

TRUTH

MAGAZINE



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EDITORIAL

Rahab: An Example of Faith and Works

By Mike Willis



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Most of our readers will be familiar with the name of Rahab – the prostitute who received the two spies and sent them out another way so that the spies could escape those who were searching for them. She is mentioned in two different New Testament passages as an example of faith (Heb. 11:31; James 2:25). Nevertheless, I do not recall ever hearing of any baby girl who was named Rahab.

Background of Rahab

1. Her name. The name Rahab is from a root that means “become broad, wide, expansive.” The word is used eight times in Scripture to refer to Rahab (Josh. 2:1, 3; 6:17, 23, 25; Matt. 1:5; Heb. 11:31; James 2:25). The author of the article in TDOT believes this about the name given to this woman: the author “clearly chose a (derisive?) name reflecting the woman’s position. He not only drew, indirectly, on the sexual connotations implicit in the semantic field of the root (‘broad-minded, generous, gratifying’) but seems also to have made quite explicit use of the ‘part for the whole’ principle: the lower body of this lady or its dimensions reflecting the ideal of female beauty in the ancient Near East (cf. the innumerable ‘fat-rumped’ feminine idols from this period) became her name” (XIII: 430). In common English parlance, her name is “Broad,” a less respectable term for a lady, but not as derisive as some others that have been used.

2. Her occupation. She was a harlot. The word used to describe Rahab is *zanah* “to fornicate.” The verb describes “primarily a sexual relationship outside of a formal union. ... Any sexual relationship of a woman outside the marriage bond or without a formal union is termed fornication” (TDOT, IV: 100). She should not be confused with a temple prostitute associated with fertility cults who was generally referred to as a *qēdēshāh*. Religious writers who thought it unfitting that a person could be held up as a model of faith who was guilty of prostitution revised what Scripture said about Rahab and referred to her as an “inn keeper” (see Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, V.i.2, 7). However, there is no justifiable reason for so translating the Hebrew verb. There is a number of English words that could be used to describe Rahab: prostitute, hooker, streetwalker, call girl, or lady of the night. I have included these terms to help us feel the repulsion associated with one who lives as a prostitute.

The question naturally arises, “Why did the spies go to the house of a harlot?” The spies were trying to keep from being discovered. The house of a harlot would regularly have men coming in and going out of the house. Such a woman would pick up tidbits of information that would make her a good source for gaining knowledge about what was going on in Jericho.

3. Her race. Rahab was a Gentile, a non-Israelite, “without Christ, being

aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world” (Eph. 2:12), as Paul said.

4. Where she lived: Jericho. She lived in a land which was so thoroughly corrupt that the cup of iniquity of this people had now become so full that it was facing God’s judgment (Gen. 15:16) and, particularly, this city was under the ban – its entire population was to be destroyed under obedience to the commandment of God (Josh. 6:17).

Rahab’s Faith

1. She had heard about God’s work through Israel. She had heard of God’s wondrous works in delivering Israel from Egyptian servitude (Josh. 2:10) and believed that Jehovah had given Israel the land of Canaan (Josh. 2:9), just as He had delivered the Amorite kings, Sihon and Og, into their hands (Josh. 2:10).

2. She saw the people’s dispirited, disheartened, and depressed attitude. The hearts of the citizens of Jericho melted within them (Josh. 2:11).

3. She believed in Israel’s God. Israel’s God, Jehovah, is God in heaven above and in the earth beneath (Josh. 2:11). In a decisive commitment that could have cost the lives of her and her family, she decided to be identified with Jehovah and His people, rather

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Just Thinking out Loud...

Snake Kissing

By Daniel H. King, Sr.



charmners from India on TV kissing cobras after having sufficiently “charmed” them in order to get close enough to do so.

If you are planning to live to a ripe old age, it is not the sort of thing that you should attempt. Only the most skilled of charmners will risk putting his face into such close

proximity to those dangerous fangs! Personally, no amount of money could get me to do such a thing. Risk aversion is one of the keys to long life. The Bible asks the question, “Can a man take fire in his bosom, And his clothes not be burned?” (Prov. 6:27). An old saying goes, “If you play with fire, you are going to get burned.”

Speaking of avoiding risks, the fact is that there are many people who play foolish games with spiritual risks, just as if they were snake kissers themselves. For you see, snake kissing comes in many forms. All of us have known of people who realize the dangers associated with evil doing, and they will attempt to enjoy the company of sinners while hoping to avoid possible contamination or else death by association. Their plan does not always work.

Have you heard of the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre of 1929? One part of that story is particularly interesting in this regard. Two gangs of Chicago thugs, the gang of Bugs Moran and that of Al Capone, were at the center of this prohibition-era slaying that left six people dead. Four of the men who were murdered by the Capone gang

were mob associates. Two were not. One was a mechanic named John May who was out of work and occasionally did mechanical work for the gang. The other was a fellow named Reinhardt Schwimmer, who was an optician. He enjoyed betting on horses and “hanging around” with mobsters. These two fellows were considered to be unintended victims of the gang war. But both of them ended up just as dead as if they had been actual members of the Moran gang themselves.

It does not pay to get too close to sin! You may get caught up in the mayhem that follows it and often attends it. The Bible says, “Evil companions corrupt good morals” (1 Cor. 15:33). Still other people like to do everything short of actually committing the sin itself. They play fast and loose with definitions of words and in the end do things that at the very least are questionable in nature and at the worst are close to the thin red line that defines wrongdoing. Their practices are tantamount to snake kissing. Eventually they will be bitten, that much is sure. We cannot play games with sin. The devil is called in Scripture “that ancient serpent who is the devil and Satan” (Rev. 20:2). You cannot play poker with Satan and win for long. Eventually he will bite you, and when he does you may well wish that you had never been born. Snake kissing is a game for fools. **T**

Perhaps you have read recently in the various news outlets about the fellow who decided that he was going to kiss a cottonmouth snake. His name is Austin Hatfield of Wimauma, FL. As the report stated, “Friends said that Hatfield had captured the snake from his girlfriend’s yard several days before and was keeping it in a pillowcase. Hatfield occasionally took the snake out to kiss it on the mouth, but on Saturday, the snake decided to end the relationship.” The victim was checked into Tampa General Hospital soon afterward, and was in critical condition at first. His face was swollen beyond recognition. After a frightening experience with venom poisoning, severe swelling and much pain, he was expected to survive the ordeal. I would venture, however, that he is not likely to repeat this mistake again anytime soon. This time he had a close brush with death; next time he may not be so fortunate.

I am from the South and, all of my life, I have had to be around snakes, poisonous as well as non-venomous. But I must tell you that I have never once been tempted to kiss one of them, of either variety. But the kissing of snakes is quite common in certain parts of the world. Hatfield had probably seen snake



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Meditations of the Heart

Staying Faithful When Others Fall

By Kyle Pope



In the fog of war fellow-soldiers have often fallen right beside those who must keep fighting. What keeps them going when they know that others have perished?

The battle was hard! Bullets flew overhead. Comrades fell all around. Of the 60,000 men who landed on the ash-covered island of Iwo Jima on February 19, 1945, one out of every ten lost his life. It must have been unbearable to see your friends and fellow-soldiers fall all around you and yet go on with the battle. The enemy would lose 20,000 men, but that wouldn't become evident until after the 26 days of heavy fighting were over. What filled the hearts of those brave young men? What led them in spite of those falling all around them to scale the steep slopes of Mount Suribachi and hoist the American flag? Admiral Nimitz claimed of these men that—"Uncommon valor was a common virtue."

In Christ our battle is also hard.¹ It is not fought with shrapnel and powder, but it is no less dangerous.² We too see our brethren fall all around us. One to the fatal wound of falsehood.³ Another to the blast of immorality.⁴ Still others (as if shell-shocked) seem to forget which side they are on! They compromise truth,⁵

flirt with the enemy,⁶ forsake times of regrouping,⁷ and travel the battlefield without their weapons.⁸ There are some who have been hit by "friendly fire." The misdirected zeal of one of their own comrades mortally wounded them.⁹ It is unbearable at times to go on with the battle having to step over the corpses of so many fallen brothers and sisters! What can fill our hearts? What can spur us on to scale the steep, rugged slopes that lead to Zion?¹⁰ Will we hoist the "banner of the cross" and declare our "citizenship in heaven"?¹¹

In carnal warfare man can see with his eyes the fact that, in spite of all those fallen around him, there is no time for hesitation. There is no time for disillusionment. The enemy is there. It is fight or die! In Christ the same is true. Though we grieve and plead and work to restore the fallen, there is no time for disillusionment. The enemy is ever before us. We must fight or perish! The next time you are tempted to lay down your sword and question the cause for which you strive perhaps this acronym can spur you on: Remember we fight...

For Christ. We are His. We belong to the Lord. While we mourn our fallen brethren, our allegiance is not to them but to Christ.

Imagine... Heaven before us! Saints departed beside us. Imagine Christ fighting with us and for us! Imagine Satan at our heels.

Grasp Firmly the Sword of the Spirit. We are not defenseless in our battle. We have offensive and defensive weapons of monumental capacity! God's word provides us with a weapon capable of rescuing the fallen, healing the wounded, destroying the enemy's ammunition, and resisting his assaults. The key is we must keep it with us, in us, and before us.

Help the Wounded. Some around us have not yet fallen, but they have been injured. It is our job to pick them up. Nurse them back to health and shield them from the enemy. Too much time spent mourning the fallen leaves the wounded with no medics.

Tear Down the Enemy's Strongholds. Each time truth is declared, a brick crumbles away from the fortress of sin and falsehood that Satan constructs. The surest way to take back a comrade taken captive is to destroy what binds him. There is no time for timidity. Souls are at stake. May it be said of the Lord's people that spiritual valor is our "common virtue."

Footnotes

- 1 "... Difficult is the way that lead to life and there are few who find it" (Matt. 7:14 NKJV).
- 2 "... Your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8).
- 3 "... Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, who have strayed concerning the truth..." (2 Tim. 2:17-18).
- 4 "... Abstain from sexual immorality" (1 Thess. 4:3).
- 5 "... They will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables" (2 Tim. 4:4).
- 6 "What accord has Christ with Belial?" (2 Cor. 6:15).
- 7 "Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together..." (Heb. 10:25).
- 8 "... The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17).
- 9 "... If you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed..." (Gal. 5:15).
- 10 "... You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem..." (Heb. 12:22).
- 11 "For our citizenship is in heaven..." (Phil. 3:20). **T**



Kyle Pope

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Christians Under 30

The Choice

By Ethan Longhenry

“And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Josh. 24:15).

As Joshua addresses Israel for the last time, he wants to make sure they recognize the situation in which they find themselves. YHWH has delivered their fathers from Egyptian slavery and had preserved them through the wilderness. YHWH brought the Israelites into Canaan and dispossessed the nations before them. The nations had all sorts of gods; their gods could not deliver them, and did not exist. At that moment, and henceforth, Israel was confronted with a moment of decision: would they serve YHWH or the gods of the nations around them?

Throughout its history Israel often attempted to make the “non-decisive” decision, seeking to serve both YHWH and the gods of the nations. Yet, as Joshua and the prophets made known, to go for the “non-decisive choice” is itself a choice against following YHWH as God, for He is a jealous God, and brooks no competition (Exod. 20:1-7). The choice which God gave to Israel, as well as the choice God gives to all humans today, can instruct us about the nature of free will and choice.

What then? Shall we sin, because we are not under law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye present yourselves as servants unto obedience, his servants ye are whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But thanks be to God, that, whereas

ye were servants of sin, ye became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching whereunto ye were delivered; and being made free from sin, ye became servants of righteousness (Rom. 6:15-18).

The choice is rather limited. In Israel, you either served the gods of the nations, or you served YHWH and all that the covenant required (cf. Josh. 24:16-27). According to Paul, you are a slave; your choice is whether you will serve sin (which leads to death), or God in righteousness (which leads to eternal life; Rom. 6:15-23). In these situations we are not given the power to make the rules or set terms for our service; those rules and terms have already been established. We follow God or we do not; we serve the Lord Jesus or we serve sin. There is no “middle ground”; there’s no way to serve both the ways of God and the ways of the world (cf. James 4:4).

Even if the choice is limited, however, the choice must exist. God is love (1 John 4:8). As Paul makes clear in 1 Corinthians 13:5, love does not seek its own; this demands that love cannot compel or coerce. We understand this in our relationships; we would never want our friends or spouse to feel compelled or coerced into loving us! Love must be freely offered by a person capable of deciding whether to love or not; forced love is a contradiction in terms.

We know that God was not forced to love us; He has chosen to love us deeply even when we least deserved it (Rom. 5:6-11). Jesus was not forced to die; He willingly submitted to the will of God because of His love for us (Matt. 26:39; Heb. 5:7-8; 1 Pet. 2:21-25).

In the same way God does not coerce, compel, or force us to love Him or to seek His will. To love demands the ability not to love; a person must be able to make a free will decision to love for such a decision to be meaningful. God gave Adam and Eve the choice to obey or sin; God gave the Patriarchs the same choice; God gave Israel the choice; God now gives all humans the same choice in Christ. God has watched countless people throughout the generations willfully reject and spurn Him to their own destruction (Matt. 7:13-14; Rom. 10:21); He is grieved, He will come against them in judgment, but their condemnation is just, because they are the ones who chose against God (cf. Rom. 2:11-15; 2 Thess. 1:6-9). For God it is all worth it on account of those who have freely chosen to honor Him as their Creator and God, who seek His ways, and who love Him because of the love He has given them (1 John 2:3-6; 4:7-21).

God is love; He will not coerce, compel, or force you either into loving Him or rejecting Him. He has made you and done all that He can to rescue you from the dangers of your condition (Gen. 1:1-31; Rom. 8:31-39). But He cannot force you to be saved; in so doing He would deny Himself. Therefore the choice remains for you and me and everyone who lives: will you serve God in righteousness and obtain eternal life? Or will you serve sin and obtain condemnation? May we all seek to love God as He has loved us and obtain the resurrection of life! **T**



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Book Reviews

By Chris Reeves

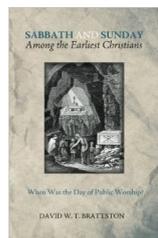
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Evangelizing in the 21st Century: Strategies for Bringing Souls to Christ Beyond the Pulpit. Charles Goodall. Guardian of Truth Foundation, 2014. 214 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-1-58427-4018.

Those acquainted with the books of Charles Goodall know that he has focused his writing attention in the past on the subject of personal evangelism. He wrote *In the Same Hour of the Night* in 1987 and he wrote *Evangelizing the Lost* in 2000. Now, in his new book *Evangelizing in the 21st Century*, brother Goodall revisits once again this important subject. Some of the material from his two previous books can be found in this new book, but there is much new material as well. There have been many books written by brethren through the years on the subject of personal evangelism, but these books do not contain much of the subject matter addressed by brother Goodall. Get *Evangelizing in the 21st Century*. You will learn the sometimes sad and digressive history of the Lord's church in recent times and how we can keep from repeating it. You will be shown how our efforts at evangelism are negatively impacted by pluralism, all positive (non-polemic) preaching, and unity in diversity. You will learn that personal evangelism is in fact the Bible way and the practice of the early disciples. You will be taught an actual lesson that you can in turn teach others (chart ideas included). You will learn which evangelism methods really work and which do not based upon the author's personal experience, research, and investigation. (One entire chapter documents the author's evangelistic successes during his 19-year work with the Nebraska Avenue church in Tampa,

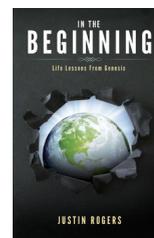
FL.) You will learn the importance of having credibility and integrity so your teaching will be effective. You will be encouraged to overcome the fear of teaching and get out of your comfort zone. You will learn how and why local churches decline and wither away and what we can do to avoid it. *Evangelizing in the 21st Century* is more than just a "how to" personal work manual. (There are many of these in print already.) It is a comprehensive study of evangelism and its effects on God's people – the preacher, the individual Christian, and the local church as a whole. (Note: On a more personal level, I can say that I have seen brother Goodall in action regarding personal evangelism. I married his daughter 26 years ago and when I first met brother Goodall he was a great example to me of personal work. He was constantly on the go setting up classes and teaching others. I learned his lesson, taught it to others, and still use it to this day. There is no question that he writes his latest book from over 50 years of personal and practical experience of doing evangelism beyond the pulpit. Personal evangelism really is his life's work. There are many Christians, especially in the Tampa, FL, area who owe their spiritual beginning to the personal work efforts of Charles Goodall.)



