



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

August 4, 2020

“Compromise” in Marriage?

By David Sproule



The word “compromise” is a word that often means different things to different people. It is used often in marriage counseling, in an effort to help a husband and a wife to learn to get along and to find some kind of common ground in their relationship and even in their arguments. “Just compromise.” However, while some may see the word as an innocent, soft term, designed to deescalate a situation and bring about a calm, someone else may see the word as an attack on their rights to happiness in a relationship, especially if they are “always the one who has to compromise.” Maybe that is why God didn’t use the word “compromise” in the Bible.

The word that God did use in the New Testament to address the marriage relationship and to describe how to settle disputes is the word “love” (or the Greek noun, *agape*). The word describes one who looks out for and seeks to meet the needs of another in an unselfish and unconditional manner. [Philippians 2:3-4](#) is a wonderful depiction of this concept.

In marriage, rather than focus on “compromise,” focus on looking out for each other’s needs (and even desires). When a husband and a wife are both seeking to meet the needs (and even desires) of their spouse (and not forcing their own needs and desires and demanding “compromise”), this is where true peace, harmony and happiness can be achieved in the marriage.

Of course, a spouse should never yield when it comes to matters of faith and doctrine. The church must come first, worship must be a weekly priority, Biblical morality must be defended, sin must never be condoned, and sound doctrine must never be compromised. Those are non-negotiables! And, of course, a couple should never incur financial hardships just to have what one of them (or both of them) might desire.

But, when it comes to matters that are truly inconsequential (Biblically or financially), husbands and wives both should look for ways to put their spouse’s needs (and even desires) above their own. Whether it’s furniture, decorations, games, crafts, hobbies, pets, TV shows, etc., could it be that Jesus’ words are true even here—“It is more blessed to give than to receive” ([Acts 20:35](#))? This goes for both husbands and wives! Both should seek for ways to elevate the other. Both should seek for ways to “give,” without looking “to receive” anything. That’s the nature of a Jesus-centered marriage!

Rather than use the word “compromise” (which is not always equally defined), what if our marriages were filled with true *agape* love, seeking to meet each other’s needs?

Adversity Makes us Bitter or Better

Excerpts from article by Dan Jenkins

David makes some truly amazing statements in Psalms which allows us to look into his heart and learn why he was so special to God. David had immeasurable adversity when even his own son led a rebellion against him.

So, how did he view such trials? Read his words, and they may change how we look at life. David said, "It is good that I was afflicted." Our first reaction is that such could not be right! How on earth could any suffering be seen as good? Read the rest of the verse. David said, "It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes" (Psalms 119:71). David understood a lesson which each of us should learn early in our life. If our life has little misery and adversity, we tend to ignore God for we have little need of Him. On the other hand, adversity provides us the opportunity to come closer to God. How we respond to such trials shows the kind of heart we have. It is so important to learn that adversity makes us bitter or better.

The apostle Paul understood this same truth. In his second letter to Corinth, he gave a list of many of the trials he had endured, then he said, "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Cor. 12:10). Read the verse again— infirmities, reproaches, needs, persecutions, distresses. Pleasure in all of this? How strange! But what insight David and Paul had into how to deal with all that life brings.

Here is a rule which might change our whole view of life. Anything which draws me closer to God is good, and anything which keeps me from God is evil. ~ via The Indo Informer

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7



The Power of an Invitation

Brother Glenn L. McCullough was in the dairy business near Tupelo, Mississippi. Mr. A.D. Prince was a salesman from Memphis who regularly called on him for needed supplies. One day, Mr. Prince arrived at brother McCullough's farm rather late in the afternoon. He was told he would have to come back the next day because there was a Gospel meeting at the Gloster Street church of Christ that night and he was getting ready to attend. Mr. Prince said that was fine and agreed to come back the next day. As he was leaving, brother McCullough thought, "I should ask him to attend our Gospel meeting." He invited the salesman to stay for supper and attend the Gospel meeting. Mr. Prince agreed and not only attended that night but attended three nights of the Gospel meeting conducted by Jack Meyer. Even though he learned what to do to become a Christian, he did not obey the Gospel during his visits.



A few months later, Mr. Prince was given a new job and did not come back to Tupelo to call on brother McCullough. Many years passed by and one day brother McCullough saw a newspaper story about A.D. Prince III, who was a student at a Christian college. He made a few phone calls and found out Mr. Prince had received another invitation to attend a tent meeting in Memphis which was a few blocks from where he worked. He attended the Gospel meeting and obeyed the Gospel the first night. Later, he became an elder in the church and the student honored at the Christian college was his grandson.

