

Good News

From Getwell

Published by
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The Getwell congregation sends monthly
support to the following:

Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN
West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN
Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY
Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:20 a.m.
Worship.....5:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Ladies Bible Class (Sept. - May) 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

One of the bulletins we receive regularly has one thought provoking article that is always printed:

"Will we see you back here tonight?

If not, where will you be that's more important than worshipping the Lord?"

These important admonitions should cause every child of God to think seriously about the safety of their soul. Are we putting the Lord first in our lives? Have we forsaken the privileges of assembling with the saints at the times set by the elders? (Please read: Matt. 6:33; Heb. 10:23-25; 13:17). If these questions apply to your life why not make a change by repentance while you can (II Pet. 3:9)?

As Christians we are commanded to desire the sincere milk of the Word. This we will do if we desire to be strong and faithful Christians (I Pet. 2:2; 3:18). The church is made up of "living stones" (I Pet. 2:5). Each Christian is servant or stone in the walls of the church of Christ. If we are missing in our duty and mission, we weaken the walls of the Lord's church! Satan is delighted with those who are not faithful to the charge of faithfulness. Satan promises to reward us accordingly for our service in his realm (Rom. 6:23).

Should Christians Join the Denominations?

Gary Colley

We have a great love for our brethren and desire to help them when possible. However, our help is not always appreciated. We are seeing in some of our liberal brethren the desire to compromise the Truth of the Gospel. This is indeed sad, knowing they shall receive their reward! (Rom. 6:23; Jas. 5:19-20). No Christian should ever compromise Truth with error! (Jn. 8:31-32). Some are saying today that we should have fellowship with the denominations and even refer to them as the "Christian community." The denominations made by men were not known about for 1500 years after Jesus established His church (Matt. 16:18). Denominations are not mentioned in the Bible, except in condemnation (Gal. 1:6-10; I Cor. 1:10-15).

It should be the aim of every Christian to so live as to show the world that Christ lives in us by His teaching and that His way, or the church of Christ, is the only way to the Father in Heaven (Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:12). Paul saw that the Jewish religion would not save, so he removed himself from it, and spent the rest of his life teaching others to come out of that religion (Gal. 2:20). He had no fellowship (partnership) with those of the Jewish religion and said we should not have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness either, but rather reprov'd them (Eph. 5:11).

"Reproving them" does not seem to be in the vocabulary of the "change agents" of our

day! There is no comparison between Paul speaking in the synagogues and some today joining the denominations in the "Ministerial Associations" and participating with them in their worship! The denominations of today deny every one of the units of the Spirit (Eph. 4:1-6).

Jesus' disciples came to Him one time saying, "Knowest thou not that the Pharisees [the outstanding man-made religion of this time, GC] were offended, after they heard this saying?" Jesus' answer needs to be seen by our liberal brethren who want to flirt with the denominations and have their preachers join the "Ministerial Associations." Jesus said, "Every plant [teaching, GC], which my heavenly father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch [destruction, GC] (Matt. 15:12-14). Christians should be warning these denominational leaders of their end instead of joining them in "Easter Services," etc. (II Jn. 9-11)!

Every Christian should be set for the defense of the Gospel and the upholding of the Lord's church to the lost world (Phil. 1:17). The blood-stained banner of the cross is the only hope of lost man (Mk. 16:15-16). We are commanded to contend earnestly for the Faith, once and for all delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Let us remember our responsibility.

RON'S REMINDERS



Every issue of *The Spiritual Sword* is exceptional, but the current issue is a gem. This issue is entitled “What Can the Righteous Do?” In this issue there is an article by Matt Vega entitled “The Same-Sex Marriage Decision.” I heartily believe it is a must-read article for elders across the brotherhood.

I am running another article from *Think* magazine, published by Focus Press. The article is entitled “How To Get the Most out of Bible Class.” I think the information imparted will be helpful to Bible school teachers and parents who read and practice the tips contained in the piece.

—Ron Wallace

How To Get the Most out of Bible Class

Bible classes can be among the most enjoyable hours of each week. It's always fun to gather with other people and study God's Word. We should always go into Bible class each Sunday and Wednesday with the goal of learning as much as we can about God and what He had to say to us in the Bible. How can we make the most out of every Bible class? How can kids commit to memory the Bible accounts and lessons that they learn in class? Here are three important Bible class habits for children to practice.

1. Pay attention. This one seems like an obvious one, but if adults have this problem, kids can too. How do I know how adults have this problem? Ask any number of them on Monday morning what the Sunday morning sermon addressed and you'll likely get a lot of “Uhhh, I don't know” answers. Sometimes, kids can hang onto lessons a lot better than adults, but that's not going to happen if you're not listening. I know it's fun to be around your friends, especially when you only get to see them two or three times per week, but playing and chatting can wait until after. Make sure you're there to pay attention to what the teacher has to say about the Bible, and before long you'll start to build a strong foundation of Biblical knowledge.
2. Re-read the Bible verses throughout the week. Even when you pay attention in class, sometimes it's easy to get busy with everything else going on throughout the week and forget most of what you learn in Bible class. So, one of the best things you can do to take what the teacher said and really make it stick is to read through the Bible verses you discussed in class. This gives

your memory a chance to review the lessons multiple times, which means you'll have a lot better chance of remembering the details of what you were taught and where in the Bible that account or lesson can be found. People who are blessed with the privilege of attending Bible class throughout their youth should have a strong knowledge of God's Word, but many only come out with vague memories of names or events in the Bible. If you go home and re-read the lesson text for three or four days, though, you'll definitely retain more long term and be better prepared for the next week's lesson.

3. Talk about what you learned with your parents. Studies (including our own here at Focus Press) have shown that children's Bible class attendance has little effect on whether someone stays in church as they move into adulthood. What does make a difference, though, is continued Bible study at home throughout the week. This makes sense, as it was God's prescribed practice for parents to talk about the Word with their families every day in Deuteronomy 6:6-7. The first way to really learn something and put it into long-term memory is by practicing repetition. You do that when you read and re-read the lesson text. The second best way, though, is being able to take a lesson and put it in your own words. I've seen preschool aged children give excited, passionate accounts of what they learned in Bible class, and so it's certainly never too early to start. Parents, make sure you discuss your children's Bible lessons with them and help them learn to share what they know at a young age.

—weeThink, August 2015