

# The Bulletin

## Meeks Street Church of Christ

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August 7, 2022

### **“A Weekly Prayer List for Children”**

By Don And Sue Myers

**Monday:** Ask God to place a protective, solid hedge around your children so that Satan cannot reach in and lead them into temptation and so they will be safe from harm (2 Thessalonians 3:3; Psalm 33:20).

**Tuesday:** Pray that your children would use godly wisdom in selecting friends and peers that will make a positive difference in their lives. Ask God to give each child a discernment of people as well as knowing the difference between right and wrong (Proverbs 1:10; 18:24; Deuteronomy 13:6:8).

**Wednesday:** Pray that your children would stay pure in their thoughts and deeds (Psalm 24:4-5; Job 17:9).

**Thursday:** Pray that they will be caught if they wander into cheating, lies, or mischief (Hebrews 13:18-19).

**Friday:** Pray they will be alert and thinking clearly as they attend school and extra-curricular activities and as they take exams. Ask God to help them be motivated to do the best they are capable of doing (Colossians 3:17; 1 Corinthians 10:31).

**Saturday:** Pray for the spouse each child will marry someday. Ask that they will come from godly homes and have an appetite to live the spiritual truth they've learned. Pray also that their goals and purpose will be the same as your own children and their future homes would be godly (Deuteronomy 5:29).



### **“WRONG IS WRONG!”**

by R.J. Evans

We live in a time of declining morals. Political correctness has "gone to seed" in our present culture. Our enemy, the devil, provides many rationalizations for improper behavior. We must so live as to "not be ignorant of his devices" (2 Cor. 2:11). The Apostle Paul told the Corinthians- *"But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ"* (2 Cor. 11:3).

Quite often, we hear the true statement: "wrong is wrong". With these warnings in mind, we must ever realize that wrong is wrong despite the efforts of so many to excuse their actions. Let us heed the following:

#### **Wrong Is Wrong, Even If We Don't Get Caught.**

Let us remember that *"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and good"* (Prov. 15:3). The Hebrew writer tells us *"there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account"* (Heb. 4:13).

On that great day, *"God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether it is good or whether it is evil"* (Eccl. 12:14).

### **Wrong Is Wrong, Even If We Think It Is For A Good Cause.**

Some will forsake worshipping God for some worldly activity or "good cause". A supposedly honorable purpose does not justify a dishonorable deed or action. The end never justifies the means. The Apostle Paul made this point to the Romans as it had to do with those who were slandering him- *"And why not say, 'Let us do evil that good may come'?-as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just"* (Rom. 3:8).

Sin is transgression of God's law. (1 Jn. 3:4; 5:17; 2 Jn. 9) But how many times have we heard feeble attempts to justify sin on the basis of- "it is doing so much good", "it is such a great cause", or "it feels so good".

For an action to be pleasing in the sight of God, it must be morally and doctrinally right---all in accordance with the will of God. Thus, all that we do must be authorized and justified by Scripture. (See 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Pet. 4:11).

### **Wrong Is Wrong, Even If It Doesn't Bother Our Conscience.**

The conscience must be taught and properly trained. If not, it will accept wrong-doing. Remember, the Apostle Paul persecuted Christians, casting them into prison, all with a clear conscience. He stated, *"Indeed, I myself thought I must do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth"* (Acts 26:9). And, again, He stated to the council as he reflected back on his sinful conduct, *"Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day"* (Acts 23:1).

This is why we often do sinful things just as the world does and think nothing of it because we have not been taught correctly. For example, the Bible clearly teaches, *"in like manner; also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing's, but, which is proper for women professing godliness with good works"* (1 Tim. 2:9-10). It is wise for parents to begin instilling a strong sense of modesty in their children's hearts and lives at a very young age.

Otherwise, they will more than likely grow up thinking immodesty is fine, giving it no serious thought. Hence, the conscience must be guided and taught strictly by the Word of God, so as to have the proper standard and guide.