Sabbath and Sunday Among the Earliest Christians: When Was the Day of Public Worship? David W.T. Brattston. Resource Publications, 2014. 36 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-1-62564-688-0.

Does God want us to worship him on a Saturday Sabbath or on a Sunday Lord's Day? Which day was the main day of worship among early Christians? In his new book *Sabbath and Sunday*, David W.T. Brattston answers

these questions by looking at the NT scriptures concerning worship (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2) as well as examining the writings and practices of early Christians in the first few centuries. Brattston concludes that the Sunday Lord's Day, not the Saturday Sabbath, was the Christian's main day for assembling to worship God. Brattston's book is a good resource for information concerning the practice of Sunday worship among Christians in the first few centuries. This book is not lengthy at all and can be read in one or two sittings.



In the Beginning: Life Lessons from Genesis. Justin Rogers. Gospel Advocate Co., 2014. 95 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-0-89225-657-0.

The proper foundation of biblical teaching on the origin and beginning of our world is not being laid today among many in the religious world. A lack of proper biblical teaching concerning creation, Adam and Eve, the Serpent, and the flood is also present among some brethren in churches of Christ. The whole of the Bible rests upon what is mentioned in Genesis. We need to get God's word right and we need to get it right from the opening verses of the Bible! Justin Roger's new book, *In the Beginning*, explores the important lessons that must be learned from the opening pages of Genesis all the way to the end of the book. *In the Beginning* provides the reader with a truly biblical and solid understanding of what Moses wrote from the beginning. The main lessons from most of the chapters in Genesis are covered in 13 chapters. There are also discussion questions at the end of each chapter making this booklet good for small group Bible study. **T**

Women's Section

Children's Lessons from the Garden – The Soil

By Deborah Towles

Synopsis: What child does not like to play in the dirt? This second of four articles promotes play with a purpose. Mothers are encouraged to use lessons from the garden to teach profound spiritual truths to their children to build faith in the wisdom and truth of God!

In the first lesson from the garden, we pointed out some wonders of the seed and their parallel spiritual lessons designed by the wisdom of God (Prov. 3:19). Though the seed has amazing power, its power is not realized until it is planted in soil.

Soil acts as an anchor for plant roots, a superstore of nutrients, and as a moisture retainer. The quality of the soil determines its productiveness. Did you know that soil has a “parent material”? This material is the rock found under the soil and from which the soil is formed. It greatly affects the properties of the soil and determines what kind of plants, if any, will thrive. The depth of the topsoil determines the type of plant that will be most productive. Deep topsoil supports deep-rooted plants; shallow topsoil makes for shallow-rooted plants.

Soil made of clay, though rich in nutrients, is dense, will not drain well, and hardens under adverse conditions. Soil that is rocky may have nutrient-rich topsoil but is thin and will not support deep root growth. Rich, deep soil may be filled with undesirable seeds that vigorously compete with the growth of the intended plant. Deep, nutritionally rich soil that drains well and is enriched by organic materials is ideal for productive growth.

However, poor soil does not have to stay poor, it can be enriched and improved. The freezing and thawing of winter plus cultivating help break up the soil so seeds have a better chance of growth. Sand and organic material

can be added to help with texture and drainage. Rocks and weeds can be removed, while fertilizer can be applied to add lacking nutrients.

Just as soil is made from a parent material, the heart of a child is greatly affected by parents (Gen. 18:19; Deut. 6:1-9). You are encouraged to continue to purposely enrich your heart (parent material) so that you can plant something powerful deep in the heart of a child that will help him bear good fruit in time to come.

The Parable of the Sower illustrates many of these principles (Matt. 13:1-23; Luke 8:4-18). The seed (the Word) is sown in four different types of soil (hearts), yielding four different results. Birds carry away the seed sown on

the trodden down path. Rocky soil cannot support deep roots so the plant withers and dies. Thorns and weeds aggressively compete with the good plant, choking out its potential for full productivity. Only seed sown and deeply rooted in good soil realizes its full potential.

Poor soil (heart) does not have to remain poor. It can be broken up (Hos. 11:12; Rev. 3:19) and enriched (2 Pet. 3:18). Weeds should not be allowed to take deep root (Heb. 12:15). Poor can become good!

Imagine the applicable knowledge a child can gain from a hands-on experience with a simple four-container garden representing the four soils. As God's wisdom unfolds before their eyes, their hearts will be cultivated and enriched.

Just as soil is made from a parent material, the heart of a child is greatly affected by parents (Gen. 18:19; Deut. 6:1-9). Continue to purposely enrich your heart (parent material) so that you can plant something powerful deep in the heart of your children that will help them bear good fruit. **T**



Deborah Towles

Deborah Towles is the wife of Gale Towles who preaches for the State Line Church of Christ in Charlotte, NC. Deborah and Gale have been married for over 38 years. They have four children and eighteen grandchildren. Deborah and Gale both learned many lessons from the garden from their parents and grandparents. They still love to play in the dirt and share its bounty with family and friends! Her email address is deborah@carolina.rr.com.

Archaeology and the Bible

Shiloh, Israel's First Capital City

By Luke Chandler

If we quickly list 5 of the most important biblical cities in Canaan, would we include Shiloh?

Shiloh was Israel's principal city for some three centuries due to the presence of the Tabernacle. (*Josh. 18:1*) Shiloh witnessed important events.

Joshua divided the land among the tribes there. (*18:8-10*) Israelites gathered at Shiloh to consider war against the Transjordan tribes. (*22:10ff*) Benjamite men who survived the fratricide in Judges 20-21 "stole" and married Shiloh girls in a complicit arrangement with the other tribes.

Shiloh and the Tabernacle were in Ephraim's territory, which may explain the tribe's sense of primacy and hostility when overlooked in Gideon and Jephthah's battle plans. (*Judg. 8:1-3; 12:1-6*) Eli the High Priest raised Samuel in Shiloh.

Interestingly, it appears young Samuel's slept in the Tabernacle when God first spoke to him. (*1 Sam. 3:4ff*) The Tabernacle may have become a more permanent structure in that time. [*3:3, 15, NASB, NRSV, ESV, see note in NKJV*]

Excavations in Shiloh uncovered a destruction layer from Eli and Samuel's time. This destruction may have resulted from a war against the Philistines in 1 Samuel 4. Israel brought the Ark of God to the battlefield in a bid for victory, but found disaster. The Philistines killed thousands and captured the Ark. The High Priestly

family lost two of its generations in the deaths of Eli and his sons.

Though not recorded in the Bible, evidence suggests the Philistines went on to destroy Shiloh and the Tabernacle. The city virtually disappears in the biblical text. Jeremiah alluded



to Shiloh's destruction. "Go now to My place that was in Shiloh, where I made My name dwell at first, and see what I did to it because of the evil of My people Israel... I will do to [the Temple]... as I did to Shiloh." (*Jer. 7:12-14, ESV*)

Psalms 78 says God "forsook His dwelling at Shiloh, the tent where He dwelt among mankind... Their priests fell by the sword... He rejected the tent of Joseph; He did not choose the tribe of Ephraim, but He chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion, which He loves. He built His sanctuary like the high heavens. (vs. 60-69)

From Scripture and archaeology, it appears all of Israel's religious institutions were crushed in a single battle.

After Shiloh's destruction, Israel began seeking different types of leaders in place of judges. Samuel arose as a prophet-leader followed by the transitional monarchy of Saul. David cemented dynastic monarchy as Israel's new government and established Jerusalem as the new religious center.

Some scholars have identified a flat area north of Tel Shiloh as the only place affording the dimensions of the Tabernacle. Recent excavators of this "Tabernacle Plateau" uncovered pottery and *tabouns* (ovens) that may be related with Tabernacle offerings (*1 Sam. 3:12-17*), though not all accept this interpretation.

The history of Shiloh shows the consequences of spiritual rebellion, but also the enduring nature of God's promise to dwell among the faithful, His spiritual Temple. **T**

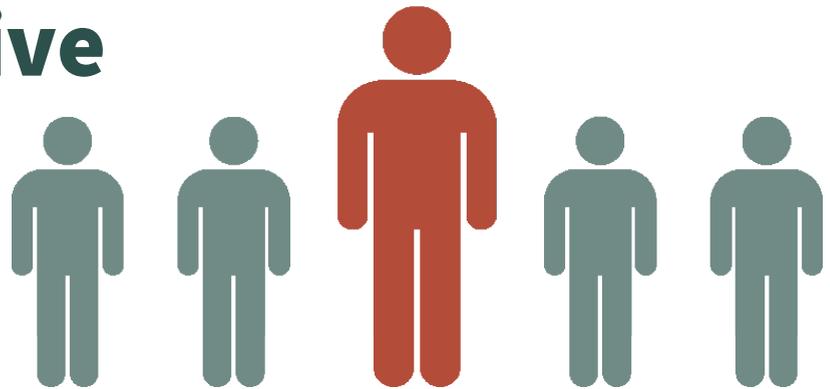


Luke Chandler

Luke preaches for the North Terrace Church of Christ in Temple Terrace, FL. He holds an M.A. in Ancient and Classical History and has currently participated in six seasons of archaeological excavation in Israel. He has served as an adjunct professor teaching Archaeology at Florida College.

One out of Five

By Lewis Willis



The *Akron Beacon Journal*, 10/09/12, reported the results of a *Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life* poll in our country. The results found in that front page article are alarming, to say the least.

“The number of Americans with no religious affiliation is on the rise.” Across the country we have seen the evidence of this basic change in our nation. One of the explanations for the rise in religious commercialism is churches having to come up with new activities, promotions, and gadgets to attract people. Otherwise, their churches dwindle in size and influence.

The gymnasiums, cafeterias, flea markets, give-aways, etc., are necessary to keep their own members from abandoning them in favor of the greater offerings of the denomination down the street. So, anything goes. No attempt is ever made to Scripturally justify their new ideas and programs, aimed at attracting the members from churches around them, while keeping their own members.

In spite of these materialistic efforts, “The Pew study ... found that about 20 percent of Americans (that’s one out of five, LW) say they have no religious affiliation, an increase from 15 percent in the last five years.” Pew said, “While the category ... includes atheists, it also encompasses majorities of people who say they believe in God”. However, “their ties with organized religion are permanently broken.”

“Part of what’s going on here is that

the stigma associated with not being part of any religious community has declined. ... One-fifth of whites describe themselves as having no religion. ... One-third of adults under age 30 have no religious affiliation ... and aren’t expected to become more religiously active as they age.”

I can only speak for myself, but I have observed the decline in Catholic Churches, forcing them to close entire parishes. The other denominations in local communities are being decimated by the large churches, with better recreational ideas, and the funds to support and supply them. The numbers in these small churches are on the decline.

We know the division inherent in denominationalism has influenced many people. These churches have ignored God’s instruction about dividing into all of these different churches: “Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that there be no divisions among you*; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Cor. 1:10). Young people can see this division is wrong, so they leave!

And, what about those of us in churches of Christ? We have also witnessed this same decline. Often we just sit back and wring our hands, as do the denominations, instead of finding the cause for decline, and addressing it.

So, what is causing this decline in the number of people in our local churches?

I would like to offer some thoughts for our consideration.

Too many Christian moms and dads are “playing” religion, instead of “living” it. We see this at almost every assembly. People scarcely have time for worship anymore. We are too busy with sports, traveling and vacations, school activities, etc., to even attend. It is an attitude that says, “We’ll be there, unless something more important comes up!” Worship of God is not considered “more important” in the minds of many anymore. “Seek ye first the kingdom of God” is no longer applied by too many of us today (Matt. 6:33).

Do we ever stop to ask what this says to our marriage partners, and our children? Parents are charged: “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4). Parents, your children get the message: The activities of the church are less important than a ballgame. When they are non-religious in their 30s, and you start wondering why, you can look at the choices and decisions you made in their youth as the explanation for their departure from religion. Are you ready for that? Husbands and wives learn that worship is less important than a family trip. God also gets the message, that other things have taken precedence over service to Him!

Too many Christians prefer time out in the world, instead of time spent in worship and study. Satan has done

everything he can, and needs to do, to make worldly activities enjoyable. We flock to his events, while ignoring the God of all glory! The apostle John was told to write: “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him” (1 John 2:15). Worldly “things” are leading too many astray!

Sadly, this exhortation has been laid aside by too many of us. Many are searching for an answer which satisfactorily explains why we are seeing a decline in our attendances? At almost every service, local churches we can count numbers of members who are absent, out doing “more important things.”

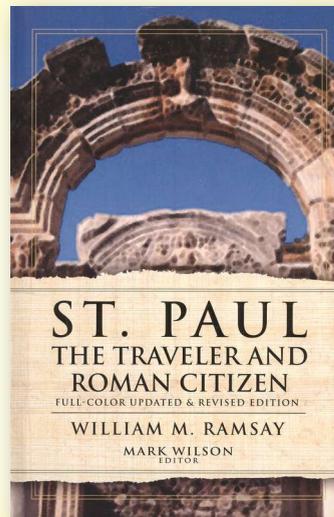
Brethren, the Lord’s church is witnessing the same decline the Pew people found in the religious world in general. Are we going to just sit quietly by, while Satan works to destroy the Lord’s church with his “things”? Or, are we going to stand up, speak up, and confront this decline with Scriptural and sober reasoning? Will we resolve to handle this problem in the way we know God wants it addressed? Worship God! **T**



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God's Design for the Home

By Bobby Graham

According to the Scriptures, the home is divine in origin, social in nature, and spiritual in purpose (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:18). Our entire society of human beings is built upon the home as ordered by God, being its basic unit for orderly and acceptable operation of the human race. So vital is the home to society's welfare that it is evident to believers of the Bible that "as goes the home, so goes the nation." The central place of the home (family) in God's scheme, including its divine structure and His restrictions pertaining to it, are sufficient evidence that God's design for the home must be respected.

Any who have been living with only one eye open in recent years have pined for the respect which once moved most people to speak of the home's sanctity and to act accordingly. It was a day long past when fathers and mothers lived together until death parted them, and their children grew up in two-parent families, learned from the worthy examples of their parents, acquired the habits of work and industry, became responsible for their own actions to parents who expected them to meet certain standards and held them accountable, became productive citizens instead of societal leeches, and populated local congregations to work for Christ by doing His will and work.

Back to the Beginning

The noble attainments just described are still possible; they do not describe a world of fantasy now unachievable. The problem with many people is that they have abandoned the divine model

making such possible – God's design for the home. That design is evident in the declarations and actions of God in the beginning. That such is the case is learned from no less than the Son of God Himself. He set forth twice in the same context the need to go back to "the beginning" to learn from what God then did and said about marriage and the home (Matt. 19:4, 8). In His first declaration God created male and female for each other, and then He based His instruction to the human race concerning marriage on His creative act. He created them male and female and mandated heterosexual marriage on that basis (Matt. 19:4-6). In His second declaration, in response to the questions of the Pharisees concerning Moses's allowance of divorce on the condition of a bill of divorcement, Jesus clearly stated that such was not the will of God from the beginning. What was permitted under the Law of Moses in the way of divorce, as a concession to the hardness of the hearts of the people, was a temporary aberration from the established rule of God at the beginning. It is also clear that Jesus, as He proclaimed the "gospel of the kingdom" in preparation for the spiritual kingdom's arrival (Matt. 4:23; 5:3, 10, 20; 7:21), re-established the purity and permanence of marriage, as God intended it from the beginning.

Divine in Origin

At the beginning we learn that the Creator of the world made male and female and fitted them for each other in the family relationship. After giving man the job of dressing and keeping the

garden, God saw that it was not good for man to be alone and then made for him one who was his comparable partner, answering to his needs (Gen. 2:15, 18; 1:31). Let us note that humans did not evolve from lower lifeforms, nor did the home gradually come into being as a result of their trial and error as Adam and Eve finally discovered a workable arrangement. No social experiment can ever adequately explain the home as God designed it, especially in view of the fractured families and failed experiments of men in history. Another human arrangement, called marriage by many, would join partners of the same sex; but this arrangement is utterly lacking in God's approval, violating more than one principle enshrined in His word for our guidance (Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5). Because God designed the home by His own wisdom, no human has the right or capacity to intrude into that realm belonging to God alone to change any aspect of the divine plan.

