



West Side Window

Volume 28, Issue 20

May 23, 2021

Welcome to West Side Church of Christ. We hope you find us friendly and sincere in our wish to follow scripture and to profess the gospel of Christ. Though the mask mandate has changed, our Elders suggest that you wear a mask while here. Communion packets, contribution baskets and masks are placed at both double doors. Thank you for protecting yourself and others while we come together .



Looking Ahead

—**May 29, 6p, Justin Hummel Open House**

—**June 19, 1p-5p, Elayna Reynolds Open House,**

See Invitations on Board # 2

Newsworthy

—**Read about Cannon Taylor's plans after graduation. Letter on Missions Board**

—**Latest edition of "Seek the Old Paths" is on the Table**

—**Next meeting of Senior Saints is on June 17th, 2p**

Putting the Kingdom First

In the middle of the greatest sermon ever preached, Jesus said to those who would follow him; "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).

The kingdom of God must be first in a Christian's life. Those who put the kingdom first are recognized by their actions. It is clearly seen by example:

--If the kingdom is first in one's life, that person will stand up for truth, no matter what.

--If the kingdom is first in one's life, that person will follow the Lord Jesus, not men.

--If the kingdom is first in one's life, that person will put the needs of others before their own.

--If the kingdom is first in one's life, that person will do their best to help build up the local congregation.

--If the kingdom is first in one's life, that person will put the work of the kingdom first.

Obviously, the apostle Paul was one who put the kingdom first in his life (Philippians 2:19-22) and he encouraged early Christians to be like him and put the kingdom first in their lives. (Philippians 3 :17-20).

Putting God's kingdom first is not a choice or an opinion. It is a command, and it requires total commitment. Remember what Jesus said; "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me and who ever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life, for my sake, will find it (Matthew 10: 37-39).

How about you, are you putting the kingdom first?

Lupe Ruiz

Services

Sunday Morning Class
9:30a

Worship: 10: 30a
(Also live-streamed)

**No Sunday Evening
Service**

Wednesday Bible Study
7p

Preacher

Michael Gors

Elders

Michael Gors

Gary Reynolds

Todd Stults

Deacons

Don Allison
Fellowship

Jim Clark
Visitation

Lowell Huffman
Media

Those Whom

We Support

MSOP

Cannon Taylor

INDIA

Bible Correspondence
Course/ Bibles

Leaders in Worship

May 23rd, 2021

Announcements: Gary Reynolds

Song Leader: Don Allison

Opening Prayer: Volker Jaromin

Scripture: Jimmy Clark

Lord's Table: Lowell Huffman

Sermon: Mike Gors

Closing Prayer: Todd Stults

Sound Room: Jacob Clark

Bible Study, May 26th

Song Leader: Jacob Clark

Devo: Jimmy Clark

Prayer: Lowell Huffman

Remember Calls and Cards to Our Shut-ins

Anna Funk--Morrison
Woods

Joyce Popplewell - Herit-
age in Yorktown

Carl Gilstrap--Albany
Health Care
Health Care

Howard Latta--Elmcroft
Assisted living

*"The only person you
are destined to
become is the person
you decide to be."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Don't Blame the Messenger

Beginning in Luke 4:16, we read of Jesus going to His hometown of Nazareth. It was the Sabbath Day and as was His custom He went to the synagogue to read and teach. On this day, He chose to read from the prophet Isaiah which just happened to be a messianic passage about Himself. After reading, He sat back down and everyone was watching Him. Then He said, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." And they marveled at this hometown boy who spoke with such authority. He then proceeded to teach that they would reject Him just as the Jews had rejected the prophets of old. This angered the crowd so much that they proceeded to throw Him out of town, carried Him up a hill so that they could throw Him off a cliff. Jesus easily escapes to continue His ministry. There are times when elders, teachers and preachers must present biblical teaching that can be convicting to some individuals. These difficult admonitions must be presented with the correct attitude of humility and love (Eph. 4:15). All too often, the recipient of God's warning becomes angry at the messenger, accusing them of being condescending and breaks fellowship with the teacher or in some cases leaves the church altogether. We all should realize that "all have sinned" (Rom. 3:23) and God corrects those that He loves (Heb. 12:6). Becoming angry at the one delivering the message serves no other purpose than to divide the church and give Satan the victory. "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God" (1 John 4:7). — Jay Launius
Maud church of Christ Maud, Texas

Compassion When it Counts

Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Matt.19:21).

