



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

[www.nacoc.us](http://www.nacoc.us)

March 4, 2014

## The Power Of One

Mike King

THE POWER OF  
ONE

An interesting and provocative article was written sometime ago by *Flavil Nichols*. It poignantly demonstrates the importance of converting one lost soul to Christ. The following is his article from which we can all benefit:

“During the War Between the States, a young woman learned the truth and obeyed the gospel. Her sweetheart, J.H. Halbrook, was a Confederate soldier. He was captured by the Union Army and kept as a prisoner in Michigan. When the war was ended he returned to Centerville, TN and was reunited with his girlfriend. Then they were married. Mr. Halbrook’s new wife studied the Bible with him and soon he became a Christian. He loved the gospel so much that he began to teach it and he baptized many of his friends and neighbors. He saw the need for additional training so he enrolled at Mars Hill Bible School and was taught by T.B. Larimore. Upon completing his studies, Mr. Halbrook and his wife moved to south Alabama. Mr. Halbrook continued to be effective in his preaching and eventually he baptized a man by the name of Charley Wheeler. After being converted, Mr. Wheeler began preaching the gospel. By the end of his life, Mr. Wheeler had started over 100 congregations and had baptized more than 6,000 people. One of those 6,000 baptisms was the late Gus Nichols, and it is estimated that during his life he baptized 12,000 individuals. I (Flavil Nichols) am one of those 12,000 and since I have been preaching, I have had the opportunity of baptizing 3,000 people into Christ.

Only eternity will reveal the total results of the teaching of that one girl nearly 150 years ago. But at least 21,000 people have already become Christians through this single thread in the fabric of her influence. ‘Now the challenge is given to us’ (Lk. 10:37): ‘*Go, and do likewise,*’ for you are important too! Dear reader, if you go to heaven, others probably will be saved because of you! ‘*For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?*’ (I Cor. 7:16). So, ‘*let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven*’ (Mt. 6:16). Remember, the power of one can be very influential.”

We are engaging in a new visitation program, “Guess Who Is Coming to Dinner!” It is designed to be enjoyable and to help us be in homes, and have in our homes, brothers and sisters that we do not know well. There will be opportunities to send cards, make visits, and generate opportunities and prospects for teaching the gospel. If we are to grow as a congregation, we must engage our lives with the lives of those who are not members and strengthen those who are in Christ, encouraging them to become stronger. We have many very mature members at New Albany who can wield a significant influence on others. Our visitation program is designed to help us use it to God’s glory and for the betterment of fellow-man. Sign up for the program and be excited about making a difference in the lives of others and helping the Lord’s church to grow. Let’s strive to have 100% participation in some form or fashion; you will be glad that you did!

## But What Will People Think?

It's scary to admit how much we do to impress others—what John Ortberg calls “Impression Management.”

We shake our heads at the pressure teenagers are under to act a certain way to be accepted-or at least not rejected or made fun of—by their peers. But I'm not sure we ever get past that; it just changes forms. Why do we wear what we wear? It's not mere comfort and warmth...we choose them to make an impression.

What people think of us influences what we drive, where we live (and how it's decorated), how we talk and walk, everything. We keep it to ourselves, but we want to shape what people think of us: we're smart, savvy, pretty, stylish, athletic, successful, well-read, funny, kind, or whatever. Impression management.

It even affects what we do religiously. There's pressure at church—pressure to talk and dress and act a certain way so that we fit in, so other religious people know we're part of the Christian “in” crowd. It shouldn't be there, but it is, and always has been. Jesus warns us about it here: *“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven” (Matt 6:1).*

Everybody at the front of the church building feels the pressure, of course. The preacher wants people to like his sermon, and the song and prayer leaders want to impress with their leading. But it's happening in the pew as well. Ever found yourself wondering—just for a second—if anyone noticed how beautifully you were harmonizing in that last song? Ever hoped that people might find out how much you give to the church? (They might be impressed).

Have you ever gone to a church event because you were afraid of what people would think if you didn't? Ever picked out a dress for church and hoped that people noticed it? Ever cooked a meal for someone and hoped word got out?

We probably need to hear these words from Jesus again. What we do religiously needs to be motivated by gratitude for what God has done for us, not to make people think we're good or holy or righteous.

It's amazing how quickly spiritual things can become self-centered, isn't it? In fact, religion becomes negative when it stops being about God and starts being about us.

This would be a good prayer theme for today. Lord, help me to obey you because of you. Help me to follow Jesus because of Jesus. Help me not to be merely religious, but to be you-centered. Create in me a heart that is concerned about what you think but doesn't obsess over what others think.

~ Chuck Webster ~

## Visitation Program — Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?

### Host Rules

1. Sign the list on the table in the foyer.
2. List how many people (maximum) you are able to have over for dinner.
3. You are responsible for the meal and beverages.
4. You will welcome your guests at 6:00pm and have a good time of fellowship.

Notes: You will be given one month's notice when the meal will be held.

You will also be given hints of foods your guests like as well as foods they do not like. The first meeting will be held Saturday, March 22nd.

