



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

January 14, 2020

Guilty About Guilt

Mike King



Guilt is without question one of the most common problems that causes Christians to struggle. Whether we feel guilty because of our weaknesses or it is caused by not feeling as if we are meeting up to someone else's expectation, the problem is still real and burdensome.

Coping with self and guilt requires that we understand who God is. If we have an inadequate view of God, we can never understand sin or forgiveness. Understanding God, who He is, and how He wants us to relate to Him, can help us greatly.

God is holy (Lev. 19:2; Lk. 1:49; Rev. 4:8-11). His holiness demands a response from us...being like Him. We cannot be like Him if we are guilty of sin, "to miss the mark." We must remember that **God is just**. His justice provides for us forgiveness from all sin and unrighteousness (I Jn. 1:9). David knew that his acknowledgement of sin activated the justice of God in forgiving him (Ps. 32:5). God will deal fairly with us and is gracious with His compassion and justice (Isa. 30:18). The justice, or "fair treatment" demands that our sins be dealt with in a fair, complete, and merciful manner (Rom. 5:6-8). This "process" proves that **God is love!** This love was manifested in the dying of His son Jesus for sinful man (I Jn. 4:16-19). Perfect love drives out fear which releases guilt! He deals with us, not on the badness of our wrongs, but on the goodness of His love for us (Ps. 103:10-12; Jn. 3:16). Because of this love, God does not desire to see us endure guilt or punishment (Ezek. 18:30-32). God has chosen to buy us back again (I Jn. 3:3, 19). **God is merciful** (Deut. 4:31). "*His mercy extends to those who fear (respect) Him*" (Lk. 1:50). *His ability to save is conditional upon man's ability to obey* (Heb. 5:9). *Best of all, guilt ridden friends, **God is forgiving!** God did not desert His troubled people of old* (Neh. 9:17b), *nor will He leave us today* (Matt. 28:20), *even though we too sometimes rebel against Him* (Dan. 9:9). *If we love much, responding in obedience, our sins can be forgiven, and guilt blotted out* (Lk. 7:47-50; I Jn. 1:7).

What One Tolerates, the Next Accepts

John Wesley once wrote, "What one generation tolerates, the next generation will embrace." Both sacred and secular history have proven the truth of this assessment time and time again.

Everything from dancing to drinking, from abortion to mercy-killing, has gone from toleration to acceptance. In the home and in the church, everything from immodesty to immorality has been first allowed and then endorsed. Adulterous marriages, gambling, and other similar sins, have gone from being permitted to being sponsored. Remember when wearing shorts and attending dances were generally condemned as sinful? Now, in some places shorts are being worn to church services and dances are sometimes held in church buildings! Truly, "what one generation tolerates, the next generation will embrace."

One generation tolerated sprinkling for baptism if a person were seriously ill. The next generation accepted sprinkling for baptism as an option for everyone. One generation approved a "head" elder. The next generation appointed some elders "bishops." One generation introduced instruments of music as an aid to poor singing. The next generation demanded we worship with instruments. One generation accepted the "fellowship hall" (which, at first, was just a few tables in the basement for social meals). The next generation built gymnasiums and "Family Life Centers." One generation apologized for "hard preachers" who opposed denominationalism. The next generation saw their sons and daughters joining those denominations. One generation spoke of the need to reach out in a "nonjudgmental" way to our Catholic and Protestant friends. The next generation welcomed Presbyterians into "our fellowship" with only a handshake. One generation spoke of congregational singing as "one of our traditions." The next generation defended choruses and choirs. One generation applauded preachers who closed their sermons without an appeal for sinners to be baptized for the remission of sins. The next generation denied the gospel plan of salvation in general and baptism in particular.

What does this say to us? What is our responsibility? "*You shall observe to do therefore as the Lord... hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left*" (Deut. 5:32). "*Hold fast the form of sound words*" (2 Tim. 1:13). "*Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them*" (2 Tim. 3:14). "*Mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them*" (Rom. 16:17). The next time we are tempted to deviate from the word of God, let us remember that what we tolerate, our children will embrace.

- by Mark White

The Average

If a man were to stand with one foot on a hot stove and one foot in a freezer, some statistician would assert that, on average, he's comfortable.

This reminds me of some who seem to feel that they can come to church on Sunday and yet live like the devil during the week. They say that they are, on the average, pretty good people.

Such a person cannot be "comfortable" any more than the man with his foot on the stove and the other in a freezer. He is "*a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways*" (James 1:8). He has only enough religion to be miserable, but not enough to go to heaven.

Our Lord does not prefer an average. He wants his people to be either "cold or hot." The average nauseates Him. He will spew out of his mouth those who are lukewarm (Rev. 3:15-16). Brother, you had better get all the way on the Lord's side now, lest you spend eternity with the devil.

- selected

AREA EVENTS

- The Fulton Bible Institute will begin a new study Jan. 21st. Please check the bulletin board in the foyer.
- The Ripley Church of Christ has scheduled 'Our Christ is King Lectureship' for Feb. 23-26. The guest speakers are the second year students from Memphis School of Preaching. The topic will be "The Fruits of the Spirit".

**Kindness makes you
the most beautiful
person in the
world, no
matter what you
look like.**



PRAYER LIST



Dixie White has been diagnosed with shingles.