Beneficial in Effect

According to the Genesis record (2:18-20), God made woman for man, one corresponding to him, to serve as his helper. It is significant that the beasts of the field could never produce one who would be Adam's equal, his companion to walk with him by his side and to help him in all worthy endeavors assigned him by the God who made them both. Rather than being beneath him, the Bible ascribes to the woman a standing based on their shared nature, dignity, and worth. A famous woman (Hillary Clinton) once wrote a book comparing marriage to institutionalized

slavery, though I suspect she gathered her evidence for her claim close to home. The Bible, however, never denigrates woman's standing or role, but pictures her in a God-appointed role where she is man's constant helper and strength, sharing in his successes and failures, his blessings and his woes, all because of their mutual love for one another. The prevention of fornication is another beneficial purpose of the marital union in the home (1 Cor. 7:1-5). When God planned and formed the home, he did so for the welfare of His special creatures.

Procreative in Purpose

God planned the home for reproduction of the race and reproduction for the home (Gen. 1:27-28). No other relationship can ever substitute for this one in the bearing and rearing of children (Eph. 5:22-33; 6:1-4). Yes, anyone can sire offspring, but in no relationship can children ever enjoy the environment in which they can flourish as in a God-approved home. No defense is made for human failure or any consequences that follow from substitutes in this realm. When parents fail to follow God's will (as in abandonment by one partner of the home, cohabitation without marriage, serial divorces and remarriages, same-sex marriages, open marriages, one-night stands, affairs, etc.), they are to blame, not God, for problems with their children. It also stands to reason that those who beget children should have for them a natural affection, as the Bible calls it. When parents so involve themselves in selfish pursuits of sin and when society demonstrates widespread lack of this natural affection, it is because people have sinned, not because God has failed in His design (Rom. 1:31; 2 Tim. 3:3).

Efficient in Operation

The Creator provided for the long-term operation of the home, not just an overnight stand, an affair, a trial marriage, or some other human

arrangement in lieu of marriage (Gen. 2:23-24). Through the instructions of the Bible and through the loving compliance of His human creatures, God "oiled the machinery" for its proper operation. He planned for the husband, who lovingly appreciates his wife for who she is, to set up a family unit (1) *independent* of the one of his parents, (2) *cohesive* by his cleaving (gluing himself) to his wife in loving commitment for a permanent relationship (Rom. 7; 1 Cor. 7:10-13; Eph. 5:25-32), and (3) *harmonious* as he became one with her in every way. Another provision for the efficiency and orderly operation of the home lies in God's *economic* arrangement: (1) man is the *primary member/leader*; woman is the *secondary/supporting member* of the family (Gen. 3:16). Just as no football team can operate with two quarterbacks calling the signals simultaneously, no marital relationship can sustain itself when there are two heads or leaders. The Bible is clear that in the beginning God appointed man to be head of the home (Gen. 3:16; Eph. 5:22-24)

Conclusion

Many inventions of men have sought the standing which God gives only to Biblical marriage and to the home as He ordered it. Sometimes even those claiming to be believers have clearly shown their unbelief by flaunting their own wisdom and flouting divine law in this very realm. Loose views concerning the purity and permanence of marriage only underscore the wisdom of God's arrangement at the beginning. You can certainly do worse than God's plan, but you can never do better than He has done. **T**

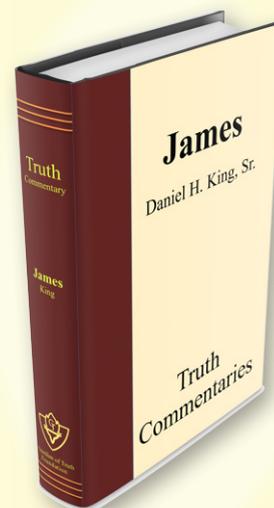


Bobby L. Graham

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Flipping the Two Great Commandments Upside-down

By Dick Blackford

Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’” (Matt. 22:7-39).

So, it’s love God *first*, man *second*.

Same-sex Marriage

A pastor created a major division in his denomination by performing a same-sex wedding for his son. No doubt, this father loved his son. A father should love his son, but not more than he loves God. The first and greatest commandment is to love God first. Jesus said, “He that loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me” (Matt. 10:37). Jesus was very clear on what constitutes a marriage. Matthew 19:4-7 records: “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’”

Any other combination of people or animals does not fit the pattern and does not qualify (and yes, the Bible teaches in patterns). It had nothing to do with the culture of the time. Jesus went back to the very beginning. Culture has gone through many changes, but the pattern has remained the same for thousands of years until some in the 21st century, “professing themselves to be wise...” (Rom. 1:22), have decided

to put man above God, and thus, have turned the two great commandments upside-down. Jesus said, “... If a man love me, he will keep my word ... and he that loves me not keeps not my word ” (John 14:23,24).

Paul said God gave up on those who refused to have God in their knowledge and made the creature more important than the Creator (Rom. 1:28, 25). Here is what happened: “For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error” (Rom. 1:26, 27). If we can override God’s word on things we don’t like, why bother to claim we believe in Him?

It is a cause for dismay that a number of religious leaders and high-ranking politicians have committed this same error and are promoting same-sex marriage in other countries with an evangelistic fervor unseen before. They too, have flipped the two great commandments upside-down, and stood them on their heads, making love for man more important than love for God.

Churches

Some churches have also flipped the two great commandments upside-

down. They have made social work, recreation, and entertainment (all directed at man) more important than serving God. Jesus did not come as a social reformer nor did He preach a “social gospel,” which is “another gospel” (Gal. 1:6-9). He came to change men’s hearts, from the inside-out. *When men are changed from the inside-out, they won’t get things upside-down.*

The primary mission of the church is preaching the gospel. It is the “pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Tim. 3:15; 1 Thess. 1:7-10). It also has the work of teaching and training Christians (Eph. 4:14-16; 1 Cor. 14:26b). Likewise, it has the work of benevolence (Acts 6:1-6; 1 Tim. 5:16; 1 Thess. 3:10). Recreation and entertainment were available in Biblical times but God never gave those to the church and no Scripture can be given on their behalf.

Faith Chapel Christian Center, a mega-church in Birmingham, recently built a \$26,000,000 Entertainment Center. It includes a 12-lane bowling alley, basketball court, fitness center, banquet hall and café, teen dance club, and an adult “alcohol and smoke free” night club. The preacher said, “People may not want to come to a church, but they’ll come to a bowling alley. People have needs other than spiritual needs. Our church wants to be an inspiration.”

Many churches who view that as extreme are without any basis to object, for they are doing the same thing on a smaller scale. It’s not the extreme that’s wrong. It’s that they have no

Bible authority for church-sponsored recreation in the first place.

The First Christian Church in Portland, OR now has a “Beer & Hymns” Sunday night service in local pubs. Their website says: “Join in singing some classic hymns while enjoying your favorite beer, wine, cider, pop or whatever! The concept is simple, gather to be together in community and HAVE FUN!” Need I tell you, this is catching on in other places.

The Cave City (Arkansas) First Assembly of God sponsored a two-day Gun Show in the Family Life Center last year. Other churches have dismantled their pulpit and converted it into a stage as they incorporate entertainment into the worship (as long as it has a religious

flavor!). No one seems to care as long as the response is enthusiastic. They don’t want a pulpit, they want a *performance*.

People have to be “baited” to hear how God gave His only Son to a slow, agonizing death on the cross because He loved us so we could live in heaven eternally. “Bait & switch” is a process that is illegal in the retail world. If people have to be tricked into hearing the gospel, then they are not good soil. If the story of the cross isn’t good enough to draw people (which is the only thing Christ and the apostles used), why should we think we could improve on what the God of heaven thought was sufficient?

Jesus told His disciples to preach the gospel, not sell it. Our mission is not to

buy people’s attendance with games, gimmicks, and food. In fact, He told them, “And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet” (Matt. 10:14). If you can’t convert them with substance, move on.

We must keep the record clear. If we put man *before* God, our religion is in vain. And remember, *when men are changed from the inside-out they won’t get things upside-down.* **T**



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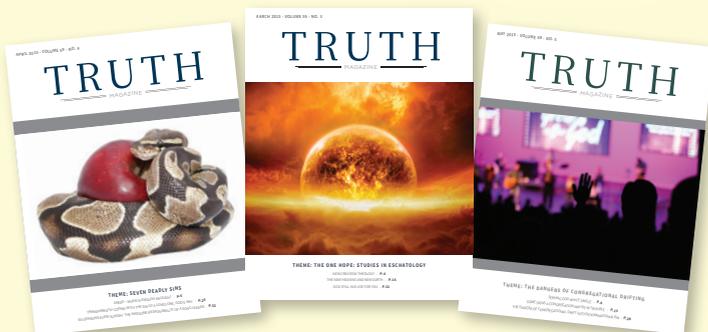
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Cohabitation Becoming the Norm

By Dennis Abernathy

Men and women who moved in together used to raise eyebrows. Living together out of wedlock, once considered “shacking up” or “living in sin,” has lost its stigma as cohabitation has become mainstream. Cohabitation is replacing marriage as the first living together experience for young men and women.

Cohabitation is defined as “two unrelated persons of the opposite sex who share common living arrangements in a sexually intimate relationship without legal or religious sanction.” *USA Today* reported that “more than two-thirds of married couples in the U.S. now say they lived together before marriage. And the number of unmarried opposite-sex households overall is rising dramatically...”

Cohabitation, as a lifestyle, is on the rise. According to the U.S. Census, from 1996 to 2000 there was a tenfold increase in unmarried couples living together, which translates to approximately 10 million people, or 8 percent of U.S. couples’ households, are living with a partner of the opposite sex outside of wedlock. Certainly the number has vastly increased in the last fourteen years. Researchers estimate that today as many as 50% of Americans cohabit at one time or another prior to marriage.

Attitudes are changing toward cohabitation. Linda Waite and Maggie Gallagher wrote *The Case for Marriage: Why Married People Are Happier*,

Healthier and Better off Financially. Their book makes the case for marriage and also challenges contemporary assumptions about cohabitation. Their thesis is this: “Back in the 1950s, the rules were clear: first love, next marriage, and only then the baby carriage. But the social ‘tsunami’ of the 1960s that struck changed everything. The Pill, the sexual revolution, gay pride, feminism, mothers in the workplace, no-fault divorce, and the rise of illegitimate births changed our views of marriage and family.” Their conclusion is that married people are happier, healthier, and better off financially.

The trend seems to be that, instead of dating, couples just “move in.” The reasoning is that they want to make sure that they find just the right person and that they are compatible with one another. George Barna has reported that 60% of Americans believed that the best way to establish a successful marriage is to cohabit prior to marriage. Another survey found that two-thirds (66%) of high school senior boys agreed or mostly agreed with the statement: “It is usually a good idea for a couple to live together before getting married in order to find out whether they really get along.” This change in thinking also seems to be influenced by financial considerations – shared rent and housing, etc. In other words, when the lease is up and the rent is due, it is cheaper to cohabit. Thus, we are treated with the profound wisdom (?) that one should “try before you buy” or “You wouldn’t buy a car without a test

drive would you?” Hence, the advocacy for a “test-run!” Such couldn’t be more dehumanizing! Also, some feel such a relationship will stave off loneliness.

But statistics overwhelmingly show that those who live together (cohabit), prior to marriage have a much higher likelihood of experiencing at least one divorce during their lifetime. They stack the odds against themselves and their future marriage. Sociologists David Popenoe and Barbara Dafoe Whitehead released their study through the *National Marriage Project* at Rutgers University which confirms earlier studies about the danger of cohabiting. They found that cohabiting appears to be counterproductive to long-lasting marriage, that unmarried couples should avoid living together, especially if it involves children. They argue that living together is “*a fragile family form*” that poses increased risk to women and children.

They cite as a part of the reason for the danger is the difference in perception. Men often enter the relationship with less intention to marry than do women. They may regard it more as a sexual opportunity without the ties of long-term commitment. Women, however, often see the living arrangement as a step toward eventual marriage. So while the women may believe they are headed for marriage, the man has other ideas.

But, the reality is, Popenoe said, “Cohabitation is here to stay.” But he also says that it is not without dire

consequences. Hear him: “As society shifts from marriage to cohabitation – which is what is happening – you have an increase in family instability.” The correlation is that we are witnessing a new mind-set developing concerning marriage and the home, and homes are the victims.

Problems with Cohabitation

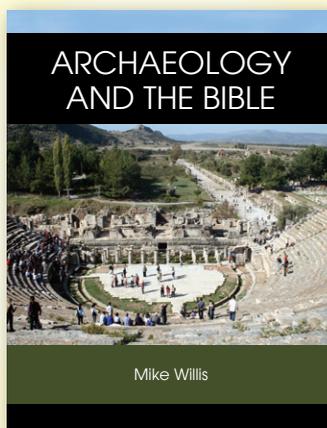
Lack of Commitment. Marriages are held together by a common commitment which is absent in most, if not all, cohabiting relationships. Two people who live together value autonomy over commitment and tend not to be as committed as married couples in their dedication to the continuation of the relationship. Since there is less certainty of a long-term commitment there is less motivation to work out conflicts and problems when they arise – and they do arise!

A cohabitating relationship may seem happy for a time, but it will always lack one thing: commitment. Without the commitment of marriage a “*living together*” arrangement will always be insecure.

Also, various studies on abuse conclude that women in cohabiting relationships are more than twice as likely as married women to suffer physical and sexual abuse. Other studies have found that women in cohabiting relationships are nine times more likely to be killed by their partner than are women in marital relationships.

Harmful to Children. Several studies have found that children currently living with a mother and her unmarried partner have significantly more behavior problems and lower academic performance than children in intact families. There is always the high risk that the couple will break up, creating even more social and personal difficulties. Thus, children, who are the most vulnerable, suffer due to the ignorance, selfishness, and irresponsibility of those who begat them. ▶

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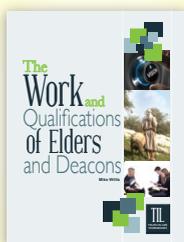
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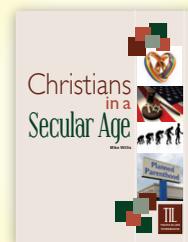
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... Continued from page 17

The Biblical Perspective. The Bible teaches that the act of sexual intercourse can have a strong bonding effect on two people. When done within the bounds of marriage, the man and the woman become one flesh (Gen. 2:24; Eph. 5:31). Sexual intercourse outside of marriage has consequences. The apostle Paul said that when a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her (1 Cor. 6:16). In 1 Corinthians 5:1-3, a man within the church was having sexual relations with his father's wife. Such was sinful because it was sexual immorality, incestuous, and there also was no marital union – they were cohabiting. Paul said, "Flee sexual immorality" (1 Cor. 6:18). Hebrews 13:4 says: "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled, but fornicators and adulterers God will judge." Marriage is honorable among all provided it is an honorable marriage, i.e. in keeping with Scripture. Cohabitation dishonors marriage. Within marriage the bed (sexual relations) is undefiled. Sexual relations within cohabitation is defiled. Cohabitation defiles sexual relations. Such conduct is not pleasing to God and He will judge.

Sexual immorality is condemned in about twenty-five passages in the New Testament. The Greek word is *porneia*, a word which includes all forms of illicit sexual intercourse. Jesus taught: "For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man unclean" (Mark 7: 21-23).

Marriage is God's plan to provide intimate companionship for life (Gen. 2:18) and the context for the procreation and nurture of children (Eph. 6: 1-2), and finally, marriage provides a godly outlet for sexual desire (1 Cor. 7:2).

Living together outside of marriage not only violates Biblical commands, but it puts a couple and their future marriage at risk. Even if millions are doing it, living together is a bad idea. There are clear Biblical prohibitions against premarital sex. But, even apart from these Biblical pronouncements are the ominous sociological predictions of failure when a couple considers cohabitation rather than marriage. The latest available research backs up what the Bible says. If you want a good marriage, don't do what society says. Do what the Bible teaches us to do!

Conclusion

History tells us the sad tale that once any nation's homes are permanently fractured, the nation will crumble at its very foundation. Winston Churchill said, "There is no doubt that it is around the family and the home that all the greatest virtues, the most dominating virtues of human society are created, strengthened, and maintained." Dr. James Dobson wrote, "To put it succinctly, the institution of marriage represents the very foundation of human social order. Everything of value sits on that base. Institutions, governments, religious fervor, and the welfare of children are all dependent on its stability. When it is weakened or undermined, the entire superstructure begins to wobble. That is exactly what has happened during the last thirty-five years, as the radical feminists, liberal lawmakers, and profiteers in the entertainment industry have taken their toll on the stability of marriage. Many of our pressing social problems can be traced to this origin" (*Marriage Under Fire*, 9-10). In the book *Rx For Marital Illness* (70), the author states: "The old ship of matrimony that God launched in the Garden of Eden has been caught in a cyclone of change. Of every dozen wedded couples, four will

jump overboard, six will stay lashed on deck because of utilitarian interests – children, career, family, church, etc. – without joy or love, and only two will enjoy what Dr. Joyce Brothers calls "total" marriages, where they will have a lifetime of happiness. ... Some very loud voices are shouting that wedlock is a padlock which leads to deadlock and that the first institution God established has outlived its usefulness."

