



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

October 6, 2020

The Right Kind of Attitude

By Tim Dooley

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus”. Philippians 2:5 Boy do we ever think a lot of ourselves! For most of us the universe revolves around our own little puny existence. That’s right...we are selfish, self-centered, egotistical, snobbish, arrogant, and hypocritical. And that fact that most Christians, young and old, think and act like this certainly brings reproach upon the church of Jesus and the name of Christ. But the truth is we are not any different today than man has been for most of his earthly existence.

God knew that we would be and act like this but not because He made us this way but because of sin. Yes, this kind of attitude is sinful! Did you here that? I don’t get my way and I get mad, pout, and seek revenge (I’ll show them) and I am sinning! I don’t like what someone else has done, or not done, and so I run to others and gossip or talk badly about them and I am sinning! When confronted with my actions I get defensive and angry and either lie about it or try to put the blame upon others and I am sinning.

In Romans 12 Paul writes to tell us how we are supposed to live acceptable Christian life and how to treat each other

Live Our Lives as a Sacrifice to God and Others (v. 1-2). This means I need to die to myself. That’s right... it’s not about me! This isn’t how the world lives but it is what is expected of me as a child of God. I am expected to be different (1 Peter 2:9). I am to live a life that exemplifies Christ and brings glory to God (Matthew 5:14-16).

Ain’t All That (v. 3-8). We are not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think. We have a real hard time with this in our society today! In Philippians 2:13, we are instructed, “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.” Caring more about the other person and less about ourselves is the way the Christian is supposed to act.

Don’t Be a Hypocrite (v. 9-13). The love that we have for God and others should be real. Hypocrisy has done more to keep folks from Christ than almost any other sin. We need to be real! Consider also that Paul ties this all in here with the idea of good versus evil and I begin to realize how much God hates it when we are hypocritical in our love toward each other. That means we should truly love each other and not just pretend to while being selfish. We are to give preference to each other, devoted to true brotherly love, fervent in spirit, serving, rejoicing, persevering, devoted, contributing, and hospitable

React Properly (v. 14-21). I tell folks all the time (and myself even more often) “Don’t let the actions of others dictate how you act. Act like a Christian no matter what.” We are to bless those who persecute us, not curse them. We are to rejoice and weep with those who are happy and sad. We are not to be stuck-up or arrogant, but humble. We are not to be self-righteous and we are to strive to live peaceably with everyone. We are never to seek revenge or be nasty to others, especially not our own spiritual family. But we are always to be kind, loving, and gracious. Never allow ourselves to be overcome by the evil of others but overcome the evil with good. Jesus said, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:34). We all need to follow this godly instruction if we hope to go to heaven. Our children are often guilty of these kinds of behaviors and maybe they have learned them from us. Instead of seeking to justify their behavior maybe we should use these as teachable moments and set an example ourselves of how to properly respond to bad things (real or imagined) that others do to us.

For the faithful Christian none of what may happen to us (good or bad) should cause us to act in an un-Christ-like manner. This past week a dear friend reminded me that “This too shall pass, or I will.” And he is right. We make a bigger deal out of small things than need be that in the great scheme of things will not matter. What matters most is living a faithful, obedient, and acceptable life in the sight of God and being with Him in heaven when this life is over. I love you!

How to Lead Like Jesus

“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the Way” (John C. Maxwell).

Everything from a pee-wee football team to a multibillion organization needs a leader. Everyone likes to think of themselves as a leader, but few people are willing to do what it takes to be a leader. Jesus was (and still is) the greatest leader anyone could ever hope to be or follow. He does not lead to financial prosperity or worldly power but to everlasting life. He is the greatest leader, not necessarily because of where He leads, but because of how He leads. He does so according to the pattern outlined in the quote above.



First, Jesus knows the way. The Jews of His day marveled at His knowledge of the law of God, since He had never formally studied it. He told them that His teachings came from the Father (John 7:15-16; 8:26-28).

Second, Jesus goes the way. He is our perfect example of everything we should aspire to be (1John 2:6; 1 Pet. 2:21; John 13:15). He knows how to lead us to Heaven, because He did what was necessary to go there Himself (John 14:2-4). Sin cannot enter Heaven (Gal. 5:19-21); therefore, Jesus did not sin (Heb. 4:15).

Third, Jesus shows the way. For those of us who have already sinned (Rom. 3:23), He gave the example of baptism to fulfill all righteousness, so that through our baptism (and contact with His blood), He will wash away our sins (Matt. 3:15; Mk. 16:16).

Therefore, Jesus is the perfect leader. Yet, now it is our turn to step up and lead others to Him. How do we do that? We now the way (study God’s word), go the way (apply God’s word) and show the way (teach others God’s word).

~ Jon Ledbetter

Heart Changes

If people are to become like Jesus there must be heart changes. The result of these changes of heart will be changes in our behavior. The heart change is what gives room for God to work in our life. Realizing certain truths helps us to change our heart. We must learn from our Bible study that we are redeemed from sin; we belong to God; our salvation is by, in and through Jesus; He loves us infinitely and wants us to go to heaven. He is our ever-present Helper, and He will never leave nor forsake us. “Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart.” (Proverbs 3:3) Let’s go to heaven together. I love you.

