

# The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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Volume XLIV

February 2012

Number 2

**FEBRUARY 2012: BE A CHRISTIAN!** Let love be without hypocrisy or dissimulation. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another." (Romans 12:9&10)

Why would the Apostle Paul say; "Let love be without hypocrisy or dissimulation"? It would help for us to first understand what kind of love he is talking about in verse 9. It is the Greek word 'agape' which is translated love in verse 9. As you may know this word stresses the kind of love which proceeds from God, and is in fact the reason He gave God the Son to die upon the cross. How is God's way of loving or showing love? To put it simply, our Lord shows love without consideration to what kind of a person he or she may be, his/her ranking in society or how popular one may or may not be. This is the kind of love one finds in Christ Jesus. This love cannot be earned, bought or bartered for.

As a child of the Almighty, we must realize that this love is a high and holy calling. But, too often we are rebellious children and there are times we dig pits for ourselves that are so deep we feel we can never get out. I am reminded what Corrie Ten Boone said; "No pit is so deep, that God's love is not deeper still." When we feel that we have strayed too far to be helped, Psalm 139 reminds us that there is no place for His child to go where He is yet able to rescue and keep. "Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? (Psalm 139:7)

You see, it is God's sovereign love which binds us to Him. Because our God is such a loving and keeping God, David responds by saying; "You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it." (Psalm 139:5&6)

Now back to the question of hypocrisy and dissimulation. It is quite simple why Paul uses these in connection with God's love, and yet so many miss the simplicity of it. If we say that we love God and yet have great difficulty loving others, especially in the Church, something is definitely wrong with this equation. Paul would tell us that this is hypocrisy, and that we are feigning to be something when we are not. We are also hiding under a false mask and assimilating a false appearance.

Having brotherly love for those in the church and loving those outside of Christ is tied directly to how God's love has impacted our lives. If it has not impacted us, we will show partiality, we will exclude others from our small circles and we may view ourselves from a perspective that God does not. It may also indicate that we have not experienced the life changing love and power of God. As Christians, what we say must go hand-in-hand with the words we choose say and how we live.

We can never hope to impact our homes, let alone our society with the gospel of the Lord Jesus if we are operating under false pretenses. May we all fall upon the grace of our God and be changed by His life changing love that will fit us for His service.

Lord, we bend the knee of our stubborn wills to Your most holy and wise will. Please bring us into alignment with Your Word so we may be pleasing to You and helpful and encouraging to others.

In His Love, Meredith

## SERMON SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS FOR THE MONTH:

February 5	James 2:1-13	Scout Sunday
	"Ultimate Courteousness"	
February 12	Roman 12:9-16	
	"Be a Christian!"	
February 19	I John 3:10-23	
	"The Imperative of Love"	
February 26	John 3:14-21	
	"Agape Brings Real Change"	



### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

February 14	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bailey
February 14	Mr. and Mrs. Danny Hernandez
February 17	Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Glass
February 22	Mr. and Mrs. John Yeboah

### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

February 5	Joe Anne Alsbrook
February 12	Katie Ruffin
February 19	Robin Gravely
February 26	Vickie Hugues

### FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH

Mary Steele Circle

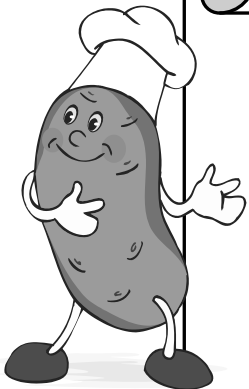
Feb 12	The Heaths/Margarette Alsbrook
In	Honor of Ms Joe Anne Alsbrook



### SICK AND SHUT INS:

Bennett, Mary Frances	Lewis, Adam
Billings, Mel Sr	Lineberger, Rachael
Boswell, Mike	Locke, Ann
Boswell, Rick	Locke, Mike
Brown, Don	Lupinsky, Logan
Bundy, Pam	McCormick, Julia
Cavin, Henry	Miller, Jason
Culver, Michael	Moncla, Luke
Curtis, Cooper	Montgomery, Madelyn
Dungy, Louise	Moore, Martha Lou
Fletcher, John	Moss, Charlie
Frazier, Betty	Motes, Cindy
Goulder, Helen	Otis, Mike
Griffin, Melanie	Patrick, Carolyn
Harpe, Karen Cavin	Rhodes, Geraldine
Hill, Dana	Sanders, Laura
Hill, Joy	Sigmon, Jaime
Hodges, Doris	Smith, Sarah
Huffman, Linda	Starnes, Cecil
Huffman, Swayne	Walter, Joshlin
Krull, Lucy	Welch, Jack
Legler, Don	

## Menu for February



Feb 1	Baked Potato Bar
Feb 8	Hoagies
Feb 15	Chicken Tenders /Mac N Cheese
Feb 22	Family Night
Feb 29	Taco Bar

Cost: \$3.00 person  
\$10.00 Family

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Christie Bridges	16	Chad Walker
	Emil-Grace Tia White		Norma Columbus
9	Samantha Wells	19	Billy Pugh
10	Michael Griffin	20	Robert Bailey
	Stacey Huffman	23	Anna Hugues
11	Cassie Cranford		Sarah Cavin
	Wesli Whitmer	24	Shirley Kennedy
12	Charlotte Williams		Verlie Wells, IV
13	Sarah Huffman	26	Blake Walker
15	Gwen Goulder		Christi Huffman
	Joe Anne Alsbrook		Jean Chisolm
	Swayne Huffman	28	Mallory Glass
			Robin Gravely

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-674-3851 or e-mail at [chris\\_gravley@bellsouth.net](mailto:chris_gravley@bellsouth.net).

**THE DEACON OF THE MONTH** is Peter Simonton. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Peter at 901-476-7750.

**INFORMATION NEEDED!** We need information for the Brighton Light. We would like to make the church newsletter more interesting and informative. If you have any news about you or your family or any suggestions or ideas, please contact the church secretary.

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** - Ms. Mary Sue Blalack will be Celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. You have been invited to join the family for a Birthday Celebration on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Brighton Baptist Church Family Life Center.

**PARTY!** There will be a Super Bowl party on Sunday Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> after the adult bible study. Everyone attending is asked to bring canned goods for the food pantry.

**BANQUET TIME:** The Mary Steele Circle Valentine Banquet will be held on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. There will be a great meal, entertainment, door prizes, and a Sweetheart Shop. Donations will be accepted at the door. Please be sure to bring your friends and come out to enjoy this event.

**FOOD PANTRY:** The food pantry has been cleaned and repainted and now it's time to replenish so we will be ready to provide food for families that are in need. We are going to try to keep everyone updated on the pantry through a newsletter - "Food Pantry Newsletter". We have a wish list of items that are needed in our pantry. We are basically starting our pantry from scratch so everything is needed. If you want you can donate money and we will be glad to go shopping for the items that are needed for the pantry. Also if you have coupons that you don't want you can drop them off at the donation boxes and we will use them to save money so we can get more for the bucks donated.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a Worker's Council Meeting on Tuesday February 7 at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. This meeting is for all who are concerned about the Christian Education of our church.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a Lock In for the High Schoolers on February 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will have pizza, watch movies, play games and stay up all night!

*What did Jesus say?*



Decode the message by finding each substitute letter or symbol.

