



## A Thief with Standards

A thief named Dennis Lee Curtis was arrested in Rapid City, SD. In his wallet, police found a list of rules Curtis had written for himself--guidelines for his robberies. For example, he wrote:



1. I will not kill anyone unless I have to.
2. I will take cash and food stamps--no checks
3. I will not rob mini-marts
4. If I get chased on foot, I will get away. If chased by vehicle, I will not put the innocent lives of people on the line.
5. I will rob only seven months of the year.
6. I will enjoy robbing the rich and giving to the poor.

This may seem odd, but Dennis Curtis was a thief with some standards. But when he stood before the court, the judge did not consult Curtis' list of rules. He pulled out the laws of the state by which to judge, by which to convict. In the same way, we stand before God. He won't consult man-made rules and standards. He will judge us by His unchanging Word.

Jesus said, "He who rejects me and does not receive My words has that which judges him; the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). Observe: by God's standards, we are all guilty of sin. "As it is written: There is none righteous, no, not one...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3: 10, 23).

But the good news is that God is not only willing to forgive us, He has made a costly provision for our salvation from sin. "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3: 16).

On the cross, Jesus, the Son of God, paid the price for our redemption from sin. "He Himself is the propitiation (atoning sacrifice) for our sins and not for our sins only but also for the whole world (1 John 2: 2. Those who accept his offer of salvation through obedience, will receive the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life (Ephesians 1: 7; Romans 6: 23).

Let us be sure to live by God's standards, not our own; for God's Word is THE standard of judgement.

David R. Sargent  
Mobile, AL

## Services

### Sunday Bible Study

9:30am

Worship: 10:30 am  
& 6:00pm

Wed. 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*

*September 20, 2020*

### *Morning Worship*

Announcements: Gary Reynolds

Song Leader: Don Allison

Opening Prayer: Volker Jaromin

Scripture: Jimmy Clark, *Ephesians 5: 7- 14*

Sermon: Mike Gors

*“Wake up and Live for Jesus “*

Lord’s Table: Todd Stults

Closing Prayer: Rick Cox

Sound Room: Lowell Huffman

### *Wednesday Evening Bible Study*

September 23rd

Song Leader: Don Allison

Prayer: Case Reynolds

### **From the Elders**

Welcome to West Side Church of Christ. We are thankful for your presence today and are happy that we can provide a safe place for worship of our Lord.

We ask that you please adhere to the guidelines of our governor who advises that we wear masks and distance ourselves from close contact with each other while at services. Communion packets and baskets for the contribution are at the double doors. Thank you for protecting yourself and each other while we are together.

*“...Jesus spoke to them saying, ‘I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life.’” John 8: 12*

“Know the true value of time; snatch, seize and enjoy every moment of it. No idleness, no laziness, no procrastination. Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today.”

Lord Chesterfield

### **Questions:**

**answers on page 3**

1. Who said, “By your patience possess your souls.”
2. Did Jesus ever write anything?
3. Who said, “but one thing is needful” and to whom was it said?

### **Remember Calls and Cards to Our Shut-ins**

**Anna Funk**--Westminster Village

**Joyce Popplewell** -- Heritage in Yorktown

**Linda Horning**-- Westminster

**Carl Gilstrap**--Albany Health Care

**Pam Smith**--Waters of Yorktown Nursing Home

## This and That...

--Following are addresses for Howard Goodman and Emily Stults should you wish to send a greeting:

Howard:  
Morrison Manor  
868 South Washington St.  
Morrison, IN 46161

Emily  
FHU Box 10343  
158 East Main St.  
Henderson, TN 38340

--Reminder of the emergency needs for the Yorktown, Elementary School. List is on bulletin board # 2 or if you wish to donate monetarily, see Genny

### Answers to questions on page 2

1. Jesus (Luke 21:19)
2. Yes (John 8:6)
3. Jesus to Martha (Luke 10:42)



Greg Qualkenbush--Sept. 21

Melinda Sheffield--Sept. 24

Elayna Reynolds--Sept. 25

Don Allison--Sept. 25

Sylvia Carroll--Sept. 25

Kay Wall--Sept. 26

Cliff Nicks--Sept. 26

Virginia Southard--Sept. 28

Happy  
Birthday

## In Need of Prayer

**Adam Huffman**, Kidney dialysis 3x's week. Amyloidosis has returned with heart and kidneys affected

**Alex Odle**, Cancer

**Angie Reed**, MS

**Bill Smith**, Awaiting diagnostic tests with surgery pending

**Bob Owens**, Cancer. Kathy's cousin

**Dan Proctor**, Health issues. Lela's son

**Delores Huffman**, Cellulitis

**Emily Stults**, Corona virus. Quarantined at Freed Hardeman in TN. Symptoms change from day to day. Girl's in the quarantine dorm were happy with gifts and treats from the Henderson COC.

