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them unto the end," John 13:1.

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Last night I.walked down a path and looked up at the stars in a clear sky above. Thirty-two years ago I remember walking that same path, when I was a college student, and looking up at the same stars. They

don't change. At the station I boarded a train. and as it sped through the night, out of the window those same stars seemed to travel with us. On the side of the tracks the telegraph poles, the bushes, the fields, and the forests seemd to rush past, but the stars seemed always the same above, I noticed a little cluster of stars called "The Seven Sisters," and thought of my boyhood when my father first taught me that name. Many things in life change, but

omethings change not; some things are etern. \l. "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, The moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

What is man, that thou art mind

And the son of man, that thou visit him? (Psalm 8:3, 4) Yet, the fact is God is mindful of man and has visited him in mercyand love in sending Jesus Christ

into the world. The Christmas story

is eternal as the stars.

To make both ends meet nowadays takes no end of maney

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If you paddle your own there's no noe to rock the be The road to wealth is cro It all tries hard to give it swa.

The easer it is to reform a
the oftener the job has to be a with men who are turning back.

The fellow who plays to points doesn't profit from his mistages.



Scripture: Psalms 42; 84; 162:25-27 Devotional Reading: Psalm 63:1-8.

The Living God

Lesson for December 12, 1954

DO ALL men "yearn for God"? Plainly, they do not. Many ig-nore him, many wish they could be sure he did not exist, even spend a good deal of effort trying to show that there is no God

Many even so-called religious peo ple, church members of the more lukewarm sort, cannot by any stretch of the imagination be said to "yearn" for God. Some people are so flabby by temperament that

they never yearn for anything or Dr. Foreman anyone in their whole lives. Like oysters, they take what comes their way and think as little as possible. Nevertheless and for all that, the longing for God is the deepest longing of which the human heart is capable. Those who have known this desire know that there is no other which is so in-

Only the Living God Satisfies

Men do cry out for the living God, as the Psalmist said. Men do not really care for dead gods. A deity who is only a name, a definition in a catechism, an article in a creed, a hypothesis in a philosopher's mind, a concept, an idea; a god who is spun like cobweb out of a thinker's brain, a god who is another name for a Wish, a god who is no more than a mirage, a reflection of a man's own ego on the blank curtain of empty eternity,- such a god no one wants. It is only the living God who satisfies. Indeed, the great saints have always believed that only the living God could inspire in men this deep desire for himself. But what is meant by the "living" God? First of all it means the weaver of destiny. A God who made the universe and threw it out to whirl forever untended and forgotten, might be a majestic deity but not the living God for whom the saints have yearned. The living God is one

who is here, now, weaving at his loom of time and space, living in the hearts and minds of his children, controlling by his providence the course of history, "preserving and governing all his creatures" as an old creed expresses it. To such a God we dare to pray; of such a God we may expect concern, a hand stretched out to lift the falling.

God the Friend

"God is my friend" is the most stirring thought a man can have. A God who could not be a friend but only a creator, a judge, would not be the living God of the psalmists' prayers. Yet when we speak of God as a friend, we have to avoid two mistakes. One is to think that he is a friend to all alike, that it makes no difference at all to him what we do, he is for us no matter what, that whatever we pray for he is bound to do for us. No: as we were thinking last week, God can be against men. He will not say "Yes" to foolish or wicked prayers. He is for good and against evil, and he plays no favorites. Another mis-take is to think of him like some human friends, persons who wish us well but can't do anything else about it. Human friendship is often no more than weak and helpless sympathy. The friendship of God comes from the heart of reality itself. In spite of our human friends we may be destroyed; but as St. Paul put it, If God be for us, who can be (successfully) against 115?

The Unchanging God Both in the Bible (as in Psalm

102) and out (as in Christian theology) we hear about the unchanging or the unchangeable, God. We have to be careful to think of this as the Bible shows us, and not to make a caricature out of the idea. God is the living God; let us keep that in mind at all times. He is not unchanging as a statue is. A doll is made smiling; cuddle the doll or leave it in the rain, and the doll smiles on. But God is no doll! God is not unchanging as a formula is in mathematics. Any mathematical law, any law of physics or astronomy for instance, is unchangeable; but it is not a living thing; it knows nothing, it cares for nothing, it can be used by evil men and good. God on the contrary is the divine person, not a what, not a thing, but infinite, personal, loving,-our Father, His unchangingness is not the sameness of a doll, not the inflexibility of a formula. It is the changeless ness of a fatherly love on which his children can now and always depend.

