

PICKING UP GOD

Wouldn't it be sad to have a god you have to keep picking up? The Philistines had this problem with their god, Dagon, when the ark of God was placed in the house with this idol. The next morning the priests of Dagon found it "fallen upon its face before the ark of the Lord" (1 Samuel 5:3). So they had to pick up their god to put him back in his place. Isn't it ridiculous? Yet, people continue to do the same thing today.

- They pick up their god in the liquor bottle.
- They pick up their god of drugs.
- They pick up their god of money.
- They pick up their god of possessions.
- They pick up their god of whatever it takes for their pleasure and selfishness.

The list could go on and on. These people believe their gods are picking them up when the gods are actually letting them down. Give thanks that you have a God who does not have to be picked up. Rather, David said, He picks us up. "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings" (Psalm 40:2).

Incidentally, even though it is bad enough to have a god that falls down, can you imagine one that falls to pieces (1 Samuel 5:4)?

- Steve Sanders, *Glad Tidings of Good Things (House to House)* -

THE WRONG QUESTIONS

GORDON SMITH

Instead of "what has the church done for me?" would it not be better to ask, "what have I done for the church?"

Instead of "why don't they visit me?" shouldn't we ask, "how often do I visit?"

Instead of "why don't I get more out of worship?" we should ask, "what do I put into worship?"

Instead of "why doesn't he repent?" it should be, "do I need to repent?"

Instead of "why doesn't the preaching satisfy me?" we should ask, "if I were preaching would I satisfy everyone?"

Instead of "why isn't the church doing more?" we should ask, "what am I doing for the Lord?"

Instead of "why doesn't he agree with what I have been taught?" it might be better if we ask, "am I certain that what I have been taught is scripturally correct?"

Examining others is one of our favorite pastimes. Examining ourselves is one of our least favorite. Yet, the only way we can go to heaven is by examining ourselves (2 Cor. 13:5). What a wonderful world it would be if we would all recognize the truth.

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

Where you go hereafter depends on what you go after here.

News & Notes

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Resumes this Tuesday, June 13th at 9:00 a.m.

All ladies are invited to participate.

SERVICES CHANGES: This Wednesday, June 14th will be song practice, and Wednesday, June 28th will be Bible study.

GRADUATION BANQUET: Saturday, June 17th. Those who received an invitation to this event need to R.S.V.P. the McKittricks TODAY.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: June 19-23, 7:00 p.m. with Gary Bailey teaching the adult class. Classes for ALL ages.

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP: July 10-15. Teachers are needed. If you would like to teach, a sign-up sheet is on the desk in the foyer. Submit camp applications ASAP.

PANTRY: Fruit & applesauce.

REMEMBER WITH PRAYER & CARDS: Angie Malcomson (daughter-in-law of David & Janet), 2322 S. 8th Ave., North Riverside, IL 60546. Margie Chisler (Peggy Williams' sister), 1596 Daybrook Road, Fairview, WV 26570.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Shirley Beagle, David McCoy, Blondenia Orr, Betty Henthorne, Doris Dunham, Lewis Call (Cindy Miskimen's dad). **FOX NURSING HOME:** Mary Nelson. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller, Jim Mick, **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Eva Stefl (Rehab); Ella Beagle. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

LET A MAN EXAMINE HIMSELF

When we examine others, we justify self — but when we examine self, we are more disposed to justify others. Let a man —

- Examine his company (Psalm 1; Prov. 13:20). Fowl of a feather flock together.
- Examine habits (1 John 2:15).
- Examine his thoughts (Psalm 10:4). "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Prov. 23:7).
- Examine his affections (Col. 3:2). "To be carnally minded is death" (Rom. 8:6).
- Examine his motives (1 Cor. 10:31). Are they acting for self or God? (Col. 3:17).
- Author Unknown
- via Central Church of Christ, Clearwater, FL -

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Where two or three are gathered
And two or three agree,
God will hear your every prayer
And always answer thee.
Know that He is with you
Through every step of life.
He is your beloved Comforter
During your woes and strife.
We must place our lives into His hands
As we walk this earthly sod,
And always do His holy will.
For He is our Lord, our God.
Remember what we ask in prayer,
God might not grant that day,
But He will always answer us
In His own time and way.

- Author Unknown -