I am pleading for marriage and the home as God created it, and planned it, and wants it to be. His is the best possible arrangement for all mankind. May God help us respect and be governed by the divine rules that God has given for the protection of our homes and families. **T**



Dennis Abernathy

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The Boy Who Did Not Come Back from Heaven

By David Dann

The Bible says, “No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven” (John 3:13). In spite of what the Bible says, books and even movies describing the experiences of those who have supposedly come back from heaven after temporarily dying have become increasingly popular. With this thought in mind, a recent *Washington Post* news article reports the following:

Tyndale House, a major Christian publisher, has announced that it will stop selling *The Boy Who Came Back from Heaven*, by Alex Malarkey and his father, Kevin Malarkey.

The best-selling book, first published in 2010, purports to describe what Alex experienced while he lay in a coma after a car accident when he was 6 years old. The coma lasted two months, and his injuries left him paralyzed, but the subsequent spiritual memoir – with its assuring description of “miracles, angels, and life beyond This World” – became part of a popular genre of “heavenly tourism.”

Earlier this week, Alex recanted his testimony about the afterlife. In an open letter to Christian bookstores posted on the *Pulpit and Pen* web site, Alex states flatly: “I did not die. I did not go to Heaven.”

Referring to the injuries that continue to make it difficult for him to express himself, Alex writes, “Please forgive the brevity, but because of my limitations I have to keep this short. . . . I said I went to heaven because I thought it would get me attention. When I made the claims that I did, I had never read the Bible. People have profited from lies, and continue to. They should read the Bible, which is enough. The Bible is the

only source of truth. Anything written by man cannot be infallible” (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/style-blog/wp/2015/01/15/boy-who-came-back-from-heaven-going-back-to-publisher/?hpid=z5>).

Please consider the following in light of this news report:

1. Honesty on this topic is commendable. While others continue to profit and bask in the fame afforded them by describing their supposed trips to heaven, this young man has courageously confessed that his story is untrue. The inspired wise man lists, “a false witness who speaks lies” among seven things which God hates (Prov. 6:19). It is refreshing and encouraging to learn that a false witness has repudiated his own false testimony.

2. “Heavenly Tourism” is not biblical. The Bible speaks of numerous individuals in both the Old and New Testaments who died and were resurrected from the dead shortly thereafter. Elijah raised the Sidonian widow’s son (1 Kings 17:17-24) and Elisha raised the Shunammite’s son (2 Kings 4:8-37). Jesus raised the dead, including the son of the widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17) and Lazarus of Bethany (John 11). Peter raised Tabitha (Acts 9:36-43) and Paul raised Eutychus (20:7-12). Interestingly, the Bible lacks any record of any of these individuals describing what they saw or experienced during the time between their deaths and resurrections. “Heavenly Tourism” stories, which are so popular today, are absent from the pages of Scripture.

3. God’s word provides all the information about heaven currently needed by man. Alex Malarkey is

correct in stating that, “The Bible is the only source of truth” when it comes to spiritual matters. As Paul writes, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16-17). When the rich man died and wanted someone to relate his after-death experiences to his brothers, he was told, “They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them” (Luke 16:29). In other words, the Scriptures are all that is needed in order to instruct and prepare man with respect to the future beyond this life. We must heed the instruction of Scripture when it comes to understanding matters such as death, heaven, and hell, rather than rely on the fanciful stories of those who claim to have been to heaven and back.

Conclusion

The apostle Peter writes that God “has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue” (2 Pet. 1:3). This knowledge comes, not through the tales of those who claim to have come back from heaven, but “through the word of God which lives and abides forever” (1 Pet. 1:23). While “the boy who came back from heaven” really didn’t, the word of God offers the hope of heaven to all who believe and obey the gospel of Jesus Christ. Will heaven be your home? **T**



David Dann

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Mr. and Mrs. Dorris V. Rader

Aurelia F. Rader, a Virtuous Woman

By Mike Webb and Donnie V. Rader

Aurelia F. Rader, the wife of long-time middle Tennessee preacher, Dorris V. Rader, passed from this life on May 6, 2015 at the age of 82. Her funeral was held in Tullahoma, TN on May 9, 2015. The service centered upon the description of the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31.

Loved by many. We were privileged to have been influenced by such a virtuous woman as our mother (Donnie) and grandmother (Mike). Her name may not be a household name in the brotherhood, but her influence on those who knew her was tremendous. She was affectionately called “Granny” for the past 42+ years. In fact, she was called “Granny” before she had grandchildren. Adults and children who were not related call her “Granny” and him “Papa.”

A housewife. Granny, like the virtuous woman, looked after the needs of her household (Prov. 31:15, 21, 27). She never ate the bread of idleness (Prov. 31:27). You would never find her sitting around doing nothing or killing time. Granny was always active and working with her hands in seeing that her family’s needs were met. When the

children were young there was always a big meal at both breakfast and supper. She made clothes for her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren to wear. She was honored to be a housewife – that was her career. More women are needed today who exercise the care in keeping the home that Granny did in caring after hers (Titus 2:5).

The importance of worship. She saw that her family was ready to worship. Saturday evenings were spent at home preparing for Bible classes and getting clothes ready for Sunday. Clothes were pressed and shoes were shined and ready for the Lord’s day. Worshipping God was something worth preparing for and something you gave your best effort in doing. We need more among God’s people with that attitude today.

Supportive of her husband’s work. The husband of the virtuous woman placed his complete trust in her and praised her for her work and character (Prov. 31:11, 28). This was certainly true of Papa and Granny. You would never find Papa saying anything negative or critical of Granny (neither was she critical of him). She was his support and encourager in his work of preaching the gospel. Like Aquila and Priscilla, they were partners in the Lord. Granny became a preacher’s wife in the midst of the institutional controversy. Some of her own family took their stand with the institutional brethren. Her dad was an elder in an institutional congregation and later was a director of one of the homes for the aged in

Nashville. However, Granny never wavered in her commitment to the truth and supporting Papa in his stand. She always encouraged Papa to go where he was needed, not where he could receive the most money or notoriety.

A great marriage. Granny and Papa’s love was especially evident in the last few years. We had been losing Granny slowly to dementia for several years. Papa had to make the decision to retire from local work in order to see that she received the best care. As long as he was near, she knew that she was loved and had nothing to concern her. He loved her as Christ loved the church (Eph. 5:25) and she respected and loved him (Eph. 5:33; Titus 2:4). Their marriage of nearly 65 years was an example of what God wants a marriage to be. Though married for 65 years, he had known her since she was three days old. They were childhood sweethearts.

Feared God. The virtuous woman was a woman who feared God (Prov. 31:30). The Lord was the greatest love in Granny’s life. She lived in accordance with the principles that she taught to others. Even when the cruel disease of dementia was taking her mind, she could remember the words to songs sung in worship. Serving God was part of her life. She loved the Lord with all her heart, mind, and strength (Matt. 22:37-40).

Granny will be greatly missed by those who loved her. We rejoice, however, in the life that she lived and the example she set. We sorrow over

her passing, but not as those who have no hope (1 Thess. 4:13). We take comfort in knowing that death is a blessing for those who die in the Lord (Rev. 14:13).

Her grandsons conducted her funeral. Mike Webb delivered the message, Dathan Rader led congregational singing, and Wil Holt read Scripture. Paul Smithson, local

preacher at Westwood (where Papa preached for 30 years), assisted in the service. **T**



Donnie V. Rader

Donnie V. Rader has preached for the El Bethel church of Christ in Shelbyville, TN since 1994. He has also served as one of the elders since 2004. He and his wife, Joan, have two children: Krista Duggin (Dan) and Dathan (Leah) and two grandchildren. dvrader@live.com.

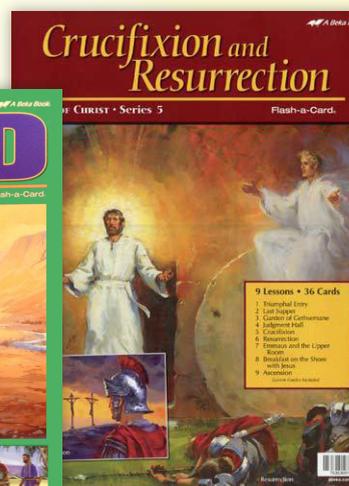
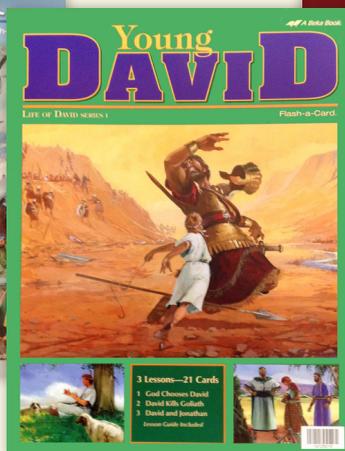
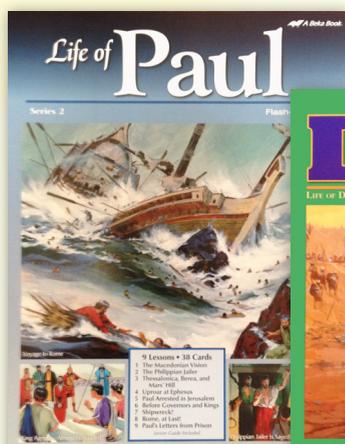


Mike Webb

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Things to Pass on to the Next Generation!

By Johnie Edwards

It's scary to think that we are just one generation away from rearing a generation that "knows not the Lord" (Judg. 2:7-10)! This thought makes it imperative that we pass on the proper spiritual values to the next generation. This study takes a serious look at some things that each of us must pass on to the generation following us:

1. Respect for Divine Authority.

This respect sets the tone for every thing else! The chief priest asked Jesus, "By what authority doest thou these things? And who gave thee this authority?" (Matt. 21:23). This is a great question that must be asked by every generation. We all must know if a thing is "from heaven, or of men" (Matt. 23:25). It must be learned that "and God said" (Gen. 1:3) is the deciding factor in all religious matters. It must be taught that our source of "all authority is given unto me," said Jesus (Matt. 28:18). "Never man spake like this man" was said of our Lord (John 7:46). This is because "He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes" (Matt. 7:29). "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" (Prov. 1:7). This attitude toward authority will cause the next generation to ask for book, chapter, and verse for all religious matters.

2. To Serve God Acceptably with Reverence and Godly Fear. This is one of the most frightening commands in the Bible! Read it again and again: "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly

fear" (Heb. 12:28). This statement has to be a summary of all that God expects of His people. When we learn "him only shalt thou serve" (Matt. 4:10), we will have learned an invaluable lesson. After all, "holy and reverend is His name" (Psa. 111:9).

3. Ask for "What Saith the Scripture?" This is the question posed by the apostle Paul (Rom. 4:3; Gal. 4:30). This question must be asked by every Bible class teacher, every gospel preacher and every member of the church, as the Bible is being taught!

4. The Bible Is Complete and All-Sufficient. Peter affirmed, "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue" (2 Pet. 1:3). With this, we need nothing else! Paul penned: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). This God-breathed word makes us complete, just as it is written: "For ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power" (Col. 2:10). This teaching will eliminate all man-made creeds!

5. Love the Truth. The next generation must be taught to love the truth above everything else! The wise man said, "Buy the truth and sell it not" (Prov. 23:23). Jesus proclaimed, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth

shall make you free" (John 8:32). And remember, "Thy word is truth" (John 17:17). Paul refers to those who "perish; because they received not the love of the truth" (2 Thess. 2:10). "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thess. 2:11-12)! Do you remember "the man of God" who listened to a "lie" rather than the truth in 1 Kings 13?

6. Value of a Good Name. "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold" (Prov. 22:1). Companies will spend big bucks to be able to use a good name in their business. Often a wayward child, by his wild living, will ruin a good name, given him by his godly parents. This is sad.

7. Appreciation for the New Testament Church. Too often, second-generation Christians take the Lord's church for granted. If the next generation is to be found "seek(ing) ... first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness" (Matt. 6:33), they are going to have to be taught that the church was in "the eternal purpose of God" (Eph. 3:11), foretold by Old Testament prophets (Isa. 2:2-4), and established in Acts 2; the next generation must learn the terms of admission (Acts 2:38; 1 Cor. 12:13), and that the church is "the saved" (Acts 2:47; Eph. 5:23). Living in a society, where the church is looked upon as not being

essential, the next generation, must be taught about it.

8. Knowledge of Right and Wrong. One would think that with this information-age, all would know what's right and what's wrong. Don't take that for granted! According to Isaiah 5:20, the Lord's people "call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter." Every generation has to be taught "the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean" (Ezek. 44:23). The next generation must "have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Heb. 5:14)! Right and wrong must be spelled out in language that the young can understand (Eph. 3:3-5).

9. How to Study and Understand the Bible. No one is born with this knowledge; they have to be taught. Without the proper rules of Bible study; the word is hard to grasp. "Study to rightly divide the truth" is foremost (2 Tim. 2:15). Some try to understand the Bible by reading everything, except the Bible! Paul said, "Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ" (Eph. 3:4). The Bible must be read with the desire to obey it when understood. "If a man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself" (John 7:17; Psa. 111:10). A good set of simple Bible study rules becomes necessary for the next generation.

10. The Value of a Good Example. It's hard to beat seeing a good example. This is the reason our Lord said: "Ye are the salt of the earth and the light of the world" (Matt. 5:13-16). Paul wrote the Philippians: "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world" (Phil. 2:15). Example setting becomes really

important when you realize that, "Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men" (2 Cor. 3:2). What folks know or do not know may hinge on the read-epistle of the next generation! Jesus left us "an example, to follow" (1 Pet. 2:21).

11. Sin Has Consequences. "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). To those who partake of sinful things, eternal death comes (Matt. 25:46; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 20:12-15).

12. Desire for Heaven. "A better country, Heaven" (Heb. 11:16) must be the main goal! **T**

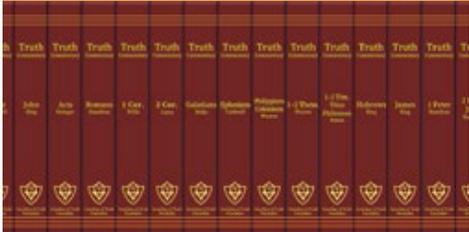


Johnie Edwards

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Kicking Against the Goats

By Nathan L Morrison

Self-preservation can cause people to do extraordinary things, and make difficult decisions, the kinds that change lives! The gospel calls people not only to think physically but for spiritual soul-preservation. In Acts 16:25-33 the Philippian jailer found himself in what he perceived to be a dire situation: the prisoners had escaped on his watch! He was sleeping on the job and awoke to find all the prison doors open. Under Roman law he would have been executed in disgrace so he was about to do the “honorable” thing: take his own life. Paul shouted to him from the darkness and let him know all the prisoners were present and accounted for, and said, “Do yourself no harm!” He appealed to his physical self-preservation. This event caused the jailer to ask, “What must I do to be saved?” No longer thinking physical, the jailer was concerned about his soul. Paul preached the gospel to him and his household and they were baptized into Christ and His church (1 Cor. 12:13; Col. 1:18). Paul told him what he needed to do for his soul’s preservation!

We ought to give heed to Paul’s instruction to the jailer to “Do yourself no harm!” Paul knew what it was like to cause harm to himself. On the road to Damascus, Christ said to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads” (Acts 26:14, NAS).

