



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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

July 14, 2020

## The Most Difficult Words to Say

By: Sam Willcut



Difficult words are hard to say...

The four most difficult words to say: **“I have done wrong.”** We generally do not like to admit that we have done wrong. One reason is pride. Pride is one of the most dangerous sins that affect humanity. It was the first one listed in God’s list of hated sins: *“These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look...”* (Prov. 6:16-17). Another reason is denial due to self-deception. As we have often stated tongue-in-cheek, “Denial’ is not just a river in Egypt.” The danger of deception is always prevalent (1 Cor. 6:9; 15:33; Gal. 6:7; Eph. 5:6; 2 Thess. 2:3; 1 John 3:7), but the most dangerous is self-deception. *“Let no man deceive himself”* (1 Cor. 3:18; cf. Gal. 6:3; James 1:22, 26; 1 John 1:8). Satan is the great deceiver (Rev. 12:9), and he has convinced many who are plagued with sin that they have not done wrong. Thus, we must be true and honest with ourselves whenever we look to the word of God as a mirror of our souls (cf. James 1:22-25).

The three most difficult words to say: **“I am sorry.”** Closely akin to the aforementioned words, this is the next step of digression. Even when one may be willing to admit that he has done wrong, he may not be willing to apologize for it. This is where rationalization enters. We know that we have done whatever action, but we are unwilling to say, “I am sorry.” Apologies are often difficult to express. It must come from a heart free from selfishness and pride. Those who find it difficult to apologize have developed hard hearts. Conversely, the psalmist declared, *“...a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise”* (Ps. 51:17). How many times have we planted ourselves behind our pews during the invitation song and refused to walk down the aisle because we are ashamed to say, “I am sorry” whenever we know we have done wrong?

The two most difficult words to say: **“Thank you.”** Ingratitude is among the ugliest sins (cf. Rom. 1:21). Even from youth, we as parents teach our children to express gratitude. Nevertheless, children who never learn to say, “Thank you,” grow up into adults whose character reflects unkindness. When individuals do things for us, whenever people help us, when friends even do little things to express kindness and love, we ought always to say, “Thank you” (cf. Luke 17:11-19). How amazing it is that these two little words can signify so much!

The single most difficult word to say is, **“No.”** All sin comes from an unwillingness to say this single word. Whenever Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness, He responded three times by quoting scripture that reiterated His expression: “No!” Whenever we face temptation, we are at a crossroads—do we give in and yield by saying, “Yes,” or do we stay resolute to what we know the Bible teaches and resoundingly say, “No.” It is so easy to give, but it is very difficult in the heat of various trials and temptations of life to say, “No.”

Let us resolve to learn how to say these difficult words. What a blessing our lives to God will be!

## Dress Test for Women

by Mary Martini

Look at yourself in a full length mirror – front, back and sideways!

Ask yourself the following:

- Will what I am wearing bring God glory (**1 Corinthians 10:31; Exodus 28:40, 43; Isaiah 61:3**) and portray me as a godly woman? (**1 Timothy 2:9,10**) Yes or no?
- Does what I am wearing meet or exceed God's standard for being modest? (**Genesis 3:21; Exodus 20:26; 28:40-43**) Yes or no? You know!
- Is it appropriate and respectful? (**Genesis 41:14; Matthew 22:11-14**) When I dress, would someone think I was going to a picnic or other social activity, or can they really tell I am displaying my best in service to God? (**Exodus 20:26**)
- Will my clothing help or hurt my influence for Christ? (**Romans 13:10; 15:3; Philippians 2:3, 4**) Am I concerned about the way other think about me?
- Is it too short? Sit down, cross your legs, bend over, reach up and squat down. At any time, does the garment reveal any of your leg above your knees? (**Exodus 28:42**) With tops and blouses, is your midriff showing at any time? (**Genesis 3:21**)
- Is it too tight? Am I revealing my body form (which highlights or emphasizes my feminine sexuality), thus tantalizing, enticing, or tempting men (young or old) to have impure thoughts (**Matthew 18:7; Galatians 5:19** – lasciviousness)?
- Is it too sheer? Can I see my skin or undergarments through the material? (**John 21:7** – undergarments exposed = naked in God's eyes)
- Is the neckline too low? Bend over – what can you see? Sit. Have another female tell you what they can see while looking down at you. This is a real situation – be honest.
- If sleeveless, are my undergarments visible? (**John 21:7**) Why? What does it say about me? What does it say about the God I am trying to serve with my clothing?
- Is what I am wearing stating that I am dressed to be chaste (pure and holy) or chased (by men)? What do I really want for my self-esteem? God's approval or man?
- Because of how I am dressed, would someone mistake me for a worldly woman? (A harlot – **Proverbs 7:10; Genesis 38:15**)
- Will it encourage a man to lust after me, thus causing him to stumble and sin? (**Romans 14:13; 1 Corinthians 8:9; Matthew 5:27, 28**) So, do I want them to sin?



### Please Remember

God holds me responsible for immoral reactions. If I dress inappropriately, (Yes, I am liable for the reactions produced in others by MY appearance) (**Matthew 5:27-28; 14:1-12**).