**Howard Goodman**

**Kathy Harper**, Cellulitis, respiratory difficulties

**Kenny Idle**, Janet's uncle diagnosed with sepsis. Some improvement

**Kim Hamm**, Cancer. Taking chemo treatments

**Larry Reynolds**, Heart surgery on Oct. 26th

**Martha Gilstrap**

**Mitch Kinder**, Cancer. Sally's neighbor

**Norma Perry**, Treated at emergency room. Tests done with results pending

**Ryan Dobbs**, Skylar's cousin, cancer treatment

**Sally Anderson**, Health issues

**Steve Higginbotham**, Cancer.

**Susie Long**, Degenerative arthritis in back

**Vivian Bigler**, Weakness and significant weight loss

**Wanda Reed**, Recovering from chemo and radiation

## A Way of Life

There is an expression sometimes used by people to explain behavior. It goes something like this-- "that is just the way I am" or "that is just the way he is". People do have "ways." Billy Joel wrote these lyrics, "She's got a way about her, don't know what it is but I know that I can't live without her." Everybody is unique and every person has a certain way they go about living their life.

One thing each individual should keep in mind is that we are not locked into a certain lifestyle. The liar doesn't have to lie just because he has always been a liar. The same can be said for any sin. We choose our own way of living and, every single day, we make a decision about who we are and in what we believe.

Since, such is the case, we can change the way we practice our Christianity. We don't have to be Sunday morning only Christians, even if that is all we have ever been. We don't have to keep from being more involved in the work of the church just because we have never been involved in the past. We don't have to lack zeal for evangelism just because in former days we might have lacked the nerve necessary to save a lost soul.

What we need to do is very simple. We need to earnestly pray that God will change our hearts and make us aware of our spiritual shortcomings. Then, we will need to follow up by changing our behavior and making a habit of doing the things we have always wanted to do for Christ. We can change our way of life! We can do things differently than in the past.

Peter wrote about the importance of no longer living the rest of our time in the flesh for the sake of sin but instead, living for the will of God (1 Peter 4:2). The point is that God has the power to not only save us from death; He has the power to change our life for **today**. That is a very exciting proposition. We can be blessed immediately by simply making the choice to live for God today.

We must stop making excuses for our lack of involvement in the Kingdom. We must stop saying to ourselves that who we are and what we practice is good enough. We must stop telling ourselves that the way we live our Christian life is good enough because "that is just the way I am."

Faithfulness is a way of life. Commitment is a way of life. Evangelism is a way of life. Humility is a way of life. Kindness is a way of life. We can do anything we want to do. We can be anything we want to be for nothing is impossible with God.

**"For me to live is Christ..." (Phil. 1:21).**

Jeremiah Tatum  
Pulaski Street church of Christ  
Lawrenceburg, TN

## Don't Quit

Many times, we encounter challenges that make us rethink our commitment to Christ and the church. When we consider quitting or lessening our relationship with Christ and the church, let us:

**Remember why we started (Rev. 2:5).** The church at Ephesus left their first love. Go back and remember why we chose to become a Christian, why we chose to become an elder, why we chose to become a deacon and why we became a minister.

**Re-identify with Christ (1 Peter 4: 12-14).** When you go through difficult times, don't be shocked. When we suffer, we identify with Christ. When challenged, be thankful we are close to Christ.

**Refresh and take a break.** Seven days into creation, God took a break. We see God's example and the importance of resting. In Mark 6:31, Jesus tells his disciples to rest.

**Re-shift your focus.** We sometimes are critical of one another. We love one another but we don't always like one another. Let us focus on the mission in front of us, not the mayhem beside us.

**Revive yourself with other Christians.** Christian's need Christian's in their life! We need a Paul in our life--someone who is older, been there and will understand. We need a Barnabas in our life--someone that can connect with us. We need a Timothy in our life--someone who will stand behind us.

**Realize what you have (Matt. 19: 27-29).** Like Peter, do we ask, "What's in it for me?" when we become a Christian? Jesus redirected Peter and explained, if we will sacrifice for God, we will inherit eternal life. Our needs are always met if we follow Christ and are faithful. We need to realize what we have when we live for the Lord. I am glad Peter asked that question. We need to stop and realize who we are and whose we are!

Allen Jones  
South Green St. church of Christ  
Glasgow, KY

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