Kicking against the Goats

“It is hard for you to kick against

the goads” (Acts 26:14). Goads were sharply pointed instruments used to force stubborn animals to move ahead. It commonly refers to an ox-goad, which was a sharp piece of iron stuck into the end of a stick (anywhere from 6-8 ft. long), with which the ox is urged on. Goads among the Hebrews were made very large (Shamgar killed 600 Philistine men with one of them, Judg. 3:31). This phrase was not a Hebrew parable, but here Christ uses a Greek parable to tell Saul, “Stop harming yourself!” Greek writers such as Euripides (*Bacchae*, 791) said, “I, who am a frail mortal, should rather sacrifice to him who is a god, than, by giving place to anger, kick against the goads.” Also, Pindar (*Pyth.*, 2:173) said, “To bear lightly the neck’s yoke brings strength, but kicking against the goads brings failure.” Finally, Terence (*Phome.*, 1, 2, 27) said, “It is foolishness for you to kick against a goad” (from *Barnes’ Notes on the Bible*, Acts 9:5; 26:14).

The expression “to kick against the goad” is derived from the action of a stubborn and unyielding ox kicking against the goad. As the ox would injure no one but himself, it came to denote “rebellion against lawful authority.” Many people look at this as “the parable that changed Saul.” Saul had only been hurting himself – persecuting the church, breathing murder and threats, imprisoning men and women, and casting his vote against them to be put to death (Acts 8:1; 9:1-18; 22:4-5; 26:9-11). He had innocent blood on his hands! This is also the condition of

every sinner! Kicking against the goads only hurts the one kicking. Christ was saying to Saul, “Stop hurting yourself!” There are ways both physically and spiritually people harm themselves!

Kicking against the Goats: Those Living in Sin

Sinful practices may harm one physically. The fruits of the flesh such as drunkenness (Gal. 5:21) can result in a fatal accident, divorce, disease, and even cause innocent people to suffer. Sexual promiscuity (Gal. 5:19) can result in disease, emotional trauma, pregnancy out of wedlock, dividing families, and hurting the innocent. A life of loose morals can result in one suffering as a murderer or a thief, or committing other acts that can land one in jail (1 Pet. 4:15; James 4:1-3).

More than just the physical, sinful living will harm one spiritually! The wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23). Those not found in the Book of Life will suffer the second death (Rev. 20:14-15). Christ’s message applies to those living in sin, “Stop kicking against the goads!”

Kicking against the Goats: Those Who Refuse to Obey the Gospel

Refusing to obey the gospel results in one still in sin, thus harming himself. It is like a cancer victim (or other disease) that refuses treatment, or like a drowning victim rejecting the lifeline. The unrighteous will not inherit Heaven (1 Cor. 6:9-10). Those who do not know

God and those who do not obey the gospel will be eternally separated from God (2 Thess. 1:7-9). The gospel is God's power to save (Rom. 1:16) so if one refuses God's power to save, he remains in and will die in his sins! Christ's message applies to those refusing to obey the gospel, "Stop kicking against the goads!"

Kicking against the Goads: The Unfaithful

Some people, like the jailer, obey the gospel to be "saved" (Acts 16:31-33), and some, after doing so, turn back to their former way of life, like Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8:18-24). Others make a show of their faith, like Diotrephes (3 John 9). Individuals who become unfaithful make "shipwreck of their faith," like Hymenaeus and Alexander (1 Tim. 1:19-20). Some people become "lukewarm" (Rev. 3:16). Theirs is a religion of convenience rather than obedience. Some people live how they want, only "holding to a form of godliness" (2 Tim. 3:5). People who "play" at Christianity are only fooling themselves. Those who (for whatever reason) are unfaithful will be held accountable for trampling under foot the Son of God, despising His blood, and insulting the Spirit of grace (Heb. 10:26-30).

Contrast the spirit of indifference, or "lukewarm" with what faithful Christians are to be doing:

- Romans 12:1-2: "Present your body a living and holy sacrifice."
- 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Always abounding in the work of the Lord."
- Titus 2:14: "Zealous for good deeds."
- Revelation 3:19: "Be zealous and repent."

Christ's message applies to the unfaithful, "Stop kicking against the goads!"

Kicking against the Goads: Those Who Fail to Prepare for Eternity

Life on earth is brief and uncertain (James 4:13-17) and all of mankind are headed to one of two destinies: the horror of Hell (Matt. 25:41, 46; Rev. 20:14-15), or the happiness of Heaven (Matt. 25:34, 46; Rev. 21:3-7). The one not preparing for eternity is harming his soul! The gospel can save (Rom. 1:16) and keep one from (or reduce) some physical harms by the abstaining from evil practices (1 Thess. 5:22) and can save one's soul from Hell. To those who obey, eternal life; to those who do not obey, eternal punishment. Obeying the gospel saves one from the wrath of God, and Christians who remain faithful till death have a reservation in Heaven (Rom. 5:8; Rev. 2:10). Christ's message applies to those not preparing for eternity, "Stop kicking against the goads!"

The gospel appeals to one's sense of self-preservation, both physically and spiritually. We are to love ourselves enough to not want to harm our bodies (Eph. 5:28-29), and should love our souls enough *not* to want to go to Hell (Matt. 25:41, 46)! Saul stopped kicking against the goads! At Christ's urging he stopped hurting himself and became Paul the apostle, a faithful servant of God. This was manifested by his obedience to the gospel. He was baptized and fulfilled the mission God gave him (Acts 9:18; 22:14-16). He told Agrippa that he did "not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision" (Acts 26:16-20). If you have been "kicking against the goads," especially if you are outside the family of God, listen to Paul speak directly to you as he once did the jailer, "Do yourself no harm!" **T**



Nathan L Morrison

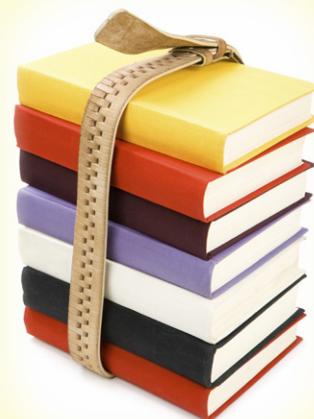
Nathan L. Morrison is an evangelist at the Funny River Rd. church of Christ in Soldotna, Alaska, husband to Becky Morrison, and father of two children, a daughter (age 9) and son (age 7).

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Before You Cheat

By Kyle Campbell

outdone, we even have a reality show (called *Cheaters*) that is designed to reveal an indiscretion and exploit the humiliation on national television. Honestly, I'm not sure which is worse — the immoral action of the cheater or the people

who produce the show. The fact that the series is in its 12th season is an indictment against us. I'm not sure which is more devastating — discovering your lover's unfaithfulness or discovering the crushing news at the same time as the train-wreck watching public. We live in a very sad day and age.

I have seen first-hand the destruction of adultery. Cheating devastates relationships and shatters dreams. If you have entertained the idea of cheating on your spouse or significant other, let this serve as your official warning. Your handsome boss, cute secretary, or sultry neighbor comes with a price tag that you can't afford. Before you cheat here are fourteen facts you really need to know.

1. You will become a liar. It's bad enough to bear the title of "Cheater," but if you cheat, you will also wear the hat of "Liar." Cheating cannot occur without deceit on some level and normally the

white lies in the beginning become full-fledged lies at the end. "I'm working late at the office tonight" may be a half-truth but you'll need to redefine the word "working" to silence your compromised conscience. Cheating and lying go hand in hand (Eph. 4:25; Col. 3:9).

2. You will get caught. It may not be today. It may not be tomorrow. But eventually, your affair will come to light (Num. 32:23; Job 12:22). Your world will come crashing down on you. If you are fortunate, your indiscretion may avoid a public display, but your circle of friends will know your deeds. And everyone likes to share juicy news. Your poor decision will become as obvious as a billboard. It's not a matter of if but when. As the Chinese proverb goes, "If you don't want anyone to know it, don't do it."

3. You will disappoint everyone. Everyone. Your spouse. Your friends. Your co-workers. Your God. Your parents. Your nephew. Your children. Yourself. The disappointment you cause will be like the stench of skunks and it will take a long time to remove the smell.

4. You will be a bad example. Everyone is either a good example or a bad example in everything we do (cf. 1 Tim. 4:12). Cheating is not only a very bad example in relationships, but brings with it a cloud of doubt that hovers over you in other areas of your life. If you cheated in one area, would you cheat in another? Cheating communicates to everyone that you

It seems that every few months or so we learn of another celebrity caught cheating on his or her spouse. To say adultery is an epidemic in our current culture is an understatement. And it doesn't seem to be a respecter of position. Regardless of what we do for a living, cheaters are in our midst. It seems to be so prevalent today that the question isn't who is cheating but rather — who isn't?

Too many treat their most important relationships casually and their commitments to them as optional. Our microwave society mentality (quick and easy) has infiltrated our most sacred institution — marriage. Many cheaters try to justify their reasons for infidelity. To a cheater, their reasons make sense. Perfect sense. To those who have never strayed they just don't understand why.

Our thirst for affairs has become so accepted and normal in our culture that most shows on television mention an infidelity reference somewhere throughout the episode. Not to be

took the easy road. It tells others that you were willing to cut corners in your most primary relationship. No one ever admires a cheater. No one looks up to an adulterer. Even if you did a lifetime of good, this one bad deed can erase it all and condemn you (Jude 7).

5. You will lose your moral authority. It's hard to tell your children (or others) to be righteous when they know you weren't. Saying "Do as I say, not as I do" is the fastest way to lose the respect of others (Matt. 23:2-3). Every moral judgment you make in the future will be weighed against your adulterous action of the past. It doesn't mean you can't speak the truth in the future; it just means that few will listen to you (Matt. 5:13-14).

6. You will create trust issues for your spouse. Forever. You will single-handedly damage the precious self-esteem of the one you promised to love. Every relationship with you they have thereafter, you will be one that they struggle to trust. If that were not enough, you will rock the world of children and cause them to question the stability of every meaningful relationship they have. For children, their parents' relationship is their anchor and cheating cuts the line.

7. You will lose your standard of living. Depending on what you do for a living, you may lose your job. Many lose their home. Most end up with enormous court fees since cheating is usually the precursor to divorce. Betrayed spouses have a way of making you pay and that payment is always expensive. Every check you write is a constant reminder of your foolishness.

8. You will spend years trying to rebuild your life. Literally years. Even if you somehow weathered the storm financially, you will find it takes years for you to recover emotionally. It takes years for you to restore certain friendships, if you even do. It takes years for you to rebuild your character. It takes years to rebuild trust. It takes years to truly forgive yourself.

9. You will lose relationships. You will lose a lot of relationships. Lifelong friends will walk away. Close friends that you have helped countless times will not be around to help you. Even some family members who are supposed to love you no matter what will vanish. A cheater can end up living a very lonely life. It's hard for many people who used to call you friend to get past that skunk smell of disappointment.

10. You will increase your chances of getting an STD. Sexually transmitted diseases run rampant among promiscuous people. But your paramour is "clean," right? After all, they told you so. And if there is one thing we all know – we can trust a cheater and his/her word. As the saying goes, "There is honor among thieves." One helpful thought may be to assume that everyone but your spouse has an STD. That should curb your appetite for destruction.

11. The grass is not greener on the other side. The "grass is greener" idea is a common misconception. Because we have never been on that grass, we assume it must be better than where we currently stand. It's not. In fact, though it may look greener from a distance – once you get there and make yourself comfortable, something interesting happens – the grass changes color. This usually happens soon after you get caught. You will then see that patch of land differently. You will also have a strange desire for the green grass you left ... except now it is burned and won't let you back. The best way to enjoy green grass is to water your own yard.

12. Would you want this done to you? Thieves like to steal wallets but hate when it's done to them. If we all lived by the golden rule ("Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets," Matt. 7:12), most of life's problems would be solved overnight. Think about this action as if it were being done to you. The problem is that it requires

thought, and thinking is often the last concern a cheater has on his/her mind.

13. You will eventually regret this decision. In the heat of the moment, cheating appears to make sense. It feels good and sometimes even feels right. Feelings are deceitful. Soon afterward, your eyes will be opened and you will regret that you ever partook of the forbidden fruit (cf. Gen. 3:6-7). Don't we all have enough regrets in our lives? Why add another one – particularly one that can only destroy everything you have worked so hard to build? Your home may not be perfect but it sure beats living in a tent.

14. The pain outweighs the gain. No one ever says from their deathbed, "I wish I would have had an affair." No one ever leaves his lawyer's office with a smile on their face – grateful for the experience. No one loses dear friends and is glad he has one less Christmas card to receive this year. The loss is immeasurable. The pain can be unbearable. Entire kingdoms can be lost for a few minutes of pleasure. It is just not worth it. In November 2008 I looked in the mirror and did not like what I saw. I was finally at the point where I was willing to admit the dark side of my soul. Days later, I confessed to my wife, children, and church that I had been unfaithful. Needless to say, it was the most difficult series of conversations I have ever had in my life. There is no pain like watching people you love sob in tears because of your selfish actions. Within one year, I had lost everything dear and precious to me.

The 14 points above come from an extremely painful personal experience. Truly Solomon was right when he wrote to the man contemplating adultery: "Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death" (Prov. 7:25-27). I know what it's like to fall and not be able to get up. Over the last several years, I have accumulated ►

... Continued from page 27

many scars and now try to learn from each and everyone of them. I have hit “rock bottom” and realized something amazing in the process. God is still here, even if others are not.

That’s my story. Chapters are still being written. It’s not easy to share but, as I read the Bible with a humble set of eyes, I see that it is filled with great men and women who have fallen in some pretty big ways. With the proper repentance and the blood of Christ, God forgives them and uses them in spite of their past.

(Adapted from Rod Arters; though this man’s background is in denomination-ism, his insights about the horrific impact of adultery are 100% true.) <https://rodarters.wordpress.com/2012/11/29/before-you-cheat-14-things-you-need-to-know/>

[accessed 1-20-2015 by Ron Halbrook]

Full article included this at the end:

The 14 points above come from an extremely painful personal experience. I know what it’s like to fall and not be able to get up. Over the last four years, I have had to learn how to tear down my emotional walls – walls that assisted me in getting in trouble in the first place. I have come to understand the problem with pedestals, especially in the church, and have wrestled with the mechanics of forgiveness, even forgiving me. As difficult as it is, I now embrace my past and appreciate the many regrets. They have become precious to me. As a result of my actions, I have accumulated many scars and now try to learn from each and everyone of them. I have hit “rock bottom” and realized something amazing in the process. God is still here, even if others are not.

That’s my story. Chapters are still being written. It’s not easy to share but it’s mine nonetheless and I finally accept it as part of HIStory. As I read the Bible with a humble set of eyes these days, I see that the Book is filled with great men and women who have fallen in some pretty huge ways. God picks them up and uses them in spite of their past. I’ve come to learn that we all fall, just in different ways.

If I can help any of you get up from a fall, let me know. I’m merely one beggar telling other beggars where to find Bread. **T**



Kyle Campbell

Kyle Campbell has been preaching for the church in Lufkin, TX, for the last ten years. He has married to his wife Jenni for 23 years and they have two children, Ramsay and Graysonkylec@consolidated.net



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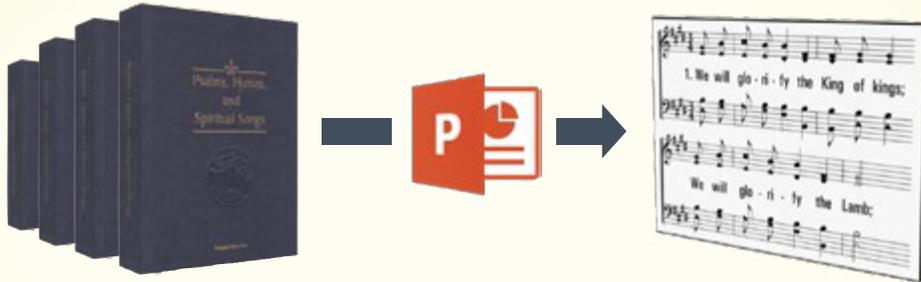
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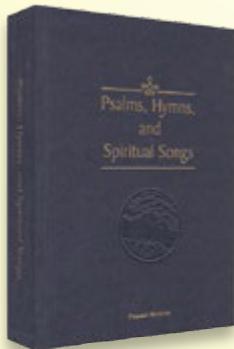
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“Pretty Is as Pretty Does”

By Joanne Beckley

All the time I was growing up I wanted to be beautiful. I was impatient to finally be allowed to wear makeup, stylish clothing, and high-heeled shoes. I would go to the mirror – but I would never see the beautiful woman I longed to see ... Instead, my father and mother kept talking to me about developing a beautiful heart. If I would do this, then everyone would see beauty in my face. Mother would say, “Pretty is as pretty does.” I know she meant that what we *do* is more important than how we look – but I still kept checking my mirror, anyway ... Even though I kept thinking of that mirror, I also listened to my mother and father. What did they teach me? How to live for Jesus. Simple, isn’t it. Just learn to please Jesus.

