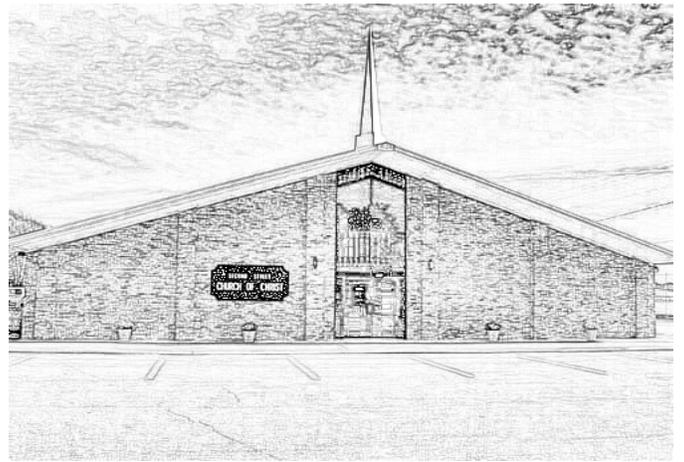


Second Street Church of Christ



August 13, 2017

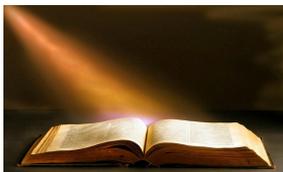
MINISTER

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*

Who am I? How can I change? How to believe in myself?

Thirty years ago, counsellor Alan McGinnis wrote a book about confidence, offering 12 rules to build self-confidence, change one's self-concept, and "succeed at being yourself." The book contains excellent ideas to abandon useless and hurtful concepts about our identity as human beings.

In 2005 I began offering to the Brazilian brotherhood a seminar called "Total Transformation," because I observed that many were not reaching the fullness of life in Christ that the Scriptures call us to.

McGinnis's book deals with his subject from a psychological perspective. Our work concentrated its attention on the spiritual realities of our creation by God, our redemption in Christ, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

McGinnis sought to change one's self-concept, a worthy project. But what God does goes much further. He transfers us from our state of darkness to a new life under the guidance and government of his Son.

He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins, Col 1.13-14.

The kingdom of God requires one hundred percent of our effort. God does not accept a half-hearted effort. But everything is possible because of what God does in us, for us, and through us. (See Eph 4.6.) It is "his divine power" that gives us—and has already bestowed upon us—"everything necessary" for a life of godliness, that is, to be able to serve God according to his will, 2 Pet 1.3.

Over the next several weeks, our Sunday messages in the Urbanova congregation will focus on the text of 2 Peter 1.3-11, as we examine "The Good Additions" that we all need to make in our life in Christ.

Yesterday, we established that these additions and the change in mentality occur because God is acting. He has transferred us into his kingdom. (I am speaking about Christians; those who have not yet entered into Christ need to go here.) God has transformed our situation. He rescued us, giving us forgiveness of sins. He has made us his children and the people of his exclusive ownership, Jn 1.12; 1 Pet 2.9-10.

(Continued on page 2)

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.

Meeting begins at Liberty today.

Be praying for our search for a minister, that one will be chosen that has a love for the Gospel and will always speak nothing but Your Word.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

A company, feeling it was time for a shake-up, hires a new CEO. This new boss is determined to rid the company of all slackers. On a tour of the facilities, the CEO notices a man leaning against a wall. The room is full of workers and he thinks this is his chance to show everyone he means business!

The CEO walks up to the guy and asks, "And how much money do you make a week?"

Undaunted, the young fellow looks at him and replies, "I make \$200 a week. Why?"

The CEO then hands the guy \$200 in cash and screams. "Here's a week's pay; now GET OUT and don't come back!"

Feeling pretty good about his first firing, the CEO looks around the room and asks, "Does anyone want to tell me what that slacker did here?"

With a sheepish grin, one of the other workers mutters, "He's the pizza delivery guy."

(Continued from page 1)

Our self-concept now is based upon what God does, and still will do, for us.