Marquis de Lafayette was a French general and politician who joined the American Revolution and became a friend of George Washington. An influential man in the US and France, Lafayette was also a man of compassion. The harvest of 1872 was a poor one but the manager of the estate had filled Lafayette's barns with wheat. "The bad harvest has raised the price of wheat," said the manager. "This is the time to sell." Lafayette thought of the hungry people in the villages and replied, "No, this is the time to give."

Real love is often about our willingness to let go of what we possess. Sometimes, the thing we grip most tightly is the very things God asks us to hand over to him.

Selected

Alexis Harper--June 1

Felomina (Ming) Gilstrap--June 2

Taylor Ergle--June 2

Jimmy Clark--June 4

Natalie Hoyt--June 10

Susan Shirel--June 12

Joe Reed--June 16

Holly Chambers--June 16

Betty Kellow--June 16

Trevor Qualkenbush--June 17

Hailey Allison--June 22

Ryan J. Daunhauer--June 24, 2015

**Happy
Birthday
To
You**

Please Pray for

Alex Odle, Cancer

Angie Reed, MS

Barbara Nelson, Breast cancer. Grandmother of Jade

Gordon Huffman, Back at home. Still struggling

Curt Wyrick, Husband of Penny Wyrick who is Kendall's niece. Mr. Wyrick has cancer and is in very serious condition.

Danny Bayer, Mary Ann Bayer's brother-in-law. Stage four cancer and undergoing chemo

Don Ellis, Brother in law of Bill Winemiller. Lung Cancer

Scott Hummel Family, death of son

Kathy Harper, Respiratory issues

Nick Hummel, Cancer

Rex Harper, Wrist Surgery. Second surgery is scheduled

Susan Cloninger

Tom Davis, Lung cancer

Steve Stanley, Cancer. Friend of Lowell and Charlene

Wanda Reed

I rise today through God's strength to pilot me.

God's strength to guide me,

God's ear to hear me,

God's hand to guard me,

God's word to speak for me,

From snares of devil,

From temptations of vice,

From everyone who wishes me ill

Far and near, alone and a multitude.— P. Ireland



The Secret to Uplifting Worship

David was a man who enjoyed worship. He felt uplifted by it, so he said, "I was glad when they said to me, 'let us go to the house of the Lord' ". What was the secret to his eagerness toward worship? Read carefully what he wrote in Psalm 5:7: "But, as for me, I will come into Thy house in the multitude of Thy mercy; and in Thy fear will worship toward Thy holy temple." Within this short verse, we find four things that made David's worship worthwhile. They will make ours more meaningful as well.

David considered uplifting worship to be a personal responsibility. Note the phrase "but as for me." It sounds similar to Joshua's charge, "but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh. 24:15). Joshua was not going to depend on others for his faithfulness. Neither did David depend on others to make his worship worthwhile.

Worship is what you make of it. So many of us put little or no time into preparing for worship that we do not enjoy it when we get to church services. It is our own fault. This is not to say that the worship leaders do not bear part of the blame when church services grow stale—they do. But most unfulfilling worship is due to how little each participant puts into it.

Worship is driven by gratitude. David came to worship considering "the multitude of Thy mercy." Worship and thanksgiving go hand in hand. In fact, many times praise is described in terms of "giving thanks" (see Ps. 92:1; Luke 22:19; Heb. 13:15). Are you thankful to the Lord for what He has done? Do you take His blessings for granted? If so, this might explain why your zeal for church may have died down.

The secret to heartfelt adoration is the fear of the Lord. David worshiped "in Thy fear". The secret is not in new innovations or "contemporary" worship services. Aside from the fact that these trends often involve unauthorized practices, they can only satisfy us for a little time and then we look for something new. The "fire" behind worship is deep-seated awe at the wonder that is our God.

God is the object of our worship. David said that he would worship "toward the holy temple". The worship trends the religious world follows today are geared toward man, not god. These trends are geared toward man, not God. But, Jesus commanded theocentric worship, saying, "God is a spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24).

Every church that applies David's methods to its worship services will notice positive changes. The singing will be more joyful; the Lord's Supper more contemplative. Christians will pray fervently and give cheerfully. Sermons will be more inspiring.

Drew Kizer

Opp, AL

To keep your marriage brimming
With love in the loving cup,
Whenever you're wrong, admit it;
Whenever you're right, shut up.

Ogden Nash

"My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my saying. 'Do not let them depart from your sight; keep them in the midst of your heart for they are life to those who find them and health to all their body. Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life.'" Proverbs 4:23