One of the ways my mother taught me to love Jesus was by the way she dressed, what she said and what she did. She remained modestly dressed even within the family home and taught me to do the same in front of my brother and father. What standard did she use to make her decisions? God’s standard, of course! Because she dressed modestly, I wanted to copy her. But when I grew older and wanted to be like the other girls, to feel like I belonged, I began to desire more than my mother was willing to let me do. I now had to make a choice. I had to ask myself some questions: Who has the right to rule my life? Did God make it impossible to obey Him? Why not? Do I return His love? Am I thankful for

His love? Can I obey Him in the way HE wanted me to dress and act?

Young ladies, yes, you have to make a choice in how you dress. Dress is not neutral!

Everyone has a dress code – either because you thought carefully about your choice from a moral, God-driven standpoint, or because you let someone else think for you and you have accepted their choice. You say, never? Hmm, when you pop into clothing stores, what are you looking for but for “fashion” clothes designed by ungodly men and women whose god is big money. What makes big money? S.E.X! What kind of fashion clothing? To reveal the body! “One fashion designer (J Pollard) said, “The deliberate concealment of certain parts of the body originated not as a way of discouraging sexual interest, but as a clever device for arousing – covering the body in such a way as to exaggerate and draw attention to the naked body underneath.”

So the real choice over our standards of dress is between man as lawgiver (Sex! Pride! Money!) or God as lawgiver (modest clothing). God has always cared about how women *and* men dress (Gen 3:6-11,21). When Adam and Eve sinned they recognized that their naked bodies must be covered, but God had to give them guidance about how much of their bodies must be covered. What God provided we know is modest in His eyes. When we read of God’s design for his priests’ clothing, it can give us even

more understanding of modest clothing (Exod. 28:40-42).

1 Timothy 2:9-10

In like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, (well ordered, honourable, respectable, tasteful, presenting themselves as children of God) with propriety (with a sense of shame toward nakedness, thus standing respectfully before God) and moderation (to be of sound mind, thinking reasonably and rationally), not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.

1 Peter 3:3-4

Do not let your adornment be merely outward (misplaced focus, example Isa. 3:16-24) – arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel – rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.

Modesty is not just about clothing. It is an attitude, a way of behaviour and therefore tied together with purity, humility, moderation, propriety, shamefacedness, and reverence. Thus, modesty also includes consideration of how we walk and sit. Notice how the Scriptures describe a prostitute’s walk (Isa. 3:16-17).

1 Timothy 2:9-10 and 1 Peter 3:3-6 teach us how we are not to focus on

how we might dress ourselves in an expensive, stand out, showy manner, but instead we must focus on our service to God – good works performed with humility. Until we settle this matter of who is going to set the standard of dress in our hearts, we will not allow the Scriptures to teach us to wisely apply the many principles that must guide our choice of dress code.

Yes, modesty is an issue of the heart. And if the heart is true and right with God, it will exercise inner self-government before God, with outward evidence of humility and purity from a genuine love for Christ. People will read your heart by looking at the clothes you wear! Make sure Jesus is shining within you.

We are in a battle against Satan in our culture. The lust of the flesh (1 John 2:16) is one of Satan's strongest tools. We are bombarded with messages of sexuality – TV, newspapers, magazines, billboards, radio. We can rarely find modest clothing in the shops ... All of these things numb and dull our senses as to what is appropriate dress.

Young ladies, you are not alone. There are other good young women who are trying to live for Jesus. I know it will take extra effort to consider what you wear and the difficulty you will have in finding modest clothing. It might even cost more if you make your clothing yourself or have it made. Yes, it will be really hard to stand out, to be different, to not be part of the "in" crowd, to not be accepted. But you *can* make the right choice. It is worth going against the crowd. You will be developing true beauty of the heart and you will be a beautiful woman long after your friends have shrivelled up and are looking like old ladies. You are going to be full of life. So pay the price now, and watch how God will bless you with good fruit.

Eye Magnets!

Let us think. Men are created by God to be visually stimulated. The following list of problems has been made by

young men who want to encourage you to dress modestly:

1. *Tight clothing.* If you are wearing jeans that are the exact imprint of your seat, they're too tight. If you can see each cheek outlined, it's too tight. If you can't grab any loose fabric from your chest, your shirt is too tight. (Look in a mirror. Can you see the shape of your breasts? Yes? Then your blouse/sweater is too tight.)

2. *Too thin.* Thin material is very clingy and reveals too much of the exact shape you are. Men do not need to wonder if you are wearing a bra or not – or waiting to catch you standing in the sunlight. Is it a hot day? What then?

3. *Low-cut.* If you can even begin to see cleavage, go back to the closet and put on more clothes. Showing even a little makes the guys imagine what is further down.

4. *Too short.* Can you see your thigh when you sit down? Legs are attractive and men don't stop there, and mentally take your skirt off. And on the sports field? What then?

5. *Midriff showing.* Men will imagine their hands going up under your top and reaching downward into your panties.

6. *Slits in skirts.* Stop and think. Why have the fashion people created the slit? Because the skirt is too tight? Yes, and because the slit moves a man's eye upward for a sexual thrill. Men cannot help the desire to look at an attractive woman because God has created them to be visually stimulated. What they do with the thought *after* they look is their responsibility and God holds them accountable (Matt. 5:28; Luke 17:1-2). Why would we want to make them struggle with sin? Do we just not care? Is that why women dress so indecently? Do we want to cause another woman's husband to sin?

Let us help our men, young and old, to make it to heaven! *Be* that Christian woman you say you are and *live* it. If we have any doubts about our choices, we

need to examine our conscience. We can ask ourselves how we would feel if we were standing before a preacher or president. Imagine that Jesus is sitting beside us. Would He be comfortable with what we are wearing? (He is there with you, He sees, He knows...)

Scriptures that help us to understand our responsibility to dress modestly:

Genesis 3:6-10 and 3:21. God made clothes for Adam and Eve, but remember they had already put on enough clothing to hide their private parts. God is saying they needed to cover *more* of their bodies.

Exodus 28:42. God required the priests to wear undergarments when serving God.

Isaiah 47:1-3. God is speaking against wicked Babylon, but notice how God describes a girl who is no longer pure.

Read Isaiah 3:16-24 which is a description that God condemns in women who are concentrating on the outward body instead of their inward heart.

Song of Solomon 4:5. This is a description of sexual suggestion to make the husband want sex with his wife. But if a girl or woman allows her breasts to show (even without the nipple showing) she is enticing *any* man to look and lust after her.

Proverbs 5:18-19. Again, the proverb is speaking of a married man who should desire only his wife – notice what should be exposed *only* for him.

1 Timothy 2:8-10. Christian women should be concerned with matching their clothing to what is supposed to rule in their hearts. No one can confuse her with a prostitute (Prov. 7:10). Paul also encourages Christian women to dress without great show.

"Proper clothing" – well-ordered, honorable, respectable, tasteful.

"Modestly" – behaving reverently

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“Discreetly” – to be of sound mind; sane; thinking reasonably and rationally.

1 Peter 3:3-4. What is in your heart decides what you will wear. Titus 2:5 describes what should be in her heart.

Matthew 5:27-28. Any man can be lost eternally because he is enticed by a woman exposing her skin too much. Don’t be the one that causes him to sin (Matt. 18:6-7).

Matthew 5:13-16. When people see you in shorts that ride up your thigh in back or in blouses that dip down into your breasts, they are not being impressed with the light of Christ. When boys and men see the stomach showing they are waiting to see what else they can see – and it isn’t the light of Christ shining in your eye!

Titus 2:3-5. Older women are to be an example to the younger and to teach the younger women to live pure lives, in reverent behaviour “that the word of God may not be dishonoured.”

Ephesians 4:1. Christians are to walk in a manner worthy of Christ.

Hebrews 12:14. The word “sanctification” speaks of moral purity, set apart as righteous. Verse 15 says this is a command!

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22. We are to carefully examine our hearts, our speech, and our actions (which includes the way we dress). We are to avoid even the *appearance* of evil. That means if we are behaving so as to get someone to have sexual thoughts by what we wear, we are not walking in holiness.

Galatians 5:19. Dressing immodestly is a work of the flesh and is condemned.

Excuses

1. Some boys/men will lust no matter what I wear.
 - a. That may be true, but at least you won’t be the cause.
 - b. Even if this is true, does that mean you can still wear immodest clothing?
2. If someone lusts after me, that’s his problem not mine. He ought to learn to control his mind.
 - a. No, it is your problem (Matt. 18:6-7).
 - b. If you dress in revealing suggestive clothing you are guilty of lasciviousness (Gal. 5:19).
3. It is hot and I dress for comfort in the summer. If that means shorter shorts, lower cut dresses and blouses, and shorter skirts that barely cover what underwear covers then so be it – I have to keep cool!
 - a. Nothing is wrong with keeping cool as long as we cover ourselves the way God wants us to.
 - b. Are you willing to throw away God’s standard of decency just to keep cool? Do men and women stop lust just because it is hot?
4. It is none of your business what I wear!
 - a. God made it His business. God made parents responsible. God made you responsible to please Him.
 - b. The fact that I love you and want you to go to heaven causes me to talk with you about what you are wearing and how it can cause you to miss eternal life.
5. I like the way I look. It makes me feel good. It makes me fit in with the crowd.
 - a. Notice who you want to please. You are ignoring that God wants you to be pure in heart and clothing. You are ignoring how you can cause others to sin.

- b. Do you like the boys? Then why are you doing them harm?

PARENTS, we are to model a consistent example (Deut. 6:5-7). You cannot have a double standard in how you dress and what you teach your girls.

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates (Deut. 6:5-9).

Parents are charged by God to protect their children. Modesty is just *one* area that must be done. We must teach the principle of ownership. Our bodies are not our own (1 Cor. 6:19-20). They belong to God. Jesus is Lord over all. You do not belong to this world. God is trusting us to respect our bodies, our beauty and how we use it. It is necessary to constantly train our children from a young age, encouraging right choices right up until they marry. Teach your daughters how to be modest around their dad, around their brothers. It should be a way of life. Make it the normal, natural way to dress, behave *all* the time. Emphasize that they cannot make other girls their standard for dress. The issue of your children’s clothing must not be a bigger issue than their hearts. Help them to recognize that it is pride that will get in the way of choosing appropriate clothing. Young women, *we must* understand the power of our influence on men and how we can destroy their good intentions.

Let us teach and encourage our girls. Nothing hurts a young lady more than ►

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to be accused of dressing like a harlot who is trying to seduce a man when she doesn't realize she is doing so. *What can we as a congregation do to help our young people?*

Education! Confront the problem before the problem exists. Teach with great regularity and boldness the principles of godly living. Teach by example! (Titus 2:3-5, 7). Live godly lives before one another and this will accomplish more than a hundred sermons and classes. Expectation! We need to *expect* those who say they are children of God to act like

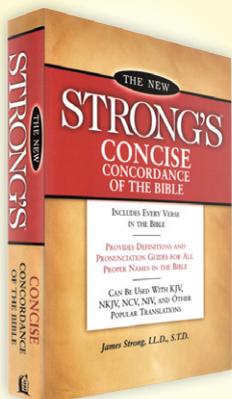
it! Examination! It is critical that we "examine everything carefully and prayerfully, lest there be any among us who may fall short of God's gracious gift of salvation" (Heb. 12:14-15; 1 Thess. 5:21-22). If one among us is behaving immorally, including provocative apparel, designed to entice lustful thoughts in others, to be something less than walking in holiness, then we owe it to that person, as well as to the congregation, to call them to more responsible behavior.

Talk! Reason with Bibles opened when talking to a Christian who is

not dressing modestly. Help them to write the meanings of important words in their Bibles and make sure they understand the words. Not only should young people be brought to an awareness of how to dress herself but their parents also need to be educated. If such a talk is done in love, and with God's Word as the guiding standard, then precious souls can be steered back onto the straight and narrow way of Christ.

The church is the bride of Christ. Let us honour and protect His bride! **11**

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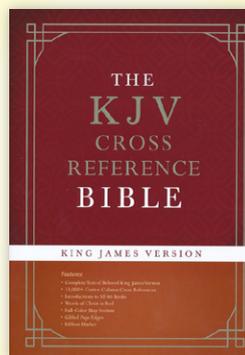
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EDITORIAL

than align herself with Jericho and the Canaanites.

Rahab's Works

She hid the spies (Josh. 2:4-7). She protected them by telling the king's messengers that the men had already left the city. She treated the men with kindness (Josh. 2:12) and instructed them in how to avoid being caught by those who sought their lives (go to the mountains to the west and hide three days, rather than immediately heading east to Israel's camp at Abel-Shittim, Josh. 2:16). Hers was not a "dead faith" or faith without works. She showed her faith by her works – how she treated the spies and her decision to dwell among and be a part of the Israelites (Josh. 6:25). She showed her alliance with God's people in following through on her commitment to the spies not to tell their whereabouts or their business, to gather her family into her house along the wall, and to provide the scarlet cord as an indicator of where her family was gathered.

Rahab's Destiny

There is nothing else said about Rahab in the Old Testament than in the events of Jericho. However, she is one of four women mentioned in Matthew's account of the genealogy of Jesus: Tamar (Matt. 1:3; see Gen. 38), Bathsheba (who is not mentioned by name, rather she is described as "her that had been the wife of Urias," Matt. 1:6), Mary, Jesus's mother. The author appears to leave it to the reader to conclude that the false charges circulating about Mary's giving birth to Jesus under suspicious circumstances are groundless, and that Mary should be held in esteem just as are Tamar, Bathsheba, and Rahab.

The record of Rahab is a narrative of God's amazing grace in redeeming

a prostitute, allowing her to be a member of God's covenant people, and in the lineage of His Messiah. And, the point is the same as Paul said with reference to himself: "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life" (1 Tim. 1:12-16).

Conclusion

If God would and could save this prostitute, He can save each one of us who come to him in faith seeking a clean conscience through the blood of Jesus (1 Pet. 3:21). That is a compelling message for all to consider: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). **T**

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ChurchDirectory

The following congregations have paid for advertising in *Truth Magazine*. Inclusion of churches in this list is not an attempt by *Truth Magazine* to certify their faithfulness to God. We do believe the vast majority are striving to uphold the Word in faith and practice.

