



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

February 24, 2015

How Much Are You Willing To Pay?

Mike King



When Jesus was recruiting disciples, He used some expressions that no doubt caused some consternation. While speaking to a crowd (Lk. 14:25), He wanted them to know that to be a disciple involved more than following a crowd (vs. 25-33). They were advised that they were to “hate,” meaning to detest, or to love less as was the case with Rachael and Leah (Gen. 29:30-31). Further, Jesus required that they “forsake,” or put the Lord before everyone else. They could readily see that He was demanding more than mere excitement over religion. Jesus knew that He was on the way to the cross, but the naïve crowd thought He was on His way to some sort of empire.

Jesus explained that there was a difference in following Him in name only than in reality and truth. There is a difference in attending a class in school and being a bona fide student.

The Lord used two illustrations: building a tower, and going to war to show the importance of cost-counting before undertaking a task, especially living the Christian life. Whether a student, even in marriage, or a learner of any discipline, one must know up front the expectations before being successful.

It is costly to follow Jesus! During the time of His ministry, persecution was not uncommon. They were told to bear His cross (Lk. 14:27). The same was taught by Jesus, Paul, and Peter (Matt. 10:22; 2 Tim. 3:12; 1 Pet. 4:12-13). Peter said in essence, suffer now and be glad later. Self-denial is a cost factor. Van Doren said: “It is easier to die the death of a martyr than to live the life of a Christian.”

When trying to be a Christian at a “cheap rate,” unfaithfulness to such appears to be inconsequential or non-threatening. Time, effort, and obedience are often too much to ask of busy people. Saul compromised his soul-salvation by being disobedient; his “followship” became corrupted.

The real truth is that it costs more to not be a disciple than to be one! We waive our rights to “*all spiritual blessings*” (Eph. 1:3) and “*everything that pertains to life and godliness*” (2 Pet. 1:3). Non-Christians opt to live with trouble, unhappiness, burdened conscience, and a troubled heart. The greatest loss is to forfeit our eternal salvation by our refusal to serve as a loyal and faithful disciple. If we are not willing to follow Him without reservations, we are not worthy of Him (Matt. 10:38).

THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF MARCH 2015

Announcements: Andy Clemmer
Sound Room: Shane Crotts
Usher: Perry Jones & Chris Smithey

Lead Singing: Sun. A.M.: Greg Harrison
 Sun. P.M.: Richard Jennings
 Wed.: Ray Kennedy/Youth

Sunday Prayers:

Mar. 01:
 A.M. Greg Clayton
 J. L. Eaton
 P.M. Alvin Parks
 Bobby Marques
 Mar. 08:
 A.M. Harold Russell
 Hunter Jennings
 P.M. Gary Turner
 Dan Cobb
 Mar. 15:
 A.M. Richard Jennings
 Randy Wall
 P.M. Phillip Young
 Brad Pounders
 Mar. 22:
 A.M. Steve Todd
 Jason Jennings
 P.M. Richard Adams
 Terry Stubblefield
 Mar. 29:
 A.M. Lonnie Weaver
 Phil Young
 P.M. Mark Jennings
 Roger Clayton

Lord's Supper:

North Head: Paul Ormon
 North Helper I: Matt Jennings
 North Helper II: Jerry Grimmett
 South Head: Troy Robertson
 South Helper I: Ruston Adams
 South Helper II: Thomas Wall

Scripture Reading:

Mar. 01 — Tyler Weaver
 Mar. 08 — Burrell Walton
 Mar. 15 — Michael Crotts
 Mar. 22 — Olen Clark
 Mar. 29 — David Clayton

Wednesday Prayers:

Mar. 04 — Dillon Clayton; Caleb Jennings
 Mar. 11 — Harold Crow; Bill Lyon
 Mar. 18 — Anderson Parks; Greg Harrison
 Mar. 25 — Ray Kennedy; Jim Gann

Greeters:

Mar. 01 — Richard & Kathy Jennings
 Mar. 08 — Alvin & Kaye Parks
 Mar. 15 — Greg & Kim Clayton
 Mar. 22 — Lonnie & Nicki Weaver
 Mar. 29 — Steve & Lana Todd

Usher & Lock:

Mar. 01 — Randy Wall
 Mar. 08 — Lonnie Weaver
 Mar. 15 — Greg Clayton
 Mar. 22 — Roger Clayton
 Mar. 29 — Brad Pounders

Host Youth Devo: A & K Parks

Prepare Communion: Bailey Adams

Church Attendance -- Is it Necessary?

Hindrance From God?

The only hindrance that should keep one from the assembly is a hindrance from God. If we are ill or otherwise hindered by the Lord, He does not expect us to assemble.

However the truth of the matter is that we often stretch an excuse to such an extreme that we create a hindrance and say it is from God. Parents may run around with their children all day long on Wednesday but when evening comes the "children are just too tired to go to church."

Sometimes secular work is done at the time of church meetings when it could just as easily be done at other times. Or sometimes we knowingly schedule ourselves for nonessential activities that will regularly keep us away from church assemblies on Sun. night or Wed. evenings. Have we ever considered how insulting to the Lord it must be for us to feel well enough to go anywhere and do anything, except to meet with the brethren?
 ~ copied

My Package

I have this great big problem, Lord,
 and I don't know what to do:
 Could I just wrap it neatly up
 and give it all to You?

Would You mind...if I don't try
 to fix it on my own?
 These messes that I seem to make
 I just can't mend alone.