~Charles Box ~Walnut Street Church of Christ Greenville, AL



What Do Your Kids Think of the Church Based Upon What They Hear from You?

Our kids learn from us. Hopefully they learn good things from the positive ideals and examples that we set before them. Unfortunately, they definitely learn bad things from our sinful attitudes and deeds.

I once knew of a large extended family that always gathered for Sunday dinner after the worship services. The grandparents and parents were Christians, and there were a number of children in the group. It so happens that this family was very negative and bitter toward various other Christians and toward the church generally. Their family meals turned out to be regular and constant “gripe” sessions about the congregation and the people in it. I’m sure you will not be surprised to know the results of this negativity on the grandchildren. To my knowledge only one of them became a faithful Christian.

I’ve spent some time wondering why. There are, no doubt, a number of contributing circumstances. But, it seems certain that one big factor was the continual bombardment of negativism that these kids received from their parents and grandparents. After all, why would these young people want to be a part of something that was so “bad” (by their parents’ and grandparents’ description)? Do you see it?! We realize that there are no perfect Christians and no perfect congregations. Problems will come up. These problems will have to be addressed. But let’s be sure we handle these problems as the Lord has commanded (Matthew 18:15-17), being careful to avoid all malice, hatred and bitterness towards others (1 Peter 2:1, Colossians 3:8). And, take all precautions to shield your children from the negative attitudes that could, potentially, hinder them from wanting to take up their place in the Lord’s church and in His service. Think!

- by Greg Gwin

PRAYER LIST



Ricky Adams, father of *Richard Adams*, is recovering from back issues.

Bill & Grace Lyon are a little better. *Grace* is slowly gaining her strength back.

Helen DePriest is improving every day.

Shelley Clayton is much improved from the effects of Covid 19. She may be able to go back to work soon.

Expectant Mother

Erica Crotts: boy, Oct.

Continue to Remember:

Kathy Clayton, Shane Crotts, Amanda Dye, J.L. Eaton, Mable Erwin, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmett, Bill & Grace Lyon, Ronnie Miller, Nancy Petrowski, Olivia Pounders, Jerry Robbins, Gwyn Russell, Charles Ulmer, Angela Victory, Cody Williams, William 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



What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:13-17)
2. Believe the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16)
3. Repent of Sins (Acts 3:19)
4. Confess Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37)
5. Be Baptized for the Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38)
6. Be Faithful (Revelation 2:10)



I've Learned...

lost time is never found again.



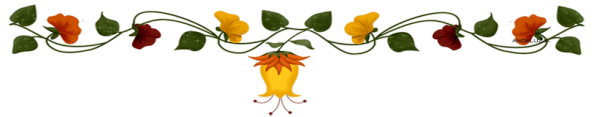
HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- October 12. Greg Harrison
- October 16. Jodi Parks
- October 18. Rex Bell

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- October 12. Kurt & Shelly Clayton
- October 17. Tim & Kathy Dye



OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

- Oct. 10th, meet the Butler family at 5:00pm, (drive-by) at the fellowship building.
- Oct. 11th, Guest Speaker, Dwayne Butler
- Oct. 18th, last day to bring supplies for Pine Vale Children' Home.
- Oct. 24th, meet the Dooley family at 5:00pm, (drive-by) at the fellowship building.
- Oct. 25th, Guest Speaker Tim Dooley.

FALL PANTRY DRIVE

Pine Vale Children's Home is having it's Fall Pantry Drive. Our congregation has been asked to help by providing 9volt or AA batteries, Rotel, green beans and canned greens or spinach.



I Count My Blessings

I count my blessings one by one
Though great or small they be,
And know without the help of God
Not one would ever be.

I thank Him for these blessings
Each morning of each day
And then again at close of night
Before sleep comes my way.

He grants me all these blessing
Though sinner that I be,
And with the many faults of mine
I know that He loves me.

~ Harold F. Mohn ~

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....
 Morning Worship.....9:30
 Evening Worship.....
 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.....Greg Harrison
 Scripture.....Thomas Wall
 A.M. Prayer.....Perry Jones
 Closing.....Matt Jennings
 P.M. Prayer.....
 Closing.....
 Wed.14th.../O. Clark/H. Russell
 Lock.....Jason Jennings
 UsherJason Jennings
 SecurityGreg Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....
 Sunday A.M.....80
 Sunday P.M.....
 Wednesday.....
 Contribution.....
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

PANTRY ITEMS



Mixed Vegetables

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God Belongs In The Center

In the early chapters of Numbers, we are treated to a layout of the camp of Israel. Three tribes camped on the east side (2:1-9), three on the south (2:10-16), three on the west (2:18-24), and three on the north (2:25-30). In the center of the camp, the Levites were to set up the tabernacle (2:17). Why is this important? It means that God was at the center of the camp, and God was to be their focus, at the heart of everything Israel did. Dads, what about your camp? Is God set up at the center? Is He the focus of all that you are trying to accomplish with your family? Do your children understand that He comes first in all that you do?



- by Rusty Mill

“And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”
 Deuteronomy 6:7