

"With God, all things are possible."  
Matthew 19:26 "For with God, nothing  
shall be impossible." Luke 1:37

**May 2022**  
**Nacogdoches &  
Livingston**

# GODTEL Report



## *To Live is Christ, to Die is Gain ...*

... that is, if you are an honest-to-God, born-again, Bible-believing, God-fearing, child of God, who is a doer of God's Word, not a hearer only, deceiving yourself (James 1:22). To die otherwise is a tragedy, and a final great loss. Hell will not be one big drunken party as some people laughingly say.

### **Easter Sunday**

At our Livingston Mission we had a wonderful weekend celebrating the sacrificial love of Jesus and the glorious promise of resurrection power available to us today. On Saturday afternoon, I invited our residents to my house to watch the movie Mel Gibson made, "The Passion of Christ." Watching the wrath poured out on Jesus, who had become our sin, I realized again how much God hates sin. Not only that, but how much God loves us, since, as Jesus, He endured to the end and "drank the whole cup" required to be that perfect sacrifice to forgive us our sin. Scripture tells us that "whosoever will" may come to God. Our part is to willingly believe what the Bible says, recognize that we have a divine curse upon us because we have violated God's law, be willing to change our behavior, ask forgiveness, open our heart's door and let Jesus in to take up residence within us.

On Easter Sunday we opened the service by listening to Bro. June singing "Via Dolorosa" (on CD). After that, our son Josiah played his guitar and sang "Three Days Lat-

er" (a song about the resurrection written by Bro. June). Then our oldest son, Michael, preached from the book of Romans about the Gospel of Christ being the power of God unto salvation.

After church we observed the Lord's Supper which moved me to tears of sorrow and thankfulness as I partook. I recognized, with sorrow, my part in the suffering of Jesus, and, with thankfulness, that the penalty of/for my sin had been paid, that I have been given a new life and am bound for an eternity in a Heaven I don't deserve.

### **He Was a Sunday "Christian"**

Sadly, on Monday morning following Easter Sunday, one of our residents who had been there for the sermon (whether he heard it or not, I cannot say) and had chosen to partake of the Lord's Supper afterward, became confrontational and verbally abusive, making terroristic threats about getting a gun and coming back and shooting up the place. I was in Nacogdoches and was very thankful Martin was in Livingston that morning because he had Greg call the police. They quickly came and saw to it that the man left GODTEL property.

Many people are Easter and Christmas "Christians" but if you are not a Christian all the time, you aren't one at all.

### **Why on a Monday?**

So, just why was Martin in Livingston early that Monday morning—rather than his usual Thursday? He had come to see about getting final repairs made to the pickup truck that I had my "Valentines Day Adventure" in. The final hurdle was getting a fuse installed. We are very thankful we had the \$3,000 to make all the repairs and get the truck up and useful again. (How we miss Bro. June's auto mechanic-ing skills!)

### **Uncharitable Thoughts**

I was recently reminded of a man who, years ago, often passed by GODTEL on his way to town with his parents. As they passed, he would think things like, "Those people are scary," and, "I will never stay at a homeless shelter."

He grew up, went to work, COVID hit, his job was lost and he soon became homeless. With nowhere else to turn, he came to GODTEL. He told us what his previous thoughts had been but now realized he was one of "them." He also learned to never say, "Never," and understood how quickly life can change.

He showed his appreciation for our help by complying with our rules, getting a job, saving his money, and moving out when he had saved enough for move-in fees and first month's expenses.

## GODTEL Ministries, Inc.

*Sharing Practical Christianity Since 1975*

### *Nacogdoches Stats — March, 2022*

March Residents:	79
Nights' Lodging Provided:	1,338
Meals Served:	4,086
Christian Help Ctr. Clients:	438

### *Livingston Stats — March, 2022*

March Residents:	20
Nights' Lodging Provided:	243
Meals Served:	768
Christian Help Ctr. Clients:	411

### *Lufkin Stats — March, 2022*

March Residents:	59
Nights' Lodging Provided:	740
Meals Served:	2,283



Martin Baker  
*Executive Director*

Martin was one of the founders of and for 45 years has been affiliated with God's Open Door To Eternal Life d.b.a. GODTEL Ministries, a 501(c)(3) organization.

Following the death of Bro. June Gentry in 2021, GODTEL's Board of Directors unanimously voted to promote Martin from Vice President to President of the Board and Executive Director of GODTEL.

GODTEL is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas but we do not seek nor accept government funding of any kind. GODTEL operates three homeless shelters in East TX, located in Nacogdoches, Lufkin, and Livingston where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is presented daily in word (twice daily Bible classes & Christian counseling) and deed (shelter, food, clothing, and other necessities).

In Nacogdoches and Livingston GODTEL operates "Christian Help Centers" which freely provide clothing, furniture, and household items to the poor.

**"The poor have the Gospel preached to them."  
Matthew 11:5**

On the Web: [www.godtel.org](http://www.godtel.org)  
E-mail: [godtel@minister.com](mailto:godtel@minister.com)

### **You Meet the Nicest People (But in a Cemetery?)**

When in Livingston, I ride my bicycle in the cemetery across the street from my house and pass by Bro. June's grave 5 times as I make my rounds. I have often seen a man visiting his wife's grave near where June is buried (she died in November last year, just two months after Bro. June did). I began to pray for him and eventually stopped at his car one day to tell him about the consolation I have found in Jesus and to let him know I was praying for him. His name is Ray Hill.

Benita and I have now had several delightful conversations with him and consider him a friend. He recently replaced the bouquet of yellow roses he keeps on his wife's headstone and realized the ones he

replaced were still in very good shape so he offered them to me. I delightfully accepted and placed them at June's headstone. (See below)



### **Board Report**

GODTEL's last Board of Directors' meeting was in Lufkin, hosted by my youngest son, Joshua. We (mainly Martin) have been busy reviewing GODTEL's Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, Rules, and the Employee Handbook.

Our purpose remains the same: to introduce people to the salvation Christ offers and to disciple new believers.

— Nancy Gentry

### **For Your Information**

Bro. June's sermons, music, and memorial service are available for viewing and listening to on YouTube. Just search for "June Gentry preaching" and you can hear the sermons he has preached at the missions.



His music CDs and helpful Christian literature, including the series on Faith by Manley Beasley are also available directly from GODTEL (Contact information is at the bottom)

### **We Sell Scrap Metal**

**GODTEL accepts scrap metal donations, including old cars, lawn mowers, and appliances at each of our three locations.**

(We will pick up vehicles when possible.)

1902 Douglass Road  
Nacogdoches, TX 75964-3817  
(936) 569-7914  
FAX: (936) 564-2976



323 Moody Street  
Lufkin, TX 75901-0445  
(936) 637-2520  
FAX: (936) 637-2289

1607 South Washington Avenue  
Livingston, TX 77351-4047  
(936) 327-8863  
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