You seem to always know
 the perfect thing to do.
 How many times must I hesitate
 before I turn to You?

When the only thing you ask of me...
 (You would think that by now I would know)
 is when I put my problem in Your hands
 I must trust You and then let it go.

~Author Unknown

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



Bob Clement, brother-in-law of *Richard Jennings* was taken to the hospital Sun. with low blood pressure. He was released Mon. and is doing much better.

Nancy Petrowski was released from the Vanderbilt Hospital this past Wed., after having surgery for a foot infection. She is improving.

Joe Reed will be gone for a few weeks to McBryde Center for the Blind in Jackson, MS. He wants to learn Braille, how to use the computer and other things that will help him. He will be able to receive phone calls. If you would like to give him a word of encouragement you will find his cell # in the directory.

Sympathy:

We extend our deepest sympathy to *Andy* and *Sharon Clemmer* on the deaths of two of their family members. Sharon's cousin, **Anna Hall** of Iuka was killed in an auto accident this past week and *Andy's* aunt, **Jean Harris** also passed away last week.

Continue to remember:

Genice Collett, John Elliott, Timmy Bolden, Judy Ward, Natalie Griffin, Roger Clayton, Tatarin Wilson, Lacy Wilson, William Wilson, Sonny Gay, David Crossings, Andy Ulmer, Whit Robertson, Harold Reeves, Sheila Thomas, Yolanda Stubblefield, Barbara Davis, Justin Forsyth, Preeble Foster, Donna Haynes, Roy Crow, Shane Hutton, Jack Dunlap, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Tauso Branch, Claudia Senter

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

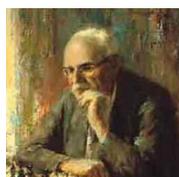
Betty Lang, Charlene Coker, Grace Anderson, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb

Military List:

Barry Wilhite, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud

I've Learned...

Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



February 27.....Justin Dewberry
February 28..... Brian Carpenter
March 05..... Price Senter
March 06..... Bill Lyon



THANK YOU NOTE

To my family in Christ,

You never grow weary in well-doing. Time and time again you have been by our side and held our hands during difficult situations. My family and I can't do it alone and I don't know what we would do without our good Lord and you there with us. I am thankful for you all and for everything you have done for me and for my family during my recovery from hip surgery. I count you among my greatest blessings.
Love, Betty Young

A GOOD DAY!

We would like to thank all who had a part in making our Friends and Family Day a success. We were blessed and encouraged to have so many visitors join us for our special day. We enjoyed three good lessons from *Mike* and also enjoyed a delicious meal and time of fellowship. If you were unable to attend you missed a great day. Thanks again to everyone for coming and taking part.

AREA EVENTS:

- Saturday Bible School to be held Feb. 28th, from 9:30-12 at the Mayfield Church of Christ. Their theme is: Jesus Loves Me This I Know.
- Pine Vale Children's Home Annual Benefit Golf Tournament will be held Sat. April 18th. Please check the bulletin board for more details

**Christ Living in Me...
To Be Seen in 2015!**



Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>
Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Evening Worship.....6:00
 Wednesday Bible Study....7:00

MINISTER

Mike King 507-0625
 Home..... 534-6872
 Office 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163

DEACONS

Greg Clayton252-9762
 Roger Clayton 538-8195
 Brad Pounders.....316-7931
 Harold Russell..... 507-1180
 Randy Wall 316-9255
 Lonnie Weaver.....801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Tyler Weaver
 A.M. Prayer.....Greg Clayton
 Closing Prayer.....J. L. Eaton
 P.M. PrayerAlvin Parks
 ClosingBobby Marques
 Wed.3/4.....Dillon Clayton
 Wed.3/4.....Caleb Jennings
 Usher & LockRandy Wall
 Greeter.....R & K Jennings

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....NA
 Sunday A.M.....194
 Sunday P. M.....102
 Wednesday.....91
 Contribution.....\$4,382.51
 Budget.....\$3,984.46



PANTRY ITEMS

Gravy Mixes

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A Henhouse Parable

Once upon a time there was a Papa Rooster and a Mama Hen, and they had a little baby chick. "This chick is never going to scratch for a living like I did," declared Papa Rooster. "We shall see that he has everything he needs to grow up and be a fine Chicken."



And they did. They worked their beaks off trying to provide things for their little chick. He wore the finest, shiniest feathers in the whole barnyard. They taught him the finest manners and allowed him to associate with only the best chickens. "I want" is all the baby chick ever needed to say, and his want was immediately provided. The other chicks were envious that he had parents who took such pride in meeting his every wish!

In chicken school, he was always the leader. He led in reading, writing and arithmetic; played in chicken football and basketball and held the first chair in the school crowing chorus. He was valedictorian and voted most likely to make tracks. He went on to Barnfowl University and continued his education. He met a cut little chick co-ed and was wed in an elaborate barnyard affair that had the henhouse talking for weeks afterward. His career seemed assured and future bright, but on morning a tragedy struck. He disappeared and was never seen again. The last anyone ever saw of him was when he was tucked under the arm of a hungry looking hobo, who was headed for a campfire down by the railroad tracks. Alas for the little chick! His parents did everything for him except the one thing he absolutely needed: *they never taught him how to save his life!*

Moral: Are you bringing your children to Bible classes and to worship where they will learn to save their souls? If not, they may not have a chance. The world is a very hungry hobo...(Bulletin Digest, 7/30/95)