

THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

June 13, 2017

Building Faith In The Family

Mike King



There are so many similarities between God's spiritual family and the biological, earthly arrangement. Both are expected to be productive and to observe the oversight of a father. There are numerous and differing ties within the extended family as are to be found between brothers and sisters in Christ. Both are governed by a "pecking order" to avoid chaos and disharmony, rendering the family body virtually powerless and worthless.

We have duties that must be satisfied in both arrangements. Meeting those objectives serves as a blessing to both, mutually and simultaneously. We have God as our Father, Christ as our Elder Brother with many fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters to bless our lives (Mk. 10:29-30).

Big shoes are to be filled by the fathers in the family to build a dependent and soul-saving faith in each of the family members. Ironically, and sadly, too often it falls upon the wife/mother by default of the husband/father if any faith is to be built.

Four specific expectations are given in the Bible for husbands and fathers that, when observed, benefit greatly the entire family, strengthens the church, purifies society, and answers to God. The father who is effective in giving attention to, preparing for, and executing his God-given responsibility will also find consolation in having done so and bless generations now and in the future. Consider the following:

1. A father is to provide the necessities of life (2 Cor. 12:14). They are to provide for their own or be considered worse than an infidel (1 Tim. 5:8).
2. A father is to avoid provocative treatment of his children that incites wrath. That is, by unreasonable commands; by needless severity; by the manifestation of anger (Barnes). The continual fault-finding and unreasonable demands cause the child to lose courage and doubt ever pleasing you.
3. Fathers are to provide spiritual training for their children (Eph. 6:4). When reading from different versions, additional gleaning can be had: "Bringing them up in the training (discipline, ESV) of the Lord" or "Bringing them up in the admonition (instruction, ESV) of the Lord;"
4. All children deserve and need loving discipline. God Himself lovingly chastises His children, which is a mark of being one of His (Heb. 12:6-11). It may be unpleasant at the time, but renders eternal benefits for both child and father.

Happy Father's Day!

“I’m So Discouraged”

First, let me say that feeling of discouragement and disappointment is not sinful. No one thinks you’re less Christian simply because you feel like that. Honestly, I think we have all reached that point at some time in our life and the more you care the more likely you are to feel it. Sometimes it is about what is happening at church and sometimes it’s about what is not happening.

When this happens we tend to look at external factors like attendance and participation as indicators of the health and well-being of the church. These are superficial indicators, indicators, but not the gold standard of how healthy a church or Christian should look or act. More importantly, I want you to understand that disappointments and discouragements does not have to be a bad thing. These feelings can be overwhelming and cause us to focus on all things that are not what we think they should be but it doesn’t have to be that way. Instead of focusing on how it is not what we want or think it should be, maybe, we should take this as a deep, inner calling, to get to work and change things.

Often we allow our discouragement and disappointments cause us to pull away from the work when that is exactly the opposite of what is needed. What the church needs is more people who will get up and get busy, not sit down, or turn away. Every church needs people who will face the discouragement and say, “I WILL NOT BACK DOWN AND I WILL NOT QUIT!”

If every time something disappoints or discourages us and we run away; we will never learn to overcome. The church needs people who will stay in spite of the problems; people who will keep fighting, keep standing strong, and refuse to give up. That is the only way real change happens.

In 1 Kings 19, we are told about the prophet Elijah running for his life from the evil queen Jezebel. Shortly after his great victory on Mt. Carmel he takes his eyes off of God’s power and protection and runs for his life. The threats of the queen caused feelings of discouragement and disappointment to well up inside; it caused feelings of fear and doubt that left him hiding in a cave. It was in the cave that God speaks to him and asked what are you doing here. Elijah’s answer is relatable and something we have probably felt before. He says, “It’s enough God, I have tried to do the work; I am losing this battle; I cannot do this anymore. They have killed everyone else, I’m the only one left, and they want me dead too.” Elijah is disappointed, discouraged, and feeling defeated. It is exactly at this time that God tells him that this is not the time to stop but the time to get up and work. To encourage him, God reminds him that he is not the only one left but there were actually seven thousand people with him. God’s message is clear, “don’t let discouragement stop you!” Use those feelings to motivate you to get up and get back at it.

Like Elijah, sometimes we get down and discouraged. Church, don’t allow that to stop you or make you feel like quitting. We can win! We can overcome with Jesus Christ on our side. Don’t ever give up and don’t let discouragement be the end of your story.