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Third Sunday Morning REV. NORMAN FLOWERS Warsaw Church Every Sunday morning owden Community Church

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PINK HILL GROUP Rev. N. P. Farrior, Pastor Pink Hill - Third Sunday A. M. and First Sunday P. M. Women of the Church Circle No. 1 meeting 1st Tuesday night of the month. Circle No. 2 meeting 3:30 P. M. on first Tuesday of month. General meeting 3rd Tuesday at the church.

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after 3rd Sunday. Circle Thursday P. M. before 2rd Sunday

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at 7 o'clock Cedar Fork Hallsville

3rd and 4th Sundays CALYPSO Pastor 2nd and 4th Sundays MAGNOLIA BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. J. D. Everett, Pastor let and 3rd Sunday mornings 1st and 3rd Sunday nights

REV. ELLIOTT B. STEWART, Pastor Corinth 2nd and 3rd Sundays Teachey 1st and 4th Sundays

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vation of every lost soul, as well as every "born again' soul, depends entirely upon the reality of God's love; "For God So Loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoesoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life," John 3:16.

THE PRIORITY OF LOVE

By REV. C. HERMAN TRUEBLOOD

Text: "Having loved his own which were in the world, he loved

Henry Drumond said, "Love is the greatest thing in the world."

Christianity is a religion of love, "God is love," 1 John 4:16. The sal-

The proper relationship between Christians, as well as our attitude towards lost souls, depends upon the love of Christ-"Because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Roman 5.5. One of the main evidences that a person is saved, that he is a child of God, is determined by the sincere love that is manifested toward God and one's fellow man, "Love one another as I have loved you." John 12:1. "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." 1 John 3:14.

A person may make a thousand professions of faith; he may be baptized, partake of the Lord's Supper, give a tithe of his income, attend every service at his church, teach a Sunday School class, sing in the choir, pray beautiful prayers, make fine religious talks, even preach sermons, and at the same time be a dammed, doomed, lost sinner, because in his heart he harbors malice, hatred, and an unforgiving spirit toward some other person—"Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Crhist's sake hath forgiven you." Eph. 4:32, "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar; for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" 1 John 4:20.

Not only are we to love members of our own church, or all Christians, The family of God on earth," though we may not love "their ways," or behavior; we are to love our enemies-certainly a true child of God, will love the souls of all people, and have a sincere desire in his heart to "win them to Christ," "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." Matt. 5:11. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do," Jesus prayed for his crucifiers.







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Sunday School at 10:00 A. M. ng at 11:00 and evening at 7:30.

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CHINQUAPIN GROUP

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Evening Services 2nd., 4th. and 5th. Sundays

DOBSON'S CHAPEL Morning Services 4th, and 5th, Sundays

Evening Services

1st. and 3rd. Sundays

Island Creek 2nd Sunday morning and 4th Sunday evening.

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Rev. M. M. Turner, Pastor
1st and 3rd Sundays JOHNSON CHURCH

Dr. Poston, Paster Services each Sunday WELLS CHAPEL

Concord

2nd and 4th Sundays

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ev. J.D. Buerer, Pastor 2nd and 4th Sundays WARSAW

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5th Sandays 11:00 A. M. 3rd at 7:30 P. M. CARLTON'S CHAPEL Church School 1st and 3rd at

10:00 A. M. 2nd and 4th at 10:30 A. M. J. E. Blanchard Superintendent Worship Services 2nd and 4th at 9:30 A. M. TURKEY CHURCH Church School 10:00 A. M.

L. A. Sutton, Superintendent Worship Services-1st Sunday night 7:30 P. M. 3rd Sunday morning 11:00 A.M.

FAISON CHARGE Rev. Harold D. Minor, Minister

FAISON 1st. and 3rd. Sunday morning, 11:00 a.m. 2nd. and 4th. Sunday evening, 7:00 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP 7:00 p.m.

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3rd. Sunday 11:00 A .M . 3rd Sunday 7:30 P. M. Magnella Sunday School 10:00 A. M. 2nd Sunday night 7:30 o'clock 4th Sunday morning 11:00 o'clock

Unity

2nd Sunday 11:00 A. M. 4th Sunday 7:30 P. M. Wesley Sunday School 10:00 A. M.

1st Sunday 7:80 P. M. 3rd Sunday 11:00 A. M. 4th Sunday 11:00 A. M. PINEY GROVE Free Will Baptist Rev. J. B. Starnes, pastor

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