To make changes to your ad, contact:
tmmikewillis@gmail.com

ALASKA

ANCHORAGE

Rose Street church of Christ
3124 Rose Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: David Webb (907) 350-8358

ALABAMA

BIRMINGHAM

Pine Lane church of Christ
3955 Pine Lane Bessemer, AL
(N. side of Exit #6 at I459)
Bible Study 9:15 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: David Deason (205) 425-2352

BIRMINGHAM

Vestavia Hills church of Christ
2325 Old Columbiana Rd. (near I-65 & Hwy. 31)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: David Banning and Doy Moyer
(205) 822-0018 or 822-0082

FLORENCE

College View church of Christ
851 N. Pine St. (Next to University Campus)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.,
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Kenny Moorer (256) 766-0403

HUNTSVILLE

Chapman Acres church of Christ
2137 Penhall Dr., NE (I-565, Exit 21, right on
Maysville Road left on Chapman Avenue,
right on Penhall Drive)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Isaac Muñoz, www.chapmanacres.org

MOBILE

West Mobile church of Christ
129 Hillcrest Road
Worship 9-9:30 A.M., Bible Study 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Worship 10:30-11:30 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(251) 342-4144 or 342-2041

MONTGOMERY

Eastbrook church of Christ
650 Coliseum Blvd.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Wednesday 6 P.M., Bldg: (334) 272-4232
Contacts: Brian Moore: (334) 279-1077
Charles Martin: (334) 283-2983

NORTHPORT

Northwood church of Christ
4601 Northwood Estates Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: David Maxson (205) 339-6122
<http://www.justchristians.info>

PARRISH

McArthur Heights
church of Christ, 5082 Hwy. 269
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
(205) 686-5978 or 686-5620

SCOTTSBORO

Eastside church of Christ
John T. Reid Pkwy., (Hwy. 72, 2 mi. E. of Hwy. 35)
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Wayne Chappell, Sr.
(256) 574-1603 or 575-2664

ARKANSAS

CONWAY

Hwy. 65 church of Christ
271 Highway 65N
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Bruce Reeves, Bldg: (501) 336-0052

CONWAY

Eastside church of Christ
1540 E. Oak Street 72302
www.conwaychurchofchrist.org
Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 A.M.
Sun. Worship 10:30 A.M.
Sun. Worship 6 P.M., Wed. Bible Classes 7 P.M.
Preacher: Gary Prince, gwprince@juno.com

CONWAY

Prince Street church of Christ
2655 Prince St., (Hwy. 60)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(501) 339-6917

FORT SMITH

South 46th St. church of Christ
2323 South 46th Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: John Hagenbuch
Bldg: (479) 782-0588

HARRISON

Capps Rd. Church of Christ
407 Bella Vista Dr.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Norman E. Sewell
www.cappsroad.org
870-741-9104 or 870-741-5151

JACKSONVILLE

church of Christ
1807 McArthur Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(501) 982-6413 - church bldg
(501) 533-8801 - Jason Lankford
www.mcarthurdrccoc.com

JONESBORO

StoneRidge church of Christ
514 Airport Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Dick Blackford (870) 933-9134
email: rlb612@aol.com

LITTLE ROCK

church of Christ
7115 West 65th Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Don McClain, Res. (501) 847-6677
Study (501) 568-1062

PARAGOULD

Village Creek church of Christ
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., Sunday 5 P.M.
Evangelist: Dwight Harrison
www.villagecreekchurchofchrist.com

PINE BLUFF

church of Christ
4700 W. 28th Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:35 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Clarence W. Fell (870) 879-2097

POCAHONTAS

Westside church of Christ
3644 Hwy 90 West • P.O. Box 43
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:45 A.M.
Afternoon 1 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
Herbert Starr, Evangelist

TEXARKANA

church of Christ
2301 Franklin Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Rick Boswell

ARIZONA

GLENNDALE

church of Christ
6801 N. 60th Avenue
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:40 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Steven Harper

TUCSON

church of Christ
145 N. Country Club Road
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Hugh Delong
(520) 326-3634 or 722-3179

CALIFORNIA

ALAMEDA

Alameda church of Christ
2167 Santa Clara Avenue
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Call Us! (510) 523-9547
www.alamedachurchofchrist.com

BELLFLOWER

Rose Ave. church of Christ
17903 Ibbetson Ave.
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(562) 866-5615, <http://www.roseavenue.org>

CANOGA PARK

(San Fernando Valley)
church of Christ
7054 Winnetka Ave.
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Afternoon 2:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Minister: Bruce Evans (818) 795-5566
Spanish congregation (818) 701-0112

FOLSOM

church of Christ
900 E. Natomas St. • P.O. Box 492
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Sun. Worship 10:30
A.M., Sun. Bible Study 4 P.M., Wed.
Bible Study 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: David Posey
(530) 676-9514 or (916) 608-4866
www.folsomchurch.com

FREMONT

Centerville church of Christ
3885 Beacon Ave, Ste D., Fremont, CA 94538
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., (510) 794-7659

LONG BEACH

church of Christ
3433 Studebaker Rd.
Bible Study 9:50 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
JP Flores (562) 420-2363
Mark Reeves (562) 420-9577
www.JustChristians.org

OCEANSIDE-VISTA

church of Christ
2020 Sunset Dr.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(760) 940-8003

COLORADO

GRAND JUNCTION

church of Christ Western Slope
2923 North Ave., Unit 3
Grand Junction, CO 81504
Worship 10:30 A.M., Evening 5 P.M.
Wed. Bible Study 6 P.M.
www.churchofchristwesternslope.com

LOVELAND

Poudre Valley church of Christ
4202 North Garfield Avenue
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Afternoon 1:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Richard Thetford (970) 667-0469
www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

MONTROSE

San Juan church of Christ
1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 2 P.M., (970) 249-8116

DELAWARE

MILTON

Lighthouse church of Christ
14574 Coastal Hwy. Rt. 1
Worship 9:30 A.M., Sunday School 10:45 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., (302) 644-7379

FLORIDA

BROOKSVILLE

church of Christ
604 W. Fort Dade Ave.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: V.C. McCormick (352) 796-9803

DESTIN

South Walton church of Christ
64 Casting Lake Road
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(850) 622-3817
www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com

FORT LAUDERDALE

Northside church of Christ
912 NW 19th St.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(954) 763-1404

FORT MYERS

church of Christ
200 Pine Island Rd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Vernon E. Ford (239) 567-2170

FORT MYERS

Southside church of Christ
13641 Learning Court
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: David P. Schmidt
(239) 433-2838 or 482-2158

FORT WALTON BEACH

church of Christ
6 Lane Dr., Mary Esther, FL
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Joey Rankin (850) 244-9222

FROSTPROOF

Frostproof church of Christ
40 W. "A" St., Frostproof, FL 33483
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., (863) 635-2607 or 635-4278

GENEVA

church of Christ
Ave. C and 2nd St.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
(407) 349-9998

JACKSONVILLE

Marietta church of Christ
8150 Driggers Street
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jamie Rhoden, (904) 781-5704
or 693-0432, www.mariettacoc.com

KEY LARGO

Key Largo church of Christ
100695 N. Overseas Hwy.
33037 m.m. 100.7 on US 1
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: William LeDent (305) 451-1194

MIAMI

church of Christ
Eglise du Christ de Miami
8343 NE 3rd Court
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Minister: Junot Joseph (305) 244-8295

MIAMI

Flagler Grove church of Christ
(Nearest to Airport), 500 N.W. 53rd Ave.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: John Buttrick (305) 634-5924

MIAMI

church of Christ
12780 Quail Roost Dr.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Clark Pace
(305) 233-9590 or (954) 430-1437

OCALA

Anthony church of Christ
9778 N.E. Jacksonville Rd., Anthony, FL 32617
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Greg Cruz (352) 629-5505
www.anthonycoc.com

ORLANDO

Azalea Park church of Christ
6800 Lake Underhill Rd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(407) 277-7931 or 628-2995

ORLANDO

church of Christ at S. Bumby
3940 S. Bumby Ave.
Sunday Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship w/ communion 10:55 A.M. (No Evening Service), Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Adam Willingham
Office: (407) 851-8031

PALMETTO

Palmetto church of Christ
1575 14th Avenue W.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
www.palmettochurchofchrist.com
(941) 722-1307

PANAMA CITY BEACH

Beach church of Christ
8910 Front Beach Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(850) 234-2521

PENSACOLA

East Hill church of Christ
2078 E. Nine Mile Rd. at Camberwell Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Hal Hammons
(850) 479-2130 or (850) 602-8420

SEFFNER

church of Christ
621 E. Wheeler Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Bobby Witherington (813) 684-1297
www.seffnercoc.org

GEORGIA

CENTERVILLE

Centerville church of Christ
250 Collins Ave. (Near Robins AFB)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: J. Wiley Adams (478) 922-1158

COLUMBUS

River City Church of Christ
3900 River Road, Columbus GA 31904
Bible Class 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists Jeff McCrary & Bo Couchman
(205) 451-9028, rivercitychurchofchrist.com
backtothebible@rivercitychurchofchrist.com

CONYERS

Rockdale church of Christ
East Metro Atlanta, 705 Smyrna Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Forrest Bacon, elder (770) 918-1932
Wendell Holland, elder (770) 761-6987
Building (770) 929-3973

PINE MTN. VALLEY

church of Christ
Route 116 (near Callaway Gardens)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Tommy W. Thomas
(706) 628-5117 or 628-5229

SAVANNAH

Coastal church of Christ
7201 Johnny Mercer Blvd
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 6:30 P.M., Evangelist: Ron Nelson
ronaldnelson1@gmail.com, (843) 441-7242
www.coastalchurchofchrist.com

VALDOSTA

Gonwood church of Christ
4030 Mulligan Rd. (4 miles S. of Moody, Next to Fred's Store on Bemiss Rd.), Valdosta, GA 31605
Sun. Bible Class 10 A.M., Sun. Worship 11 A.M.
Sun. Evening 6 P.M., Wed. Eve. Bible Class 7 P.M.
(229) 219-8449 or (229) 300-3739
agospelpreacher@gmail.com

VALDOSTA

church Of Christ
4313 North Valdosta Rd.
(Located 1 mile E. of Exit 22 off I-75)
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Communion 11 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(229) 244-8630, www.northvaldostacoc.com

HAWAII

ISLAND OF OAHU

Leeward church of Christ
94-1233 Waipahu St., Waipahu, HI 96797
(15 mi. from Honolulu; 18 mi. from Waikiki)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
www.leewardchurchofchrist.org

IOWA

GRINNELL

church of Christ
1402 Third Ave.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
(641) 521-6485, (641) 236-3883
www.grinnellcoc.com

DES MOINES

church of Christ
1310 N.E. 54th Ave.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:40 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., (515) 262-6799

IDAHO

BLACKFOOT

church of Christ
370 N. Shilling • P.O. Box 158-83221
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(208) 785-6168 or 681-1552

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO

church of Christ
1514 West 74th Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: James E. Scott
Bldg. (773) 224-9279, (708) 339-6126

DOWNERS GROVE

church of Christ
1236 63rd St., (1 and 1/2 mile E. of I355)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:55 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(630) 968-0760 • www.dgccc.org

GLENN ELLYN

church of Christ
796 Prairie, 60137
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Joseph T. Novak
(630) 529-2149, (630) 858-2290

MATTOON

Southside church of Christ
1100 S. 17th Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(217) 234-7302

PALATINE

church of Christ
(N.W. Chicago Suburb), 1050 N. Deer Ave.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 2 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(847) 967-9667

SOUTH HOLLAND

Southeast church of Christ
16224 S Vincennes Ave.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Donald Hawkins, (708) 339-1008
www.southeastchurchofchrist.com

INDIANA

CLARKSVILLE

Clarksville church of Christ
407 W. Lewis & Clark Parkway
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Brian Anderson (812) 944-2305
or (812) 948-9917, www.clarksvillechurch.org

GREENWOOD

Greenwood church of Christ
371 W. Main Street
Sun. Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 4:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Neil Tremblett
(317) 888-8288
www.churchofchristatgreenwood.org

HOBART

church of Christ
300 N. Liberty Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jerry Cleek (219) 942-2663

INDIANAPOLIS

Castleton church of Christ
7701 East 86th St., 46256
Sun. Worship 9:30 A.M., Bible Study 10:25 A.M.
Worship 11:15 A.M., Wed. Bible Study 7 P.M.
(317) 710-1204

JAMESTOWN

church of Christ
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:25 A.M.
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Greg King
(765) 676-6404 or (765) 891-9443
www.jamestowncoc.com

MARION

South Marion church of Christ
3629 S. Washington St.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Alan Jones (765) 922-7602
www.southmarionchurchofchrist.org

OOITIC

church of Christ
400 Lafayette Ave. • P.O. Box 34
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M. Wednesday 7 P.M.
(812) 279-4332

PEKIN

church of Christ
(First St. & Karnes Ct.)
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jeremy Goen
(812) 967-3437 or 967-3520
www.pekinchurchofchrist.com

PLAINFIELD

church of Christ West
2028 Stafford Rd., Ste. C., (Marsh Shopping Cntr.)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Johnie Edwards
(317) 964-9404 or (317) 839-1769
www.churchofchristwest.org

SAINT LEON, IN

Church of Christ
7140 Hyland Rd., Guildford, IN 47022
I74 exit 164 1 mile south on SR 1
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
812-637-1252 or 513-367-7871

SALEM

Westside church of Christ
2000 West State Rd. 56
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(812) 883-2033, www.westsidechurchofchrist.net

TRAFALGAR

Spearsville Rd. church of Christ, 6244 S. 500W.
(1.2 mi. S. of Hwy. 135)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Ed Rangel. (317) 878-5969
www.trafalgarchurch.com

KANSAS

TOPEKA

17th Street church of Christ
5600 SW 17th St.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(785) 235-8687 or 273-7977
www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org

KENTUCKY

AUSTIN

Peter's Creek church of Christ
856 Thomerson Park Rd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening (Nov-Mar) 5 P.M., Evening (Apr-Oct) 6 P.M.
Evangelist: Justin Monts (270) 404-2171 or 646-0498, www.peterscreekcoc.com

BEAVER DAM

church of Christ
1235 Williams St.
Worship 10 A.M., Bible Study After Worship
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Mike Thomas
(270) 274-4451 or 274-4486

BRANDENBURG

Brandenburg church of Christ
612 Broadway
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Charles J. White (270) 422-3878

CAMPBELLSVILLE

Sunny Hill Dr. church of Christ
(near the Dairy Queen)
AM Worship 9:30 A.M., AM Bible Study 10:30 A.M.
AM Worship 11:30 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Lee (270) 789-1651
stevelee4510@windstream.net
www.sunnyhillcoc.com

CANEYVILLE

Caneysville church of Christ
103 N. Main St. • P.O. Box 233
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs (270) 589-4167,
(270) 274-3065 or (502) 724-2231

DANVILLE

church of Christ
385 E. Lexington Ave.
Worship 10 A.M., Bible Study 11:15 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Scott Vifquain (859) 236-4204

FRANKLIN

31-W North church of Christ
1733 Bowling Green Road
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Monts, (270) 586-3978
www.31wchurchofchrist.com

HODGENVILLE

Hodgenville church of Christ
613 S Lincoln Blvd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Don Brady (270) 358-6053
Dbrady1295@aol.com

LEITCHFIELD

Mill St. church of Christ
733 Mill Street, Highway 62 E.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:55 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Michael Hardin
(270) 259-4968 or (270) 300-3239
www.millstreetchurchofchrist.org

LOUISVILLE

Valley Station church of Christ
1803 Dixie Garden Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Dudley Ross Spears (502) 937-2822

LOUISIANA

GONZALES

Southside church of Christ
405 Orice Roth Road, 70737, (Baton Rouge area)
Bible Class 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: R.J. Evans (225) 622-4587
rjevans@eatel.net

MANY

Lakeside church of Christ
12095 Texas Hwy. (Hwy. 6 W.)
12 miles west of Many
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(318) 256-9396

STONEWALL

DeSoto church of Christ
2071 Highway 171 (South of Shreveport)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(318) 925-2733

MARYLAND

SEVERN

Southwest church of Christ
805 Meadow Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Brandon Trout
(410) 969-1420 or (410) 551-6549
www.swcofchrist.com

RIVERDALE

Wildercroft church of Christ
6330 Auburn Ave., (Washington, D.C. area)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Antoine Holloway
(301) 474-7460 or (301) 741-0012

MAINE

PORTLAND

church of Christ • 856 Brighton Ave.
Leave Maine Turnpike at Exit 48
(Breakwater School)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Second service immediately following morning
worship. Mid-week Bible Study. Please call for
times & places. (207) 839-3075 or 839-8409

MICHIGAN

CEDAR SPRINGS

W. Michigan church of Christ
Sr. Citizen Center, 44 Park Street
(Grand Rapids Area)
Worship 11 A.M., Bible Study 12:30 P.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Joseph Gladwell, (616) 975-2778
westmichcof10@yahoo.com

MINNESOTA

DULUTH

church of Christ
4401 Glenwood St.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Bible Study 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Taylor Ladd (218) 728-3233

ST. CHARLES

church of Christ
636 Whitewater Ave.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., call for location
Bible Study 2:15 P.M.
FREE Bible correspondence studies
Evangelist: Robert Lehnertz (507) 534-2905

MISSISSIPPI

BOONEVILLE

Oakleigh Dr. church of Christ
101 Oakleigh Dr.
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Building: (662) 728-1942

CLINTON

McRaven Rd. church of Christ
301 McRaven Rd. (I20, exit 36)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Leonard White
(601) 925-9757 or 924-2645

MERIDIAN

Grandview church of Christ
2820 Grandview Ave.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Sun. Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
(601) 482-0543, (601) 479-3394 or (601) 934-3675
Contacts: Ron Cooper & Jim Young
youngins@comcast.net

MERIDIAN

7th St. church of Christ
2914 7th Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
(601) 483-3101

SOUTHAVEN

church of Christ
2110 E State Line Rd. (Exit I-55), (Memphis area)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: James A. Brown
(662) 342-1132 – church Building

MISSOURI

BLUE SPRINGS

Southside church of Christ
4000 SW Christiansen
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Brett Hogland (816) 228-9262

CAPE GIRARDEAU

North Cape church of Christ
121 S. Broadview St. Suite 2,
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M. CST/6 P.M. DST, Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jerry Lee Westbrook (573)334-9673

DONIPHAN

Southside church of Christ
Hwy. 142 E. ½ mile (P.O. Box 220)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(573) 996-3251 or 996-3513

