

ARE YOU REALLY LIVING LIKE CHRIST?

Gary Colley

Some would be shocked and indignant if it were suggested that they were not living like Christ! Yet, their lives do not seem to include His principles. The term Christian means to be Christ-like. His teaching is our rule of conduct. Check the following to see some area in which we may need to improve.



1. Do we do unto others as we would have them do unto us? (Matt. 7:12). Is this our constant practice?

2. Do we rebuke our brother who has sinned against us with the hope that he will repent, or tell everybody but him? (Luke 17:3).

3. Are we busy-bodies in other men's affairs? (1 Peter 4:15).

4. Lately, have we been praying for those who revile us, persecute and say all manner of evil against us falsely? (Matt. 5:11-12).

5. Do we do good unto all men, and especially those of the household of faith? (Gal. 6:10).

6. Have we forgotten to pray without ceasing? (1 Thes. 5:17).

7. Do we obey them that have the rule over us? (Heb. 13:7, 17).

8. Do we serve the Lord heartily with all our might? (Col. 3:23-25).

9. Do we love the Lord our God with all our soul, heart, and mind? (Luke 10:27).

10. Do we visit the sick and help the needy? (Matt. 25:31-46).

11. Do we keep our appointments with the Lord for worship over our appointments with men? (Matt. 6:33; Heb. 10:25).

12. Are we willing to suffer with Christ in His cause? Are we ashamed when we do? (Rom. 8:17; 1 Peter 4:16).

The question: "Are you a Christian?" does not always direct itself to those outside the church. Let us adorn the gospel by lives that are truly faithful to the Lord.

- via *Beacon*, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL

DON'T GIVE UP

A lady in the church who invited her neighbor to go to services with her, kept count of the times the neighbor refused. It came to forty-nine. She pleasantly mentioned the count to her friend as she issued her fiftieth invitation at the time of a special meeting. At first the friend declined again but later called and she said she would go. "If you are interested enough in me to ask me fifth times to go, I will go with you and see what it is like." She went out and liked what she saw. She returned and she was converted — all because someone did not give up too soon.

- Jerry Cantrell, via *Beacon*, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -

God's laws last longer than those who break them.

News & Notes

CONFESSION/REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: Pat Allison.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Resumes this Tuesday, May 2nd at 9:00 a.m. All the ladies are invited to participate in this good work.

MEN'S LEADERSHIP CLASSES: Resumes this Tuesday, May 2nd at 7:00 p.m. All the men are urged to attend this instructive class.

FRIDAY NIGHT SING: May 5th, 7:00 p.m. at the Dewey Ave. Church of Christ in St. Marys, WV.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: This coming Saturday, May 6th, 8:00 a.m. at Connie's Corner in Chester.

FOX NURSING HOME DEVOTIONAL: This coming Saturday, May 6th at 2:30 p.m.

LADIES INSPIRATION DAY: New Brighton, PA Church of Christ, Saturday, May 6th, 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Registration 9:30 a.m.). "Spring Cleaning for the Heart & Soul." Speaker: Julie Sterchi of Campbellsville, KY.

CARD SHOWER: May 7th for Merv & Scharlotte Jones to honor them on their recent marriage. This will be at the Fellowship Building after our evening service. Cake & ice cream will be served.

SUMMER CAMP APPLICATIONS: On the desk in the foyer.

PANTRY: Fruit and applesauce.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Cindy Miskimen requests prayers for her dad, Lewis Call who is now in hospice care.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Mike West, Becky McKittrick, Noni Scadden, Eva Stefl, Betty Henthorne, Doris Dunham. *WEIRTON MEDICAL CENTER*: Mary Nelson.

CROSSROADS: Sarah Miller, Jim Mick, *CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE*: Ella Beagle. *IN FLORIDA*: Ilene Rayl.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

McKinleyville ----- April 30-May 4 ----- Different Speakers
St. Clair Ave., E. Liverpool --- May 5-7 ----- Rico Brown

"I Just Deliver Them"

Along our street I recently met our mailman at the box. I jokingly told him not to bring me any bills. He, in a very witty manner, quickly responded, "I don't make them, I just deliver them." The simple point he transmitted to me was clear. This is the same point that some need to understand about teachers and preachers of the Word. When a godly proclaimer of the truth broadcasts God's Word without compromise, he is not its source (2 Pet. 1:20-21), just the messenger. When he preaches against the sins of the day (social drinking, denominationalism and false religions, dancing, immodest apparel, etc.), he may upset some people. This is not his intention. However, we must realize that he does have a duty to speak the whole truth in love:

(1) "Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God" (Acts 20:26-27).

(2) "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ" (Eph. 4:15).

The sincere preacher of the gospel has a love for souls who need the saving message of the gospel (1 Tim. 4:16; John 8:32). It is as useless to become upset with him as it would be to become upset with the mailman for bringing a bill or a letter containing unhappy news.

Whenever you hear God's Word and it "steps on your toes" or you are offended, don't become upset with the messenger. Instead, remember the mailman — "I just deliver them."

- Tracy Dugger, via *Beacon*, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -