



THE INFORMER

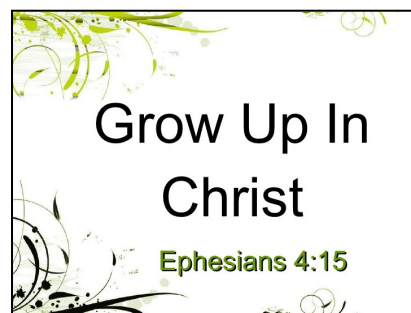
Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

August 2, 2016

Growing Up Into Christ

Mike King



The greatness of the church is directly proportionate to the strength of each individual member. When entertaining the thought of whether the local congregation is growing or not, take a look at whether you and your family are endeavoring to grow spiritually on a personal level. Paul gave admonition to the Ephesian church that they needed to “*grow*” and be “*built*” (Eph. 2:19-22). Had they heeded it they would not have been chastised for having left their first love (Rev. 2:4). Note some dimensions of growth:

We grow downward - He later instructed the Ephesians to be “*rooted and grounded*” and to be “*filled with all the fullness of God*” (Eph. 3:17, 19). Similarly, He admonished the Colossians to be “*rooted and built up in him and established in the faith*” (Col. 2:7). Here is a case when we have to exercise the paradox of going down to go up! They were to become established in the truth (2 Pet. 1:12). Paul was asking for them to build a foundation. The Japanese Dwarf Tree has a lengthy tap root which reaches deep into the earth to provide stability and nourishment.

We grow upward - We have the same need for stability, fruitfulness, and poise as a Christian. The deeper we go, the higher we grow and the greater our spiritual stature. In doing so, we draw nearer to God and heavenly things. It is no wonder that Paul demanded that we “*grow up into him (Jesus) in all things*” (Eph. 4:15). We are to “*seek those things that are above*” (Col. 3:1) and “*press toward the high calling of God in Christ Jesus*” (Phil. 3:14).

We grow outward – Just like Jesus, we need to be growing in our relationship with others (Lk. 2:52). We have everything that “*pertains to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by glory and virtue*” (2 Pet. 1:3). Too, Jesus “*has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ*” (Eph. 1:3). With this awareness, it then behooves us to share this “good news” which is packaged as the gospel (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-16). We are to bear one another’s burdens (Gal. 6:2) and truly become a blessing to all with whom we have to do.

We grow inward – Despite the fact that “*our outward man is decaying, yet the inward man is renewed day by day*” (2 Cor. 4:16). Peter looks inward with these words: “*Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning...But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price*” (1 Pet. 3:3-4).

Compare self with former self to detect impediments to our spiritual growth. There was a time of behaving childishly, but now is the time to “*put away childish things*” (1 Cor. 13:11).

THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2016

Announcements: Jim Gann
Sound Room: Lonnie Weaver
Usher: Will Bowlin

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

Sunday Prayers:

Aug. 07:
 A.M. Thomas Wall
 Phil Young
 P.M. Greg Clayton
 Shane Crotts

Aug 14:
 A.M. Richard Adams
 Tyler Weaver
 P.M. Dan Cobb
 Harold Crowe

Aug. 21:
 A.M. Andy Clemmer
 Terry Young
 P.M. Jason Jennings
 Bill Lyon

Aug. 28:
 A.M. Ruston Adams
 Olen Clark
 P.M. Alvin Parks
 Bobby Marques



Lord's Supper:

North Head: Roger Clayton
 North Helper I: David Clayton
 North Helper II: Brian Carpenter

South Head: Perry Jones
 South Helper I: Jerry Grimmett
 South Helper II: Michael Crotts

Scripture Reading:

Aug. 07 — Phillip Young
 Aug. 14 — Dean Dillard
 Aug. 21 — Mark Jennings
 Aug. 28 — Matt Jennings

Wednesday Prayers:

Aug. 03 — Daniel Drummond; Caleb Jennings
 Aug. 10 — Anderson Parks; Dillon Clayton
 Aug. 17 — Brad Pounders; Hunter Jennings
 Aug. 24 — Paul Ormon; Troy Robertson
 Aug. 31 — Harold Russell; Ray Kennedy

Prepare Communion:

Amy Jennings

Usher & Lock:

Aug. 07 — Brad Pounders
 Aug. 14 — Randy Wall
 Aug. 21 — Lonnie Weaver
 Aug. 28 — Greg Clayton

Host Youth Devo:

Phil & Paige Young

Bible Riddle (Just for FUN!)

This is a good one...can you figure it out?

"It can be seen, but it weighs nothing.
 And when it's put in a barrel it can make
 it lighter. What am I?"

If you need a clue you can read 2 Kings
 12:7-12 and Haggai 1:1-7 and look for a
 word that the two sections of scripture
 have in common. You'll find the answer
 in there somewhere.

By: Eugene Adkins

BIBLE VERSE TO REMEMBER

*O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your
 name in all the earth! You have set your
 glory above the heavens. — Psalm 8:1*



HOW MUCH IS A TEENAGER WORTH?