### **Wrong Is Wrong, Even If It Is Commonly Considered Acceptable.**

The Bible says, *"You shall not follow a crowd to do evil"* (Ex. 23:2). Just think of what has become acceptable in recent years in our present society-social drinking, partying and dancing, gambling, dressing immodestly, using profanity, etc.

We see all of this, not only in person, but on TV and in movies. 57.5 million babies have been murdered since abortion was legalized in America in 1973. And now we are witnessing the acceptance of homosexuality, the legalization of same-sex marriage, and the legalization of marijuana in some states. We begin to think-what's next? But just because "everybody else is doing it," or so it seems, that doesn't make it right.

The child of God should *"not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on"* (Prov. 4:14-15). But if we are not careful, we will find ourselves entering, walking and traveling along with the ways and practices of the world, rather than turning away from them! (Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor 6: 17; 1 Jn. 2:15-17)

We are told to "Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thes. 5:21-22). REMEMBER, there is never a right way to do wrong. WRONG IS WRONG!

### **"PREACH A SERMON, PREACHER" (Author unknown)**

Preach a sermon, preacher,  
But don't get too specific;  
As long as you will generalize  
We think you are terrific.

Preach a sermon, preacher,  
We care not what you say;  
Just as long as you don't look at us,  
But point the other way.

Preach a sermon, preacher,  
Make it good and plain;  
But don't you dare to get so close  
As to call sin by its name.

Preach a sermon, preacher,  
Make it what we love to hear;  
We'll pat you on your spineless back  
While you scratch each itching ear.

Preach a sermon, preacher,  
Preach it round or flat;  
We love to play at hide and seek,  
And guessing where you're at.

END

Preach a sermon, preacher,  
But make it short and sweet;  
Our stomachs strike at 12 o'clock,  
A hungering for to eat.

**News and Notes:** Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Sam Johnson, J F Dancer, Robbie, Sheila, Sherry Doles, Nannette Chancellor, Sandi Poole, Nathan Cox, Wesley Trimble, Sandra Oliver, and Robert Howard (Doug and Pat's son in law), Danny Cottrell.

Anna, JayLynn, and John Curtis Hearn.  
Janis Johnson had surgery last Friday and is recovering.  
LuAnne Parrish has hip surgery this Tuesday.

**Those Who Serve:**

**Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:**

**Opening Prayer:** Nathan Meade  
**Preaching:** Brian Meade  
**Sermon #1:** "Abiding In The Lord"

**Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:**

**Workbook:** Jerry Kennemur  
Ephesians (Chris Reeves)  
**Starting Page & Question:** Page #37, Question #3-2.

**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

**Announcements:** Paul Johnson  
**Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading:** Tim Harris Jr.  
*I Timothy 4:1-5*  
**Song Leader:** Paul Busby  
**Lord's Supper:** Jerry Kennemur  
**Assisting:** — —  
**Preaching:** Brian Meade  
**Sermon #2:** "Reformation Versus Restoration" Pt. 2  
**Closing Prayer:** Sam Johnson

**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.**

**August 10th:**

**Auditorium Bible Class:** Paul Busby  
**Workbook:** Jeremiah & Lamentations  
(John Humphries)  
**Starting Page & Question:** Page #51, Question #1  
**Invitation:** Paul Johnson  
**Song Leader:** Dan Cottrell  
**Closing Prayer:** Blake Briggs



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# ***“Abiding In The Lord”***

Lesson Text: **John 15:4-7.**

## **I. What Abides?**

- Christ in **John 8:34-35.**
- The Word in **1 John 2:14; 2 John 2.**
- Our Heavenly Home in **Hebrews 10:34-36.**
- The Doer Of God’s Will in **1 John 2:17.**
- Faith, Hope, And Love in **1 Corinthians 13:13.**

## **II. Where Are We To Abide?**

- In Christ- **John 15:4-6;**
- The Doctrine Of Christ- **2 John 9; 1 Timothy 1:3.**
- In Christ’s Love- **John 15:9-10.**
- In Christ’s Words- **1 John 2:5.**

