



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

July 20, 2021

GOD SEES AND KNOWS

Tim Dooley

Fridays were “popcorn day” at school. All the students were told to bring fifty cents so that they could buy a bag of popcorn. One Friday morning Colleen gave Rachel four quarters and told her that if there was anyone who had forgotten their money that she could give them the extra fifty cents so they could have some popcorn too.

When Rachel came home from school that afternoon I asked her about her day and looked at the work she had brought home in her backpack. I noticed there was no money and asked if she shared her extra money so someone else could have popcorn. She replied, “Yes, I gave it to Morgan. She forgot her money.” I asked if Morgan thanked her or if anyone knew what she had done. Well, Morgan didn’t say thank you and Ashlyn was the only other person who knew what she had done and she didn’t say anything either. I told Rachel that it was okay. She had done a great thing for Morgan and even if nobody else saw, knew, or said anything that God did and He was very happy with her. I wish everybody, especially Christians, lived their lives with this understanding.

Every day of our lives there are little things that we can do to help someone or brighten someone’s day. Maybe it is your child who wants you to spend a little time with them or your spouse who needs some help and encouragement.

Do you have an elderly neighbor, a sick co-worker or a troubled friend that could benefit from your being there for them? Is there a brother or sister in Christ who could use your help with something too big for them to do themselves? Many times, we find ourselves troubled and discouraged and isn’t it nice for another to be there to help comfort us? And what good is being happy and excited about anything if there isn’t someone there to share in that joy?

Well, remember, God sees, God knows, and God cares. But let us be there for others and show the love of God in our lives. Think on the following passages:

“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him” (2 Chronicles 16:9).

“The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good” (Proverbs 15:3).

“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do” (Hebrews 4:13).

“For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in My name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward” (Mark 9:41).

“. . . thy Father which seeth in secret Himself shall reward thee openly” (Matthew 6:4, 6, 18).

Do you have fifty cents for a bag of popcorn? Be faithful!

Learning To Pray From A Man After God's Own Heart

When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray (Luke 11:1), they were asking the most qualified instructor. However, they had a good teacher from the background of their own heritage in David. The book of Psalms is at times a songbook and at other times a prayer journal. Numerous examples of David's prayers are contained in this beautiful book of Old Testament poetry. In Psalm 141, for example, we have several characteristics of prayer from a man after God's own heart (cf Acts 13:22).

First, David's prayer was **urgent** (Psalm 141:1) He writes, "*Lord, I cry out to You; make haste to me!*" David saw prayer, not as a last resort, but as a first retreat. Since David knew God was able to help, he wasted no time in bringing matters into God's own hands.

Then, David's prayer was **intense** (Psalm 141:1b). He continues, "*Give ear to my voice when I cry out to You.*" You will not hear rote memorization of prayers or lackadaisical lethargy in David's prayer. David cried out to God. He is pleading with God. These are indicators of a prevent prayer life, which God includes as typical of righteous people of prayer (James 5:16).

Further, David's prayer was **sincere** (Psalm 141:2). He treated his prayers as if they were actually offerings or sacrifices. He says, "*Let my prayers be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.*" He was willing to lay open his prayers to the All-Seeing eye for His scrutiny. The entirety of this psalm reflects no superficial piety or pretentiousness. David simply laid his heart before God.

David put obvious trust and hope in the power of prayer. He had confidence in God's ability and he had cognizance of his own dependence upon God's ability. Never wait to turn to prayer until the need is desperate. The man after God's own heart made prayer a staple in his religious diet. So should we.

~Neal Pollard

It's What You Do With It

Walter Hunt was great at making things. He just wasn't good at doing something with what he made. In 1834, he invented the first sewing machine but never filed a patent on it. Someone else did and made a fortune. He didn't make that mistake again with the first fountain pen and the first repeating rifle. However, he never turned them into viable products. Others did and made amazing profits. In 1849, after a few hours playing with a piece of wire, he bent it into the shape that would become the safety pin. The idea would go on to be a million-dollar one. Just not for Walter. He sold the patent for \$100 to make some quick cash. He had such great ideas but never capitalized on them.

James warns his readers about this kind of behavior...those who hear the word but don't act on it; those who have faith but don't have works; those who have God's commands but don't do the very thing those commands say. It's not enough to just know the right thing. We have to do the right thing with it. "*But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves*" (James 1:22).

With the inventive brain, Walter Hunt was blessed and he should have been set for life. Instead, he had nothing. We could end up the same if we never heed the word with which God has blessed us. We know exactly what we need to do to be set for eternal life. Are we taking hold of it? Are we utilizing the knowledge we have been given? Are we exchanging it for something of less value? We know what we need to do but what are we doing with it?

~Barry Haynes



PRAYER LIST

Susie Roberson, mother of Steve Hill, had some bad days last week. At last report she was alert again and responding.

Ricky Adams has been having problems with double vision. He is scheduled for more tests.

Bobby Sweat, uncle of Alyce Jennings, is in MS Care Rehab Center in Corinth and is not doing well.

Mitchel Barton, uncle of Alyce Jennings, is at home in Georgia. He requires 24-hour supervision. Please pray for him and his wife Melissa, who is his caregiver.