## BIBLE QUIZ

1. How old was Moses when he died? \_\_\_\_\_ (Deut. 34:7)
2. What event did Peter, James and John witness in a mountain with Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_ Matt 17:1
3. What apostle was a Pharisee? \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 23:6)
4. The desolation of which city is described in Revelation chapter 18? \_\_\_\_\_ (Rev. 18:2)
5. Which King in the Old Testament built the first temple in Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Chr.3:1)
6. When Peter asked if Jesus paid temple taxes, what animal concealed a coin with which to pay the taxes? \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 17:27)
7. What was Paul's hometown? \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 21:39)
8. Who did the men of Athens ignorantly worship? \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 17:22-23)
9. Who asked for an understanding heart to judge God's people? \_\_\_\_\_ (I Kings 3:9)
10. What came out of the fire Paul made on Malta and attacked him? \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 28:3)



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

## PRAYER LIST



**Nancy Petrowski** is dealing with health problems and requests your prayers.

**Billie Joe Garner** is suffering with another UTI. He has also been placed on Hospice.

**Kathy Clayton** has been diagnosed with a blockage in her large intestine and also fluid around her heart. She was to have more tests this week.

**Kyle Crotts**, brother of *Shane Crotts* underwent gall bladder surgery Sunday.

**Richard Adams** is scheduled to have knee surgery July 24th, to remove a knot on his left knee.

**Dixie White**, will be having more heart tests this week.

**Linda Ashmore** is undergoing heart tests.

**Jimmy Coggin** father of *Dane Coggin* has been placed on Hospice, He is a resident of Magnolia Manor, in Tupelo.

**Sympathy:** We express our sympathy to *LaKisha Harris* and family in the passing of her grandma, **Doris Sexton** of Racine, WI.

### Expectant Mothers:

**Kelsey Petrowski:** boy, Aug.

**Erica Crotts:** boy, Oct.



### Continue to Remember:

Kathy Clayton, Shane Crotts, Arelus Dye, Mable Erwin, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmitt, Bill & Grace Lyon, Ronnie Miller, Jerry Robbins, Levi Smith, Josie Tidwell, Charles Ulmer, Angela Victory, Donnie Wilson

### Shut-Ins:

Bill & Helen DePriest, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Nancy Petrowski,

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Jimmy Coggin, Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Price Senter, J.D. Stroud

### Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Andy Dye, Luke Goff, Chase Seals



## I've Learned...

Evil often triumphs, but it never conquers.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



July 14. .... Steve Hill

July 20. .... Molly Clayton

July 22. .... Hunter Jennings

July 22. .... Matt Jennings

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 14. .... Perry & Gloria Jones

July 25. .... Bobby & Sue Marques



## THANK YOU NOTE

I would like to thank you for the calls, cards and visits while I have been ill, especially to the men that called and came by to visit Jerry when he needed friends so badly. Please know we love and appreciated you more than words can convey. We are so thankful to be a part of such a wonderful group of God's people. In Christian love,

Jerry & Eleta Grimmitt

## BABY SHOWER

You are invited to a baby shower for Kelsey Petrowski Sunday, July 26th, from 1:30-3:00 at the fellowship building. This will be a come and go event. Austin and Kelsey are expecting their first child (boy) in August. Help us welcome baby Jack!



## CHURCH NEWS

- Sunday, 10:30am Worship at the building or YouTube Livestream.
- Wed. night Bible class via ~ Livestream at 6:30pm from our website. The Gospel Quarterly is the study. Please let the office know if you need a book.
- Ladies Bible Study Zoom Class each Wed. at 7:00pm.
- Teen Parking Lot Bible Study, Thursdays at 6:30pm
- Bible class videos available for nursery-K and pre-teens each Wednesday.
- If you are not able to attend and in need of communion supplies let the office know.

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

Email: [nacoc15s@gmail.com](mailto:nacoc15s@gmail.com)

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Volume 27

## 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

Greg Clayton.....252-9762  
 Tim Dye.....316-2527  
 Richard Jennings .....316-1305  
 Troy Robertson .....316-3163  
 Phil Young.....316-2059

## DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....316-6420  
 Roger Clayton ..... 538-8195  
 Shane Crotts.....266-0195  
 Jason Jennings..... 801-3260  
 Mark Jennings...731-609-3309  
 Randy Wall ..... 316-9255

## TO SERVE

Communion.....Richard Adams  
 Scripture.....Shane Crotts  
 A.M. Prayer.....David Clayton  
 Closing.....Larry Cobb  
 P.M. Prayer.....  
 Closing.....  
 Wed.....  
 Lock.....Randy Wall  
 Usher ..... Randy Wall  
 Security .....Matt Jennings

## OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....  
 Sunday A.M.....74  
 Sunday P.M.....  
 Wednesday.....  
 Contribution.....  
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

## PANTRY ITEMS

Canned Chicken



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 Church of Christ  
 511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148  
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 148, New Albany, MS 38652

## A Proverb to Ponder

Now, not all our attenders are members,  
 And not all our members are attenders,  
 But if all our attenders were members,  
 And all our members were attenders

THEN...

We'd have more trouble menders,  
 More gospel defenders,  
 And more true soul-winners!

BUT...

We'd have fewer people offenders,  
 Fewer spiritual hinderers,  
 And fewer religious pretenders!

SO...

Let us all render a more tender surrender  
 To the Commander of a love full of splendor!  
 As we meander on this earth full of sinners,  
 Let us engender a life with the Lord at the center.

~ author unknown ~