When a businessman was asked, he quickly said, "Teenagers are worth about nine-billion dollars annually: for movies, food, cars, books and other items--that is to say nothing of three billion dollars of clothes alone. Teenagers are largely responsible for a popular rock singer's four million dollars profit last year. A teenager is worth billions to the business world." A statesman stated, "The future of America, yes, the very destiny of the free world rests in the hands of our youth. Hitler gained control of Germany, and almost conquered the whole of Europe by winning the hearts of German youth. I am convinced that the destiny of America and the hope of the free world rest with the teenager. They're worth everything to us." What is a teenager worth to the Lord? If the powers of the world are striving diligently to win youthful hearts, can we sit idly by? Teachers, take a daily interest in your students. Two hours at church services are not enough! Parents, guard your children from spiritual pollution. They are worth more than all the world. Remember Jeremiah 5:7-9: *"How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods... Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD: and shall my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?"*

No author credited. via *The Watchman*, Northwest Church of
 Christ, Lawton, Oklahoma

PRAYER LIST



Hayes Simpson, great nephew of Paul & Maria Ormon remains in Le Bonheur Hospital. He is feeling some better.

Ernestine McKinney, mother of Perry Jones has been in the hospital with pneumonia and possible blood clots. She was released on Sunday.

Jo Ann Mayer, sister of Roger Clayton had an EKG this past week that showed something abnormal. She is to have more tests this week.

Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, Wade Chism, Todd Coleman, Liz Collins, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Bill DePriest, Jackie Dodd, Gene Dowdy, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Lana Gann, Sonny Gay, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, Phillip Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Mayola Holley, Shane Hutton, Carolyn Jernigan, Alfred Jones, Judy Kirk, Perry Lepard, Harold Russell, Jean Simmons, Anna Claire Stokes, B.A. Stubblefield, Sheila Thomas, Judy Ward, Nicki Weaver, Chris Windham, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Wanda DeLoach, Perrin & Jean Drummond, Laura Mae Harris, Cornelia Kennedy, Betty Lang, Claudia Senter, Mayner Senter, Miriam Styers, Ione Wall

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Kevin Bradley

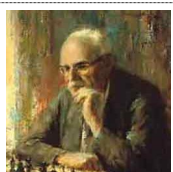
MEMORIAL DONATIONS

The New Albany Church of Christ received a memorial donation from Maurine Drummond in memory of Ray Camp, father of Janet Drummond. A letter was sent to Ms. Maurine thanking her for the donation.

The New Albany Church of Christ has made a memorial donation to Pine Vale Children's Home in memory of Ray Camp, father of Janet Drummond. A letter has been sent to the family to let them know of this donation.

I've Learned...

The only way some people will see God is through your life. Live it accordingly.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- August 05.Martin Crotts
August 08.Kathy Jennings
August 10.Sue Stroud
August 11.J. D. Stroud
August 12.Bailey Adams
August 13.Ronnie Griggs

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- August 09. Jason & Lea Anne McMillen



THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you so much for your donation of water and snack foods you brought to us on July 22, 2016. These items will be very helpful to our houses as they start back to school. May God bless you in all your programs of good works.

Sincerely yours, Randy Collum
Campus manger at Pine Vale Children's Home

We want to thank you for the visit you made to Pine Vale. We appreciate all the items you brought. They help greatly. In Christian Love, The Rogers family

Dear Church family,

Thank you so much for your participation in our school supply drive for needy children. Because of your generosity, many children will have the items they need to start school! We appreciate your support as we show God's love to others. In Christian Love, The Fabulous Friday Youth Group

Dear New Albany Church Family,

Thank you so much for all you did for me during and after my heart surgery. Thanks for the food, cards, visits, but most of all your prayers. I love you all, Harold Russell

"The family, through God's eyes, as SEEN in 2016!"



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 Weaver801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Phillip Young
A.M. Prayer.....Thomas Wall
Closing Prayer.....Phil Young
P.M. Prayer.....Greg Clayton
ClosingShane Crotts
Wed.8/10.....Anderson Parks
Wed.8/10.....Bobby Marques
Usher & Lock....Brad Pounders

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....101
Sunday A.M..... 120
Sunday P. M.....88
Wednesday.....87
Contribution.....3,522.80
Budget.....\$4,037.54



PANTRY ITEMS

Pantry Full

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I'M THANKFUL FOR WHAT JOSHUA DID NOT SAY

In Joshua's farewell address, he stood before the representatives of all the tribes of Israel and told them to make a decision. He said that they could either turn from God and serve idols, or they could turn to God and serve Him. Joshua told them what his decision was: "*As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD*" (Joshua 24:15). The leaders who represented the nation of Israel agreed. They said, "*God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods*" (24:16). I am so thankful for Joshua and his dedication. I am also grateful for what Joshua did not say.

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "My family will serve the Lord without me." Friends, so many wives and children are serving the Lord without fathers. Fathers should be the spiritual leaders of the home (Ephesians 5:23-25; 6:4). Fathers have an obligation to their families and God to set the spiritual tone of the home. God give us faithful fathers!

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "I will serve the Lord without my family." Sadly, some fathers must serve the Lord on their own, because they have wives who refuse to follow their lead. Fathers must maintain their faithfulness, and one day they may win their families to Christ.

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "My family and I will not serve the Lord." Entire families will be lost eternally because they refuse to serve the Lord. I cannot help but think that greater punishment will come upon fathers who have the duty of leading the home in the way it should go. May God give us Christian homes!

By: Neil Richey ~Bulletin Date: 7/10/2005;
from *Glad Tidings of Good Things*