~ author unknown



I’LL BE LIKE YOU

To get his goodnight kiss he stood
Beside my chair one night
And raised an eager face to me,
A face with love alight
And as I gathered in my arms
The son that God gave to me,
I thanked the lad for being good,
And hoped he’d always be.
His little arms crept ‘round my neck
And then I heard him say
Four simple words I shan’t forget,
Four words that made me pray;
They turned a mirror on my soul,
On secrets no one knew.
They startled me, I hear them yet:
He said, “I’ll be like you.”
~ selected ~

AREA EVENTS

- The Terry St. Church of Christ in Ripley invites you to their Ladies Day June 17th. The guest speaker will be *Shirley Williams*. Theme: God’s Role for a Woman! Registration begins at 8:00am.
- Gospel Meeting is planned at the Verona Church of Christ June 23-25 with *Billy Bland* as the guest speaker.
- Spiritual Enrichment Weekend June 23-25, at the Batesville Church of Christ with *Lonnie Jones* as the guest speaker.
- A Youth Day is planned at the Ripley Church of Christ June 24th. *Dr. Brad Harrub* will be discussing ‘Creation vs. Evolution’.
- Check the bulletin board for times & details.



PRAYER LIST

Teresa Clark is at home recovering from surgery on her broken leg. She is expected to have a lengthy recovery.

Sallye Bowlin is at home recovering from sinus surgery.

Betty Young is suffering from inner ear problems.

Linda Palmer has been released from rehab but is still having some health issues.

Al McAlexander, brother of Jennie Bell, fell and broke his hip this past week. He remains in the hospital at this time.

Eleta Grimmitt was admitted to the Tupelo Hospital Monday with pneumonia.

Sympathy:

We express our sympathy to Kathy Clayton in the death of her aunt, Clydene Bingham. Funeral services were held June 8th, in Memphis.

Continue to Remember:

Mary Bradley, Jane Chism, Hugh Coleman Wade Chism, Todd Coleman, Liz Collins, David Crossings, Tony Emmons, India Emmons, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Eleta Grimmitt, Laura Hollowell, Willie Howell, Shane Hutton, Johnny Lee, Linda Palmer, Barbara Raines, Cliff Sanders, Jarvene Shackelford, Melissa Smith, Kayla Thomas, Sheila Thomas, Judy Ward, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Wanda DeLoach, Jean Drummond, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Cornelia Kennedy, Betty Lang, Ernestine McKinney, Mary Frances Reid, Price & Claudia Senter, Ione Wall

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley & Chase Seals



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- June 16. Lucille Gibson
June 18. Madison Griggs
June 22. Luke Jennings
June 23. Andrea Hill
June 24. Sharon Clemmer
June 24. Erica Crotts

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- June 16. Richard & Kathy Jennings
June 17. Kevin & Stephanie Simmons
June 20. Dean & Viva Dillard



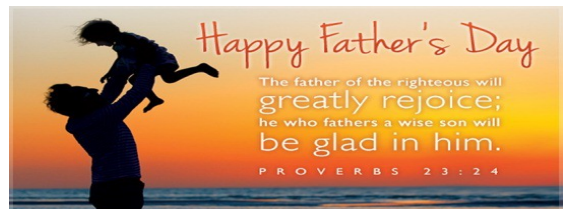
3RD SUNDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP



Our regular 3rd Sunday night fellowship will be held Sunday June 18th, following our evening services. You are asked to bring finger foods and desserts. (Homemade ice cream if you would like!) The adult 3 class will be in charge of the fellowship building.

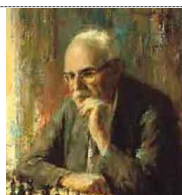
CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- PM Fellowship (finger foods) June 18th.
Youth Devo June 19th at 6:00pm, at the fellowship building. Jason & Amy Jennings will be hosting.
VBS Workday June 24th.
VBS June 25th-28th. Time: 6:30-8:30.
Deacon's Meeting June 25th at 5:00pm. Time subject to change due to VBS.



I've Learned...

Wisdom is knowing what to do next; skill is knowing how to do it; virtue is actually doing it.



OUR DREAM:

To become better friends with God in 2017!

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
Phil Young.....316-2059

DEACONS

Greg Clayton252-9762
Roger Clayton 538-8195
Shane Crotts.....316-6364
Jason Jennings.....801-3260
Randy Wall 316-9255

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Shane Crotts
A.M. Prayer.....Harold Crowe
Closing Prayer.....Olen Clark
P.M. Prayer.....Dillon Clayton
ClosingJim Gann
Wed.6/21.....Perry Jones
Wed.6/21.....Jason Jennings
Lock.....Jason Jennings
Usher.....Jason Jennings

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....98
Sunday A.M.....115
Sunday P. M.....80
Wednesday.....106
Contribution.....\$4,044.00
Budget.....\$4,385.16



PANTRY ITEMS

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR

VBS

JUNE 25TH-28TH, 2017

6:30-8:30PM

NEW ALBANY CHURCH OF CHRIST



SNACKS/GAMES

BIBLE STORIES

MEMORY WORK

ALL SIGNS POINT TO JESUS

CRAFTS

SONGS

SKITS