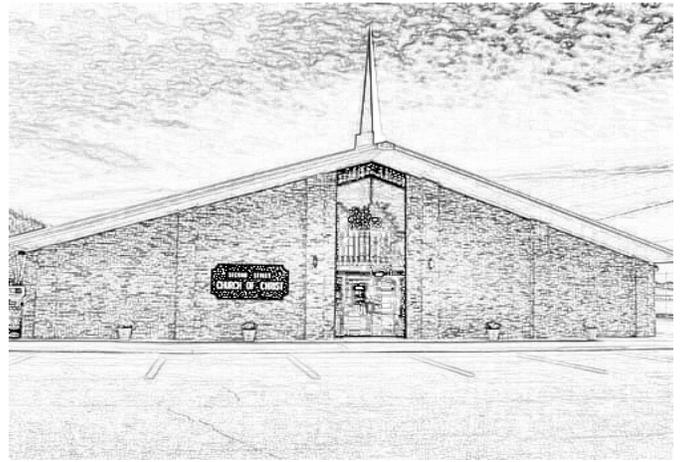


Second Street Church of Christ



June 11, 2017

MINISTER

Office

662-454-9429

P.O. Box 126
Belmont, Ms. 38827

Website:
secondstreetcofc.com



SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class...9:00am
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

*Endeavoring to keep
the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:3*

Mind Test

In Philippians, Paul gave us a litmus test, so to speak, for what should be on or in our minds. “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things” (Philippians 4:8). My question is: “If I am to focus my mind on these things, can I practice or support anything that wouldn’t make this list?” I believe we know the answer to this.

“Whatever things are true...” equals honesty. “Things noble...” equals integrity. “Just” equals fair and righteous. “Things pure” equals holy and unblemished. “Things lovely” equals opposite of the ugliness we find in worldliness. “Good report” equals good reputation, above reproach. “Virtue” equals obvious goodness. “Anything praiseworthy” equals anything that supports godliness and morality, ethics, etc.

Now, things in your life or on your mind that you can’t plug into that equation of goodness or formula for holiness are to be abandoned.

Another “test” an old preacher taught me was, “If you can’t thank God, in prayer, or whatever you say or do, don’t do it.” If you would be ashamed to pray to God for His endorsement or support of an activity or event, probably you should leave it alone.

My mother, concerning dating, always told me, “If you would not want to bring this person to meet me, leave her where you found her.” I think that principle is the same as what we are talking about here.

I challenge us all to think about our lives and the way we are living. Inventory what we are doing and supporting. Paul tells us what to do while we are doing so: “Test all things; hold fast what is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21). It’s not hard to do, it just takes a willingness to do it. That is hard for all of us at times.

Chris Moore Clarendon, TX BulletinDigest.com

Announcements

Welcome Visitors!! You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

Speaker Today is Trent Megill from San Marcos, Tx.

Gospel Meeting begins at Red Bay today through Wednesday.

“Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters.”

– Albert Einstein

The Warning Sign

Argentinean race driver Juan Manuel Fangio was only a lap through the 1950 Monaco Grand Prix. As he approached a dangerous bend for the second time, Fangio noticed that something was wrong. The faces of the spectators, which he usually saw as a whitish blur as he drove by, were all turned and looking at something ahead of him. "If they are not looking at me," Fangio thought, "they must be looking at something more interesting around the corner." So he braked hard and carefully as he rounded the bend. There he saw that his split-second assessment had been accurate. Ahead of him was a massive pileup that he would have smashed into had he not heeded the warning signs.

Sometimes warnings are subtle and take a trained eye to see, as in Fangio's case. Other times the warnings are so blatantly stated that it's hard to miss. Scripture utters many warnings, but one particular one continues to be a warning people either miss or ignore. Paul stated the warning in this way, "Do not be deceived: 'Bad company corrupts good morals'" (1 Corinthians 15:33).

Time and time again this warning is not heeded. Paul even said, "Do not be deceived..." meaning that if we aren't careful, we will deceive ourselves into thinking this isn't true. And yet, so many of us seem to think we are the exception to the rule. We seem to think they won't influence us. We seem to think we are stronger than others. And like so many have found before us, our bad friends drag us into things that corrupt our morals.

The bottom line is this, either our friends are pulling us towards heaven, or they are pulling us towards hell. Even a "neutral" friend is dead weight on our desperate climb towards the Lord. Let's heed Paul's warning and choose our friends carefully. Let's not deceive ourselves into thinking we are the exception to the rule. The more righteous people we surround ourselves with, the greater chance we have of keeping our eyes on Jesus.