Arelus Dye, father of Tim, will be scheduled for outpatient surgery next week. Biopsy was negative.

Continue to Remember:

Lynda Ball, Kathy Clayton, Larry Cobb, Shane Crotts, Arelus Dye, Prebble Foster, Eleta Grimmett, Madison Hardy, John Haynes, Patrick Holmes, Caleb Jennings, Jason Jennings, Luke Jennings, Michele Kimsey, Sue Marques, Myra Martin, Scott Owen, Anderson Parks, April Pounders, Olivia Pounders, Joe Reed, Novene Robertson, Joanna Ross, Harold Russell, Benny Scaife, Billy Stroupe, Bella Taylor, Ansley Thompson, Mike Whitaker, Tommie Whiteside, Donald Wilson Family, Sarah Grace Wise

Shut-Ins:

Helen DePriest, Kathy Dye, J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe & Benita Garner, Nancy Petrowski

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Bill Lyon

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Chase Seals

CARE GROUP NEWS

Our Care Groups are in full swing! There are many opportunities to serve our community and one another in these good works and we encourage all to help with any activity you can, no matter to which Care Group you are assigned. In the near future, a list of opportunities from all Care Groups will be included in the bulletin and posted in the church building.

I've Learned

Take care of your thoughts when you are alone, and take care of your words when you are with people.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- July 20. Molly Clayton
- July 22. Matt Jennings
- July 22. Hunter Jennings
- July 27. Dixie White

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- July 25. Bobby & Sue Marques
- July 27. Austin & Kelsey Petrowski

CHURCH CALENDAR

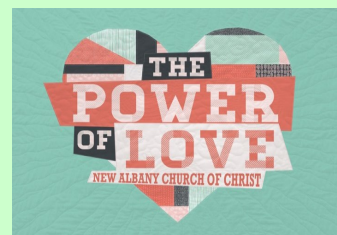
- **July 25** Care Group #3 will meet after the morning service at the fellowship building. Please bring finger foods.
- **July 25** Youth Devo 6:00p.m. at fellowship building. Boys bring drinks, girls bring deserts. Tim & Colleen will host.
- **July 27** Terrific Tuesday
- **July 28** NAYPE after services
- **July 30** Back-to-School Bash for all youth and parents at the fellowship building
- **July 30** Defend the Faith and lock-in for grades 7th-12th following the Back-to-School Bash
- **August 1** First Sunday Fellowship Meal
- **August 28-29** Widowhood Workshop
- **September 19-20** Church directory pictures

THANK YOU

Thank you Terrific Tuesday Youth and Shaler for the visit to our home. It made our day. May God continue to bless you all in your good works.

Love, Billy & Benita

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

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School..... 9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Pew Packers/Afternoon Worship
1:15
 Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30

MINISTERS

Tim Dooley.....859-486-4215
 Shaler Grigsby...Youth/ Assoc.
256-263-9137
 Office.....662-534-4649

ELDERS

Greg Clayton.....662-252-9762
 Tim Dye.....662-316-2527
 Richard Jennings .662-316-1305
 Troy Robertson 662-316-3163
 Phil Young.....662-316-2059

DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....662-316-6420
 Shane Crotts.....662-266-0195
 Jason Jennings.....662-801-3260
 Mark Jennings.....731-609-3309
 Randy Wall.....662-316-9255

TO SERVE

Communion.....Mark Jennings
 Scripture.....Alvin Parks
 A.M. Prayer...Hunter Jennings
 Closing.....Clay Jennings
 P.M. Prayer....Kevin Simmons
 Closing.....Ronnie Griggs
 Lock.....Kurt Clayton
 UsherKurt Clayton
 SecurityPhillip Young
 Wed Open 28th...T. Robertson
 Wed Close 28th.Matt Jennings

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....110
 Sunday A.M..... 147
 Sunday P.M.....78
 Wednesday.....88
 Contribution.....\$4,675.00
 Budget.....\$4,219.62

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Volume 29



What Will Your Checkbook Tell About You...?

Some time ago I read about a man who had written many biographies . He noted that it was easy to find out what a man said and what he had done, but when it came to finding out what kind of man he really was , the biographer was up a stump . Then he discovered that the surest way to get the truth was to look at the stubs of old check books . What a man gives his money for - that tells the tale . Why not stop before you read any further and get your checkbook for the past year? What does it say about you? It might say:

- 1 . "This man cares more about entertainment -football, hunting, fishing, golf, tennis, and movies than he does the church."
- 2 . "This man cares more about his personal appearance -clothes, grooming, haircuts, etc. than he does the church."
- 3 . "This man cares more about civic interests -club, community projects and the Red Cross than he does about the lost."
- 4 . "This man cares more about vacations and traveling (just look at those gas bills) than he does about the expansion of the Kingdom of God."
- 5 . "This man cares more about temporal security -bonds, stocks, and investments than he does about treasures in heaven."

Would you be ashamed if suddenly your checkbook began to blab the truth about you to all your friends and neighbors?

~G.K. Wallace, deceased

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)

NEW ALBANY CHURCH OF CHRIST
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