Years later, both brother McCullough and brother Prince learned they had a terminal disease and were given just a few months to live. As time drew near for both men, brother Prince had his sister to drive him from his home in Arkansas to brother McCullough's home in Tupelo to pay one final visit and to say, "I want to thank you for inviting me to the Gospel meeting that night. If it had not been for your invitation, I probably would never have heard the Gospel and become a Christian. It was your invitation that made it possible for my family, my grandchildren, and me to become Christians. I will be forever grateful. Thank you.

"What would have happened to the Prince family if brother McCullough had said, "My conscience says I ought to invite this salesman to the Gospel meeting, but I know it won't do any good?"

The Bible says, "Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage" (Matthew 22:9). Gospel meetings are not out-of-date; neither is inviting the lost to hear the preaching of the Gospel.

~ author unknown ~

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



William Wilson, brother of *Gloria Jones* is having trouble with some past cancer issues and in need of prayers. They believe his cancer has metastasized.

Ronnie Miller, father of *Amanda Coggin* is not doing well.

Brad & April Pounders are sick with the Coronavirus

Lynsey Robertson, daughter of *Terry & Yolanda Stubblefield* is much improved from Coronavirus. Her husband *Nathan* has now been diagnosed with the virus.

Sue Marques, is slowly improving.

Joe Reed is having problems with his hip and knees.

Billie Joe Garner under Hospice Care.

J.L. Eaton continues to have back and hip problems.

Kathy Clayton still very weak. Will begin physical therapy soon.

Dixie White, still very weak and having heart tests.

Expectant Mothers:

Kelsey Petrowski: boy, Aug.

Erica Crotts: boy, Oct.



Continue to Remember:

Shelly Adams, Kathy Clayton, Shane Crotts, Arelus Dye, Mable Erwin, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmitt, Bill & Grace Lyon, Ronnie Miller, Nancy Petrowski, 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:

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

Military List:

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



I've Learned...

when Christians work together, they divide the effort and multiply the effect.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



August 05.....Martin Crotts

August 08.....Kathy Jennings

August 10.....Sue Stroud

August 11.....J.D. Stroud

August 13.....Ronnie Griggs



WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

The elders made the decision to change our worship time to 9:30 am, instead of 10:30am, beginning Sun. August 2nd. Our hope is that we will be able to begin Bible classes again soon and this time change will get us back in the habit of coming at 9:30.



THANK YOU NOTE

It's sometimes easy to forget that there are nice people out there doing nice things for others. Thanks for being such a special reminder during the loss of my grandmother. Your prayers, thoughts, and cards were greatly appreciated.

Love always, Lakisha Harris

GUEST SPEAKER SUNDAY

Sunday, August 9th, *Mark Neaves* will be with us to bring our morning lesson. We look forward to having Mark and his family with us Sunday, at 9:30a.m.

AREA EVENTS

- The Fulton Bible Institute is offering **Old Testament Survey A** by *Matthew Thigpen*. Class begin August 18th, and will meet each week for 12 weeks. Time: 7:00p.m. on Zoom, Facebook & YouTube. Zoom ID: 205 412 5178; Password : bibleclass. More information is posted on the bulletin board.

BACK TO SCHOOL!

Please pray for our teachers and students as they return to school in the next couple weeks. These are unsettling times for everyone!



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

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

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Volume 30

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 Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163
 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.....Paul Ormon
 Scripture.....Jackson Coggin
 A.M. Prayer.....Perry Jones
 Closing.....Harold Russell
 P.M. Prayer.....
 Closing.....
 Wed.....Mark J./Shane C.
 Lock.....Richard Jennings
 UsherMark Jennings
 SecurityJason Jennings

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....
 Sunday A.M.....75
 Sunday P.M.....
 Wednesday.....
 Contribution.....
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

PANTRY ITEMS

Green Beans



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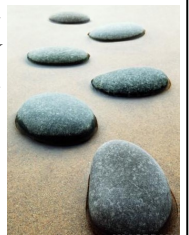
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MOVING FORWARD WITH FAITH STEPS

How easy it is to be bogged down by the regrets of yesterday, and to be immobilized by the uncertainties of tomorrow. We often go through the day alternating between “Why did that have to happen yesterday?” and “*What if I can't handle what may happen tomorrow?*” Neither our regrets nor our fears have anything to do with what really matters the remaining hours of this day. Each day has enough trouble of its own. Jesus implies there is no point in worrying about tomorrow when today's plate is already full. Today and tomorrow we are to move forward by faith. Matthew 6:25-33 reminds us faith steps in the direction to seek first God's kingdom (the church) and His righteousness. Decide today that you will give no weight to what's already gone and that you will spend no emotional energy on what is yet to arrive. Concentrate on doing your best to please the Lord today (2 Corinthians 5:9). Lamentations 3:22-23, *Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.* Remember yesterday, today, and tomorrow's plate is linked to God's love and mercy. They come new every morning, washing out the remnants of the past, offering strength for today and hope for tomorrow (Romans 12:1-2).



~ Clark Tatum ~