## **III. How Do We Abide There?**

- By Deliberate Choice And Service— Not Automatic or Irreversible! **Acts 11:23.**
  - Many Denominational churches teach the “Impossibility of Apostasy.”
  - Many Ignore Or Dismiss Warnings- **Jude 3-7; 2 Peter 2:4; Acts 1:18-20.**
  - Some Rely On Being A Christian In Name Only- **Matthew 3:7-10.**
  - Note: There Are Conditions- **Psalms 15:1-5.**
- By Being Where Jesus Is- **Psalms 23:6; Luke 2:36-38.**
  - The First Step Is Accepting His Teaching- **John 6:55-63; vs. 66.**
  - Enjoy Being With The Lord- **Psalms 61:1-8.**

## **IV. What Are The Results Of Abiding?**

- To Be Fruitful- **John 15:5.**
- Our Prayers Are Heard- **John 15:7.**
- To Be Bold And Confident- **1 John 2:28; Proverbs 28:1.**
- No Fear Of Being Cast Away- **John 15:6.**
- We Avoid Sinning- **1 John 3:6; Proverbs 37:27.**
- To Have God And Christ- **2 John 9.**

## **“Reformation Versus Restoration” Pt. 2**

Lesson Text: **1 Timothy 4:1-5.**

### **I. The Need For Restoration Of God’s Ways In NT.**

- The New Testament Age Began On A.D. 33 With The Church **Acts 2:1-47.**
- The Church Grew & Multiplied In The Apostles’ Doctrine- **Acts 2:42; 6:7; 9:31; 19:20.**
- Paul Warned Of The Apostasy To Come **Acts 20:28-31.**
- Apostasy Came As Paul Predicted Began In Centuries 2-7 With The Catholic Church.
  - Men Became Dissatisfied With God’s Organization For The Church.
  - Elders Sought More Power For Themselves.
    1. Controlling (Presiding Bishop) Elders In The Local Church.
    2. Next Came City Bishops To Control Cities Of Churches.
    3. City Bishops Met In Councils To Decide For The Whole Church.
    4. Then Began The Many Struggles For Power.
    5. Bishops From Five Large Cities Fought For Supremacy:  
Jerusalem, Rome, Constantinople, Antioch, & Alexandria.
    6. The Bishops of Constantinople And Rome Were The Most Powerful.
    7. Three Men Attempted To Usurp The Title: Universal Bishop- “Pope.”  
Leo I, 440-461; Gregory I, 590-604; Boniface III, 606 AD.
    8. The Conflict Resulted In The Final Split In 1054 AD.
- Church Government Mirrored Roman Government:
  - Roman: Emperor, Advisors, Governors, and Lt. Governors.
  - Pope, Cardinals, ArchBishops, And Bishops.
  - Not Like The N.T. Organization of the Church- **Ephesians 4:11; Phil. 1:1.**
- **Corruptions From The NT Way:**
  - Holy Water- 120 A.D.
  - Penance- 157 A.D.
  - Priest—Laity- 2nd Century. **1 Peter 2:5.**
  - Infant Baptism- 2nd Century. **Mark 16:16.**
  - Doctrine of Purgatory- 593 A.D.
  - The Worship of Saints, Statues, & Relics- 5th-6th Century.
  - Instrumental Music Added In 670 A.D.
  - Celibacy Of Priests- 1015 A.D. **Mark 1:30; 1 Cor. 9:5.**
  - Selling Of Indulgences- 1095 A.D.
  - Sprinkling For Baptism in 1311 A.D. Council of Ravenna. **Romans 6:4.**
  - Infallibility of the Pope Declared in 1870 A.D.
  - Priests Began To Be Called “Father” and “Reverend” **Psalms 111:9; Matt. 23:9.**
  - Corruption Of Prayer: Counting Beads; Praying To Mary.
  - Various Councils To Decide Doctrines And Creeds:
    1. First Council of Nicaea 325 A.D.; First Council of Constantinople;  
Council of Ephesus (431); Council of Chalcedon (451).
    3. Creeds: Apostle’s Creed, Nicene Creed, Chalcedonian Creed, & Athanasian Creed.
    4. The Writing of the Catholic Catechism.

**Conclusion: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3.**