

***From the Pastor***

Jesus' message to His disciples continues in Matthew 6:1-4. "Take heed that you do not your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly."

Instead of the phrase "charitable deeds" the KJV uses the word "alms." The Greek word translated "alms" or "charitable deeds" is "eleemosune" and is pronounced "el-eh-ay-mos-oo'-nay." Danker's Lexicon defines the word as "the exercise of benevolent goodwill... charitable giving." It can also refer what is given—the alms—"that which is benevolently given to meet a need." Therefore, the word can mean the act of giving or the gift itself.

Jesus said that the hypocrites give in order to be seen by men. It was more important to them to be seen by others doing these deeds. Their minds were on themselves instead of on those receiving the help.

That is the lesson Jesus was emphasizing. What we do for others must flow from a real concern for the needs of those individuals. We are not worrying in any way whether anyone else knows about what we are doing. In fact, we try to not let others learn about it—"that your charitable deed may be in secret."

The point is: God sees what is coming out of our hearts. Are we motivated by real love—real outgoing concern—for the needs of others. Or, are we looking for recognition and praise of men.

Jesus said an attitude motivated by real love will be rewarded by our Father. Real love describes God's own nature (1 John 4:8). He is pleased when He sees us seeking to live by that same love.

We need to learn to do good deeds because others are helped and for no other reason.

	<b>Victoria</b>	<b>Corpus Christi</b>	<b>Harlingen</b>
Sunset Today in:	6:08pm	6:11pm	6:15pm
Sunset Friday 2-9	6:13pm	6:15pm	6:19pm

# Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



February 3, 2018

## Victoria

*Sermon:* Steve Moody

## Corpus Christi

*Sermonette:* Arnold Mendez  
*Sermon:* Home Office DVD

## Harlingen

*Sermon:* Arnold Mendez

"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world."

James 1:27

## Announcements and Schedule

<b>Sabbath 2/3</b>	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria.
<b>Sabbath 2/10</b>	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Victoria. Mr. Moody will speak in Corpus Christi. We will have a guest speaker in San Antonio – Dr. Ralph Levy. Mr. Chapman plans to be in Victoria. Harlingen will have a Home Office DVD.

### Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

#### **Foundation Institute, Center for Biblical Education:**

From David Johnson:

Our thanks to those who have so enthusiastically supported the Foundation Institute Continuing Education Seminars. When registration opened at 10 this past Sunday morning, the June session reached capacity in 3 minutes and the July session was filled in 46 minutes. As it stands now, we will have participants from 17 different states, as well as from Barbados and Chile.

We currently have 21 people on the waiting list, so there is little possibility that any who register now will be able to attend this year.

We hope that those who were not accepted this year will be able to attend next year when we will be in our new facility and have room for a few more.

**San Antonio Potluck:** The next regularly will be February 3, 2018.

**Harlingen Pot Luck:** The Harlingen congregation will have a potluck on the Sabbath of February 3rd after services.

**Corpus Christi Bible Study:** The Corpus Christi congregation will have a Bible Study - Brown Bag Social on the Sabbath of February 17th.

**Corpus Christi:** Goose Island campout March 23-25, **please note the date change. The campout dates had to be changed because of scheduling and spring break conflicts.**