### Guest Rules

1. Sign the list on the table in the foyer.
2. You will be given an index card with the address of the Host's home one week before the meal (no looking it up in the directory).
3. You will be given a list of people to contact for visitation purposes.
4. Each 'Guest' family is to provide ten cards with postage, for the group to sign.
5. You are responsible for bringing a dessert of your choosing.
6. You will show up to dinner at 6:00pm and find out who you are eating with and have a good time of fellowship.

\* The biggest surprise for the Host is not knowing who is coming to their home for dinner as well as what is for dessert. The biggest surprise for the Guest is (maybe) not knowing who's house they will be going to and whom they will be eating. If you would like to participate, and we hope you will, please fill out the forms on the table in the foyer and mark whether you are willing to be a Guest or Host!

# For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016



## PRAYER LIST

**Harold Russell** is suffering from kidney stones and will undergo treatment this week to remove them.

**Barbara Kimbrell**, will have eye surgery in Oxford near the end of the month.

**Joel Holley**, father of *Kim Clayton* is in room 592 of the Tupelo Hospital undergoing his second round of chemo. Please keep him in your prayers.

**Nancy Petrowski**, daughter of *Harold* and *Deloris Crowe* will be going to the Vanderbilt Hospital right away for a bone marrow biopsy and prepare for a bone marrow transplant. Please pray for her during this time.

**Tony Cross** is at home recovering from a fall from his wheelchair which left him with a very sore shoulder.

### Continual Prayer list:

**Tetterian Wilson, Gloria Jones, Ivery Cobb, Joe Wilson, Glen Jumper, Joyce Gilmore, Eulene Hooper, Tony Cross, Grace Anderson, Alicia Dukes, Rivers Robertson, Hudson Grisham, Pat Reed, Justin Forsyth, Kelly Fryar, Donna & Roy Crow, Hugh Collins, Jack Dunlap, Prebble Foster, Terry Young**

### Shut-Ins:

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

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

**Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb, Maxine Carlisle, Jennie Frohn**

### Military List:

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



## Wise Thoughts

All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



March 05.....Price Senter  
March 06..... Bill Lyon  
March 10.....Richard Jennings  
March 13.....Olivia Pounders  
March 15.....Masey Kate Adams  
March 15..... Andy Clemmer

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March 11.....Charles & Barbara Kimbrell



## RESPONSE

*Yolanda Stubblefield* responded to the invitation Sunday morning March 2nd asking for forgiveness and prayers on her behalf that she might be the faithful Christian she desires to be. Please encourage *Yolanda* and keep her in your prayers as she also struggles with health issues.

## YOUTH NEWS

- The Area Wide Youth Devo will be held Sunday night March 9th, at the East Main congregation in Tupelo. The van will leave at 5:50.
- The Junior Bible Bowl will meet for the final competition of the season March 22nd, at the Gloster St. congregation.
- The Senior Bible Bow will meet for their final competition Sunday, March 16th at the Mayfield congregation.
- *Mrs. Janet Drummond*, teacher for the 4th-6th grade class this past quarter wanted to recognize *Carlisle Smithey* for bringing the most food for the pantry—18 items; and to *David Clayton* and *Clay Jennings* for saying all of their memory verses and reading all 36 chapters of the Bible they were assigned. Great job kids!

## TIME CHANGE

Sunday, March 9th begins Daylight Saving time. Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night.



Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>

**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 Jennings .....534-6671  
Troy Robertson .....534-3491

**DEACONS**

Greg Clayton.....252-9762  
Roger Clayton ..... 538-8195  
Brad Pounders.....316-7931  
Harold Russell..... 507-1180  
Randy Wall ..... 316-9255

**TO SERVE**

Scripture.....Cody Clemmer  
A.M. Prayer.....Josh George  
Closing Prayer.....Dan Cobb  
P.M. Prayer.....Brad Pounders  
Closing.....Matt Jennings  
Wed.3/12.....Anderson Parks  
Wed.3/12.....Hunter Jennings  
Usher & Lock.....Roger Clayton  
Greeter.....G & K Clayton

**OUR RECORD**

Sunday School.....125  
Sunday A.M.....149  
Sunday P.M.....111  
Wednesday.....107  
Contribution.....\$4,080.15  
Budget.....\$3,989.47



**PANTRY ITEM**  
**Canned Fruit**

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**YOU CAN DO SOMETHING.....**

Hark! The voice of Jesus calling  
Who will go and work today?  
Fields are white, the harvest waiting,  
Who will bear the sheaves away?  
Loud and long the Master calleth,  
Rich reward he offers free;  
Who will answer, gladly saying,  
“Here am I, send me, send me.

If you cannot cross the ocean,  
And the heathen lands explore,  
You can find the heathen nearer,  
You can help them at your door,  
If you cannot speak like angels...  
If you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus  
You can say, “He died for all.”

While the souls of men are dying,  
And the Master calls for you,  
Let no one hear you idly saying,  
“There is nothing I can do.”  
Gladly take the task he gives you,  
Let His work your pleasure be;  
Answer quickly, when He calleth,  
“Here an I, send me, SEND ME!”

~ author unknown ~