Arles Dye, father of Tim Dye will be treated with medication for a carotid artery blockage.

Helen DePriest was released from rehab Friday, She is still weak but improving.

Madison West, fiancé of Shaler Grigsby is in Peru on a Medical Mission Trip. She is to return Jan. 17th.

Continue to Remember:

Michelle Bell, Greg Clayton, Molly Clayton, Daniel Cross, Shane Crotts, Prebble Foster, Paul Franks, Eleta Grimmett, Phillip Haynes, Janie Huggins, Ronnie Miller, Elizabeth Phagen, Shannon Sciara, Levi Smith, Mildred Shackelford, Josie Tidwell, Angela Victory, Cynthia White, Donnie Wilson

Shut-Ins: Bill & Helen DePriest, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Nancy Petrowski, J.D. Stroud

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Joe Downs, Jerry & Lucille Gibson, Price Senter

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Chase Seals

MISSION TRIP

Audrey Anna Young will be going on a mission trip to Costa Rica during spring break with a group from Freed-Hardeman University. If anyone would like to help with the cost of this trip please see Audrey Anna. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

LADS TO LEADERS PRACTICE

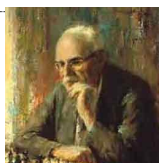
Those participating in Lads to Leaders this year are asked to meet each Sun. at 5:15pm unless otherwise announced. The girls will meet in room 12 and the boys in the teenage classroom.

YOUTH DEVO

This month's Youth Devo will be held Jan. 26th, following evening services. Richard & Kathy Jennings will be hosting. The girls are asked to bring desserts and the boys chips.

I've Learned...

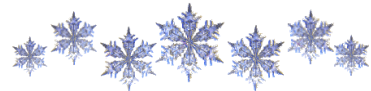
A heart full of love always has something to give.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- January 15. Jake Crotts
January 15. Jason Jennings
January 15. Kelsey Petrowski
January 16. Pam Conquest
January 17. Amy Jennings
January 21. Audrey Anna Young
January 23. Shane Crotts



SENIOR NEWS!

The Senior Group will be going to Ripley for supper Fri. Jan. 17th., at Biscuit's Steakhouse, (formerly called Country Inn Too). The van will leave the building at 4:30. If you have any questions please see Shane Crotts.



CARE GROUP 1 MEETING

Care Group 1 (Kurt Clayton & Dane Coggin's group) will meet Sun. Jan. 26th, following morning services at the fellowship building. A meal will be provided by the team leaders but a donation to offset some of the cost would be appreciated. This will be their first meeting of 2020. Please sign the list in the foyer if you will be coming.

T-SHIRTS

T-Shirts for are being ordered for anyone in the congregation who would like to purchase one. These will be used when attending events like CYC, Lads to Leaders, etc. The cost will be \$10 (more for x large sizes) if we have more than 48 to order. They will be gray with NACOC 2020 on the front pocket area and New Albany Church of Christ on the back. Your order forms need to be turned in by Jan. 19th, along with the amount for the shirt/ shirts. If you have any questions please see Madison Griggs.

3RD SUNDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Our 3rd Sunday night fellowship will be held Jan. 19th, following evening services. You are asked to bring soup and finger foods. Adult 1 class will be in charge.



THE INFORMER

January 14, 2020

Volume 02

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

MINISTER

Shaler Grigsby.... Youth/ Assoc.
256-263-9137
 Office 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163
 Phil Young.....316-2059

DEACONS

Greg Clayton.....252-9762
 Roger Clayton 538-8195
 Shane Crotts.....266-0195
 Jason Jennings..... 801-3260
 Randy Wall 316-9255

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Owen Clayton
 A.M. Prayer..Randy Wall
 Closing.....Jerry Grimmett
 P.M. Prayer.....Kurt Clayton
 Closing.....Caleb Jennings
 Wed.1/22.....Troy Robertson
 Wed.1/22.....Matt Jennings
 Lock 1/19.....Jim Gann
 Usher 1/19.....Roger Clayton
 Security 1/19.....Brian Carpenter

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....100
 Sunday A.M.....136
 Sunday P.M.....(A. W.)63
 Wednesday.....80
 Contribution.....\$4,345.75
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

PANTRY ITEMS



Pantry is full!

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)

Church of Christ
 511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148
 New Albany, Mississippi 38652
 (662)534-4649

Periodical
 Postage Paid
 New Albany, MS

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
 (Form 3579) to: The Informer, P.O. Box
 148, New Albany, MS 38652

Admonitions to Parents of Teens

1. Always Be Consistent with Teens. Don't compromise your standards just because they wear you down with asking.
2. Live What You Expect of Your Teens. Don't expect something of them you are not willing to do yourself.
3. Don't Beat Your Head Against the Wall When You Fail. Like adults, teens can be tempted. Evil companions corrupt good morals. It takes lots of time, love and understanding to raise up a child in the way of the Lord. When you fail, pick yourself up and go on.
4. Don't Be Afraid to Say "I Was Wrong." Oftentimes that is the hardest thing to do, but parents are human and teens will respect you for it.
5. Last, and Certainty Not Least, Pray! What parent goes to bed without praying for his/her children? Prayer is one of the most important things to help parents make it through the teen's years.

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

- by David Pratt