- His act of creation already established the great value that we have in his eyes.
- The sacrifice of Christ on the cross proclaims how much we are precious to him.
- The indwelling of his Spirit (and of all the Godhead) fills us with divine confidence and with power from on high.

For this change of self-concept to occur and for our confidence level to soar, several things are needed:

- We need to constantly read and meditate on Scripture, so that these truths may be ever more present in our hearts.
- We need to pray without ceasing, so that the entirety of our life may be opened to the Lord's work.
- We need the constant fellowship of the congregation of the faithful, so that fraternal love may confirm in us God's divine love.

The change that God offers us remains unshaken before all the attacks of the evil one, all the criticisms and persecutions of our enemies, and all the stumbles, deceptions, and sadness that we encounter daily.

There is no greater confidence than this.

Now we have such confidence in God through Christ, 2 Cor 3.4.

Used by permission from Forthright Magazine (forthright.net). Copyright © 2017 J. Randal Matheny

God gave them up

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is God’s power for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For the righteousness of God is revealed in the gospel from faith to faith, just as it is written, ‘*The righteous by faith will live*’” (Romans 1:16-17 NET).

God’s power for salvation is found in the gospel (literally “good news”) of Jesus and it is for everyone who will believe. That is, indeed, good news! God’s righteousness has been made known in this good news as people obey and are cleansed, made righteous, by being united with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (see Romans 6 for a detailed discussion of this).

With God’s power to be safe from our sins, it would seem almost inconceivable that anyone would fail to take advantage of the safety God offers. Yet some choose to ignore God and go their own way (see Romans 6:15-23). Those who reject God will be rejected by God.

Three times in Romans 1 we find the phrase “God gave them up” (Romans 1:24, 26, 28 ESV). Sometimes we find people whom we try and try to influence and finally we “give up,” having done all that we can do. Can you imagine God giving up on people?

God gives up on those who worship idols rather than him. This was part of God’s commands for Israel given at Mount Sinai (see Exodus 20:3-5). Through the creation of the world God has shown his power and divine nature – that he is God! This can clearly be perceived in the world around us. Yet most people today refuse to acknowledge God as the Creator and believe that everything around us happened by chance – we are just lucky to have been the ones to evolve to the top!

When God created the first man the only thing not good about him was that he was alone .

Paul wrote, “So they are without excuse...Claiming to be wise, they became fools...Therefore God gave them up...because they changed the truth about God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator” (Romans 1:20-25). What an indictment on those living in the first century. What an indictment on those who reject God today!

When God created the first man the only thing not good about him was that he was alone (Genesis 2:18). So he created a woman to be his companion. Men and women are equal before God but different. They are designed to be compatible in every way. This is the basis of a lasting relationship as husband and wife (Genesis 2:24).

Sadly, people have wanted to change God’s beautiful design. Over the past few years same sex relationships have gone from being tolerated to being promoted! This is nothing new – this was happening in the first century, too. Notice what Paul wrote: “For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions”(Romans 1:26). And he spells out exactly what he meant in the verses following.

What is the real problem in all this? “And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done” (Romans 1:28). This was the world that the first Christians lived in. And this is the world that we live in, where people are not only consumed with sin but they approve of those who live in sin (Romans 1:32). God has given them up – his judgment will come.

What is the solution? It really is very simple – accept the good news of Jesus, the power of God for salvation. “The righteous by faith will live.”

Used by permission from Forthright Magazine (forthright.net). Copyright © 2017 Jon Galloway

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
Ellie Sander	Brenda Jourdan
Lou Dodson	Lynn Sander
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
Jimmy Searcy	Tim Brown
Christy Hickox	Mike Gaddy
Susan Vandagriff	James Bailey
Patsy Wanner	Ken Saylor
John Johnson	Cheryl Pardue
Kenneth Orrick	Brenda Leatherwood
Paul Meachum II	Barbara White
Fred Albers	Jo Vandagriff
Jimmy Higginbottom	
Gene Searcy	



August Birthdays

Ronnie Taylor 8/1

Lily Robinson 8/6

Jerry Brewer 8/8

McKenley Cleveland 8/21

Rajama Johnson 8/30

August Anniversaries

Sympathy