FAIR GROVE

church of Christ
217 N. Orchard Blvd.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Walter Myers (417) 830-8972 or (417)
736-2663

KENNETT

church of Christ
703 Harrison St.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(573) 888-6778 or (870) 650-1648
Nolan Glover, Preacher, www.westsidchurchofchrist.us

LILBOURN

church of Christ
P.O. Box 270 • 211 Benton St.
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Shane Williams, (573) 688-2234
or 748-5204

RAYTOWN

Sterling Ave. church of Christ
5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Norman E. Fultz, (816) 356-3096
or 554-0836
www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org

ST. JAMES

church of Christ
685 Sidney St.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Lynn Huggins (573) 265-8628

ST. JOSEPH

County Line church of Christ
2727 County Line Rd.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 3 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(816) 279-4737
www.countylinechurchofchrist.com

NEBRASKA

BEATRICE

church of Christ • 7th and Bell
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., 233-4102 or 228-3827
www.churchofchrist7bell.com

NEW JERSEY

VAUXHALL

church of Christ
Milbourn Mall Suite 6., 2933 Vauxhall Rd.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Contact: Harry Persaud
phone: (908) 964-6356
cell: (908) 964-8570

NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE

Heights church of Christ
7801 Zuni Road, S.E.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Darrel Yontz (505) 266-7577
www.heightschurchofchrist.com

NEVADA

RENO

Central church of Christ
2450 Wrondel Way, Suite A
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(775) 786-2888

NORTH CAROLINA

CHARLOTTE

Charlotte church of Christ
5327 S. Tyron Street
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10: A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(704) 525-5655

HOPE MILLS

Gray's Creek church of Christ
Gray's Community Bldg., School Road
Worship 10 A.M., Bible Study 11 A.M.
(910) 321-9023 or (910) 423-2879

OHIO

BEAVERCREEK

Knollwood church of Christ
1031 Welford Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Afternoon 3 P.M., Wed. Afternoon 1 P.M.
Wed. Evening 7:30 P.M.
(937) 426-1422
www.knollwoodchurch.org

CINCINNATI

Blue Ash church of Christ
4667 Cooper Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Russell Unaway, Jr. (513) 891-3174
www.blueashchurchofchrist.com

CLEVELAND

Lorain Ave. church of Christ
13501 Lorain Ave.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(216) 476-0660 or (330) 725-3960, 723-0111

COLUMBUS

Laurel Canyon church of Christ
409 McNaughton Road
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(614) 868-1375, www.lccc.net

DAYTON

West Carrollton
28 W. Main Street, 45449
Early Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:25 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Michael Grushon (937) 866-5162
or 848-3779, www.wc-coc.org

FRANKLIN

Franklin church of Christ
6417 Franklin-Lebanon Rd. 45005
Sun. Bible Study 10 A.M.
Sun Worship 10:45 A.M.
Tues. Bible Study 6:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Josh Lee (937) 789-8055
or (937) 746-1249, www.franklin-church.org

FREMONT

church of Christ
3361 W. State Street, 1 mi. W. of Fremont
on U.S. Rt. 20
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(419) 849-3340 or 849-2980
www.fremontchurchofchrist.com

HAMILTON

Westview church of Christ
1040 Azel Ave.
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:45 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Eugene Ford (513) 856-9288

HILLIARD

church of Christ
4840 Cemetery Rd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(614) 876-4089

MANSFIELD

Southside church of Christ
687 Mansfield-Lucas Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 6 P.M.
James Bond: (419) 526-2868
Leon Bond: (419) 525-3684
church: (419) 522-8982

MARIETTA-RENO

Marietta-Reno church of Christ
80 Sandhill Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Daniel Ruegg: (740) 222-9160 or Steve Foutty:
(740) 473-9028

NEW RICHMOND

church of Christ
550 Washington St.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Contact: Dave Wylie (513) 553-6414
www.nrchurchofchrist.com

NORTHWOOD

Frey Road church of Christ
4110 Frey Rd. (Toledo Area)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Donald Jarabek
(419) 893-3566, (419) 691-0688

UHRICHSVILLE

church of Christ
638 Parrish Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Mid-week 6:30 P.M.

OKLAHOMA

MCALESTER

North A St. church of Christ
2120 No. A Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Rob Lungstrum, Cell: (918) 931-1362
Office: (918) 423-3445

OKLAHOMA CITY

Seminole Pointe church of Christ
16300 N. May Avenue
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: John M. Duvall (405) 340-3189
or 513-6691, www.seminolepointecofc.org

SWEET HOME

church of Christ
3702 E. Long Street
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Building: (541) 367-1599

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

church of Christ
7222 Germantown Ave., 19119
Bible Study 10:15 A.M., Worship 11:15 A.M.
Tuesday night 7 P.M.
Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr. (215) 248-2026
www.mtairychurchofchrist.org

SOUTH CAROLINA

BEAUFORT

church of Christ
2107 King Street
Parris Island: Call for times, services for recruits
only. Sunday 10 A.M., Wed. Bible Study 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Bryan Nash (843) 524-4400

COLUMBIA

Lower Richland church of Christ
3000 Trotter Rd. (Hopkins, SC)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(803) 730-0452, <http://lowerrichlandchurch.org>

ORANGEBURG

Southside church of Christ
1502 Binnicker Bridge Rd.
(Grange Building - Hwy 70)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11: A.M.
Evangelist: Fred England (803) 939-0672
www.southside-church.org

SUMTER

Woodland church of Christ
3370 Broad St. Extension
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. (803) 499-6023

WEST COLUMBIA

Airport church of Christ
4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302)
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Seth Mauldin, Buldg. (803) 834-6978
<http://airport-church-of-christ.com>

TENNESSEE

COLUMBIA

Jackson Hts. church of Christ
1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N
Bible Study 9:15 A.M., Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Mid-week 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Andrew Roberts & Shawn Jeffries:
(931) 388-6811, www.TheBibleWay.org

COLUMBIA

Mooresville Pike church of Christ
417 Mooresville Pike
(.8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 3:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(931) 388-5828 or (931) 381-7898
www.mooresvillepikecoc.com

JACKSON

Sunset View church of Christ
3618 Hwy 70 East
(Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Wilkerson (731) 967-0590
or 968-9851

JOHNSON CITY

Brookmead church of Christ
2428 Lakeview Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Kevin Kay (423) 282-6251 or 426-1836

JONESBOROUGH

11-E church of Christ
240 Headtown Road
Bible Study 10:30 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Evangelist: David Wheeler
(423) 557-9119 or (423) 948-6464
www.christianadmonisher.jigsy.com

KINGSTON SPRINGS

Kingston Springs church of Christ
350 North Main Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Walker, www.kscoc.com

MT. PLEASANT

Locust St. Church of Christ
108 Locust Street • Mt. Pleasant, TN 38474
931-379-3704 or 931-964-3924
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Daniel H. King, Sr.
www.lscoc.com

KINGSPORT

Kingsport church of Christ
4938 Fort Henry Dr. • P.O. Box 554
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:00 P.M., Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Tom Kinzel, Bldg.# (423) 239-3979
or (423) 579-2002 • www.kptcoc.org

MARYVILLE

Smoke Mt. church of Christ
2206 Montvale Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Harold Tabor (865) 977-4230
Lon Spurgeon (865) 388-8749
<http://tinyurl.com/smchurch>

MEMPHIS

Rocky Pt. Road church of Christ
516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
rockypointchurch@gmail.com
www.rockypointchurch.org

MURFREESBORO

Cason Lane church of Christ
1110 Cason Lane
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(615) 896-0090 (Building)
www.casonlanechurch.org

NASHVILLE

Bell Road church of Christ
1608 Bell Road
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Chris Pace (615) 833-4444

NASHVILLE

Hillview church of Christ
7471 Charlotte Pike
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(615) 952-5458 or (615) 356-7318
Evangelist: Lee Wildman

NASHVILLE

Perry Heights church of Christ
423 Donelson Pike
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:55 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Johnny Felker (615) 883-3118
<http://perryheights.faithweb.com>

PIGEON FORGE

King Branch Road church of Christ
560 King Branch Road
Worship 10 A.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Facilities available for Sunday evening services
upon request.
Evangelist: Roger Williams (865) 430-5980
www.KingBranchRoadchurchOfChrist.org

SHELBYVILLE

El Bethel church of Christ
1801 Hwy. 41-A North
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Donnie V. Rader (931) 607-9099
email: dvrader@live.com

SHELBYVILLE

Shelbyville Mills church of Christ
1222 W. Jackson St.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jeff Curtis (931) 607-9118
djcurtis1963@hotmail.com

TEXAS

ALLEN

West Allen church of Christ
1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (2 miles w. of Hwy. 75)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Jerry King (214) 504-0443
Building phone (972) 727-5355

ALVARADO

I-35 church of Christ
E. Service Rd. off I-35, N. of Alvarado
Bible Study 10:00 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M., Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
(817) 295-7277 or 790-7253

ALVIN

Adoue St. church of Christ
605 E. Adoue Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (281) 331-4953
or (832) 837-9038

AUSTIN

Schultz Lane church of Christ
Faber Rd. & Schultz Ln., Pflugerville, TX 78660
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 2 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Ron Lehde

BAYTOWN

church of Christ at Pruett & Lobit
701 North Pruett Street
Bible Study 9:45 A.M., Worship 10:40 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jesse Flowers (281) 515-8939
Building: (281) 422-5926, Weldon: (713) 818-1321

BEAUMONT

Dowlen Rd. church of Christ
3060 Dowlen Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Max Dawson, Kris Emerson &
Benjamin Lee (409) 866-1996

CONROE

Woodland Hills church of Christ
410 Woodland Hills Dr., 77303
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
phone: (936) 756-9322
www.conroechurch.com

CLEVELAND

church of Christ
310 E. Houston Street
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Robert Davis (281) 592-5676
www.clevelandchurchofchrist.org

CORPUS CHRISTI

Hwy. 9 church of Christ
Worship 10 A.M., Bible Study 11 A.M.
Worship 12 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Call for location: Keith Kalies (361) 776-2304
or Patrick Frazier (361) 235-1990

DICKINSON

church of Christ
2919 FM 517 Road E.
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 9:45 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M., (281) 534-4870
www.dickinsonchurchofchrist.org

DALLAS

Methodist Street church of Christ
211 Methodist St. • Red Oak TX, 75154
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: D. LeRoy Klice
(972) 576-3119 or 363-7672
www.methodiststreetchurchofchrist.com

DUNCANVILLE

Whispering Hills church of Christ
2126 S. Main (South Dallas)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(972) 298-2522, info@whchurchofchrist.net

EDNA
church of Christ
301 Robison Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(361) 782-5506 or 782-2844
Elders: J. Mercer, S. Mercer & G. Nordin

EL PASO
Eastridge church of Christ
3277 Pendleton Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(915) 855-1524

FORT WORTH
Woodmont church of Christ
6417 Landview (at Alta Mesa)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Afternoon 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Locklair (817) 292-4908
www.woodmontchurch.org

FORT WORTH
West Side church of Christ
6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(817) 738-7269

GRANBURY
church of Christ
4313 Old Granbury Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
817-913-4209 or 817-279-3351

HOUSTON
Fry Rd. church of Christ
2510 Fry Road (77084)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Bob Pulliam: (281) 832-4633, www.fryroad.org

HOUSTON
Spring Woods church of Christ
9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Road
Worship 9 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Evening 6 P.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist (713) 419-1750
www.springwoodschurchofchrist.com

IRVING
Westside church of Christ
2320 Imperial Dr. (closest to DFW Airport)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Mark Roberts (972) 986-9131
www.JustChristians.com

LANCASTER
Pleasant Run church of Christ
831 W. Pleasant Run Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(972) 227-1708 or 227-2598

LUBBOCK
Indiana Ave. church of Christ
6111 Indiana Avenue
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(806) 795-3377
www.lubbockindianaavecofc.com

LUFKIN
Timberland Dr. church of Christ
912 S. Timberland Drive
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Harold Hancock & Reagan McClenny
(936) 634-7110 or 632-7070

MANSFIELD
Northside church of Christ
1820 Mansfield-Webb Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Tom Roberts (817) 466-3160

MIDLAND
Woodcrest Drive church of Christ
1401 Woodcrest Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 4 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jay Martin
(432) 689-0955 or (432) 620-0762

NACOGDOCHES
Stallings Dr. church of Christ
3831 N.E. Stallings Drive
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelists: Randy Harshbarger & Jay Taylor

PLANO
Spring Creek church of Christ
2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy., (North Dallas Suburb)
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(972) 517-5582, www.planochurch.org

SAN ANTONIO
Grissom Rd. church of Christ
5470 Lost Lane at Grissom Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78238-2700
Bible Classes 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wed. (Ladies Class) 10 A.M.
Wed. (Bible Class) 7:30 P.M.
Terry Starling, Evangelist
www.grissomroadcoc.org

SAN ANTONIO
Pecan Valley church of Christ
268 Utopia Avenue, (I-37 S.E. Exit Pecan Valley)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Clyde W. Carter (210) 337-6143

SHERMAN
Westwood Village church of Christ
314 N. Tolbert
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jim Smelser

TEMPLE
Leon Valley church of Christ
4404 Twin City Blvd.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jason Garcia
email: yourfriendjgar@gmail.com
www.biblemoments.org

WACO
Sun Valley church of Christ
340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco)
Bible Class 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Marc Smith
(254) 666-1020 or 420-1484

THE WOODLANDS
Woodlands church of Christ
1500 Wellman Road • P.O. Box 7664 (77380)
Bible Class 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(281) 367-2099
www.woodlandschurchofchrist.org

VIRGINIA
CHESAPEAKE
Tidewater church of Christ
217 Taxus Street
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Schlosser (757) 436-6900

CHESTER
Chester church of Christ
12100 Winfree St., (Central to Richmond, Hopewell, Petersburg, & Colonial Heights)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
church Building: (804) 796-2374, (804) 385-2725 or (804) 271-0877

NEWPORT NEWS
Harpersville Rd. church of Christ
315 Harpersville Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M., (757) 595-9564

RICHMOND (METRO)
Courthouse church of Christ
Courthouse Rd. at Double Creek Ct.
(2.2 miles S of Rt. 288)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Gene Tope (804) 790-1629
www.courthousechurchofchrist.com

RICHMOND
Forest Hill church of Christ
1208 W. 41st Street
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959

RIDGEWAY
church of Christ
2970 Old Leaksville Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Jarred McCrary (276) 956-6049
www.churchofchristridgeway.com

ROANOKE
Blue Ridge church of Christ
929 Indiana Avenue N.E. (5 min. from Roanoke Convention Center)
1st Lesson 9:15 A.M., Bible Study 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(540) 344-2755

VIRGINIA BEACH
Southside church of Christ
5652 Haden Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574

WASHINGTON

BELLINGHAM
Mt. Baker church of Christ
1860 Mt. Baker Hwy.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
Evangelist: Joe Price (360) 752-2692 or 380-2960
www.bibleanswer.com/mtbaker

WEST VIRGINIA

CHARLESTON
church of Christ
873 Oakwood Road
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Jonathan Chaffin (304) 342-5637
www.oakwoodroadchurchofchrist.com

CLARKSBURG
Westside church of Christ
Davisson Run Road
Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M.
(304) 622-5433
www.westsidechurchofchristwv.net

FAIRMONT
Eastside church of Christ
1929 Morgantown Avenue
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(304) 363-8696 (304) 842-7936

GLADESVILLE
Gladesville church of Christ
2906 Gladesville Rd., Independence, WV 26374
Sunday Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 10:45 A.M.
Sunday 7 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(304) 864-3078

MOUNDSVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
210 Cedar Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Mid-week 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Tony Huntsman (304) 845-4940

PARKERSBURG
Marriott church of Christ
825 Martrtown Road
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
(304) 422-7458 or 893-5227

WELLSBURG
Charles St. church of Christ
836 Charles Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M., Worship 10:20 A.M.
Evening 6:30 P.M., Wednesday 7 P.M.
(304) 527-4438 or 737-3124

WYOMING

RANCHESTER
Ranchester church of Christ
Hwy. 14 West, Ranch Mart Mall
Bible Study 9 A.M., Worship 10 A.M.
Evening 6 P.M., Wednesday 6:30 P.M.
Contact: Bob Reich (307) 655-2563

CANADA

CALGARY, AB
Northside church of Christ
803 20A Avenue NE
Bible Study 10 A.M., Worship 11 A.M.
Evening 5 P.M., Wed. Bible Study 7 P.M.
+1 (403) 452-5116
www.northsidechurchofchrist.ca

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