



MORE PHOTOS:

- Blue Creek
- The Pearsons
- Watchmen of Texas
- Laura McElroy (Jubil-Heirs)
- Harmony Quartet



WELCOME BACK

to the
STGMA BOARD

Gerald Lyda

For those who don't know Gerald... pull up a chair and sit a spell while I tell you a little bit about him! Gerald Lyda is an accomplished business man. He is and has been for some time the CEO of La Escalera Limited Partnership. As a young man, he worked along side his Dad whose company was instrumental in building much of the site of the 1968 Worlds Fair held in San Antonio. Though he is a busy man, he loves southern gospel music and has a passion to see STGMA grow and prosper. He became an associate member in 2004 and took a seat on the Board of Directors that same year. He served on the board 2 years. After stepping down he remained as active as possible. He returned to the Board as an officer in 2011 filling the newly created position of Chief Networking Officer/Communications and Relations Manager; CNO for short. During this time Gerald was also responsible for putting together the STGMA newsletter. He held that position for

approximately 4 years stepping down only because of the demands of his position as CEO at La Escalera. In April 2017, he was once again welcomed back to the Board of Directors taking the seat vacated by Diana Baum, a long time member of the Board.

Welcome Back, Gerald!

PS: Just so you'll know, Diana will thankfully continue to help us by what we have lovingly named a "Committee of One". Although no longer a voting member of the Board, we appreciate her willingness to help.



Hi, friends!

facebook 

It's summer and it's hot! There's a lot going on with social media right now and we are gearing up for sharing all our concert information and other news on our STGMA Facebook page and stgma.org! If you have not gone to our Facebook and "liked" it... take a moment to do that NOW! We have some exciting stuff on the way and we don't want you to miss a moment of it!

Do you have a new member of the group? Have you visited a new venue and want to give a "shout out" to the Pastor, Music Minister or church? Send the info to me and I will put it on our Facebook page. Everyone can participate. SHARE our page with your friends so they will see our concert announcements and hopefully share with their friends!

Blessings to each of you...
Christine Scott

STGMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fay Gassner - <i>director.gassner@stgma.org</i>	830.217.4290
Tom DeAngelis - <i>director.deangelis@stgma.org</i>	210.415.7197
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Logan Pettis - <i>director.pettis@stgma.org</i>	816.387.1917
Megan Pettis - <i>director.pettis@stgma.org</i>	512.787.6992

STGMA OFFICERS & STAFF

Floyd Scott - President - <i>president@stgma.org</i>	979.824.5058
Vice President - Leadership Accepting Applications.....	Open
Christine Scott - Secretary/Webmaster - <i>webmaster@stgma.org</i>	979.824.3040
Henry B. Talbott Sr. - Honorary Chaplain	

Mistakes are okay...they are proof you are trying!



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The South Texas Gospel Music Association, Inc. is a Christian Association Incorporated under the non-profit act and is qualified under Section 501 (C) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and all contributions made to the STGMA, Inc. are tax deductible.

We are on the web...
www.stgma.org