*Brett Petrillo
Denver, CO
Bulletindigest.com*

Where were you, God?

Ladies Corner.

There was a time in my life when it felt like everything was impossibly hard. It was a few months after my husband and I got married. We were 22 years old and we had unexpectedly become pregnant. My husband was working as a full-time pulpit minister for the first time and I was a first-time preacher's wife. We were also new to this whole marriage thing, we'd only been married a couple of months, and we were desperately trying to figure out how to become a couple.

When our baby was born, we'd been married for a grand total of 10 months and 13 days. My delivery was fast. I'm talking, we were at the hospitals for 2 whole hours before my first baby was born. It was extremely traumatic for me and it threw whatever we thought we had figured out in those 10 months, out the window. Everything changed and got immeasurably more difficult.

I had always struggled with anxiety, but now it was much much worse and I also had something like PTSD from the trauma of such a rapid delivery. I couldn't cope and I felt like I was losing my mind.

While the congregation we worked with was made up of wonderful people, it just wasn't a good fit for us. We were struggling in our ministry.

We had a new baby. Whether you have children or not, you probably know how hard babies can be to care for, even "easy" babies.

All of this was completely overwhelming and put a huge strain on our marriage.

Two and a half years later, I've done a lot of hard recovery work and I've made a lot of progress. But the more I thought about it, the more this time period of our lives bothered me. Where was God? How could He have let us go through such a difficult time alone?

I knew that we had learned a lot and that that time of our lives had led us to where we are now but no matter how hard I looked, I couldn't find where God was while we were going through it. It took me a long time to admit to myself that I was angry at God for (I felt like) abandoning us. But once I admitted that to myself, I was able to pray about it. So one night I gathered up what courage I could muster and prayed. I cried out to God and asked Him where He had been and why He had left us alone. And while I didn't get an answer that night, it was a step towards understanding.

Then one day, all of a sudden, when I was looking back on that difficult time, I saw Him. God was crying.

It was about 3 days later that I finally understood where He'd been.

I had spent all my life building walls. Some of the pieces of my walls were good things, things like empathy and peace-making, but they were all out of order and there were a lot of pieces that I needed to change or discard all together, things like fear, lack of faith, bitterness, and pride.

Then one day, all of a sudden, when I was looking back on that difficult time, I saw Him. God was crying. On His knees, on the ground, my God was crying as He tore my walls down brick by brick. He knew that my walls were faulty and that they were holding me back. He knew that I needed to start over so I could discover His love and grace and let go of my fear and shame. God tore the walls down for me because they were keeping me from growing into who He wanted me to be and doing the things that He wanted me to accomplish. He was there the whole time, I just hadn't been able to see Him.

That moment of clarity gave me so much peace and comfort. Seeing His tears and knowing that He understood my pain made me feel not quite so alone. I had let this time period stand in the way of my faith for a long time but when I finally found the courage to first admit to myself that I was angry at God and then to pray about it, it opened the door to heal that angry place in my heart.

So if you're angry at God, I want you to know that it's ok. He's there for you and He wants to hear from you. When you feel like you can, try praying about it. And just see what happens.

Have you ever been angry at God about something? How did you handle it?

Kelsey Rives

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study **9:00am**
Worship **10:00am**
Evening **5:00pm**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7:00pm**

Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalms 133:1

The process for becoming a Christian is
the same as it was over 2000 years ago!
To become a Christian, one must:

Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17

Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6

Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3

Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10

Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38

Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10

None of these alone will make you a
Christian. These commands are from
God and must be obeyed from the heart
to become a Christian.

Prayer List

Paula Wanner	Dianne Vandagriff
Cassie Tierce	Kathy Alexander
Phillip Pharr	Stephanie Vandagriff
Stephanie Moore	Margie Pharr
Larry Sartain	Flora Wanner
Carolyn Holcomb	Ellie Sander
Lou Dodson	Lynn Sander
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
David James	Joel Robbins
Jimmy Searcy	Wayne Thomason
Alton Cleghorn	Stacey Rives
Suzanne Vandagriff	James Bailey
Patsy Wanner	Ken Saylor
John Johnson	Linda Jones
Kenneth Orrick	
Brenda Leatherwood	



June Birthdays

Jim Johnson 6/15
Ashlyn Holcomb 6/26

June Anniversaries

Larry & Stephanie 6/7
Jimmy & Jan 6/25
Ronnie & Carl 6/28

Sympathy