

Good News

From Getwell

Published by
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The Truth in Love
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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

We commend the faithful brethren for their hearty support and interest in the work here. "Every member, every service, every time" should be our motto. The Lord makes it clear that He does not accept second, third, or fourth place in our lives. For us to live acceptably we must "study to show thyself approved unto God" (II Tim. 2:15) and give Him first place in life (Mt. 6:33).

Arithmetic was important in our school training, but it is also important in the study of the Word of God. Some seem to be unable to add, subtract, multiply, and divide correctly. For instance we learn:

1. The Bible plus man's doctrine equals condemnation (Rev. 22:18-19; I Cor. 4:6).
2. Belief plus baptism equals salvation (Mk. 16:15-16).
3. Belief minus baptism equals nothing!
4. Repentance plus baptism equals salvation (Acts 2:38).
5. Repentance minus baptism equals nothing!
6. The church minus disorderly brethren equals unity and purity (II Th. 3:6).
7. Multiplying disciples times disciples equals growth (Acts 6:1; 4:4; 5:14).
8. The Bible divided by study equals proper understanding (Eph. 5:17).
9. The religious world divided by men, equals strife and confusion (I Cor. 1:10-13).
10. Christ adds all of the saved to His church (Acts 2:47). He will be happy to add you to His church upon your obedience (Acts 2:41).

Where in the Bible Will I Find . . . What the Church of Christ Believes?

Gary Colley

It is highly important for all religious people to “prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (I Thess. 5:21). It should be with continual interest that we “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith” (II Cor. 13:5). Since only the inspired Scriptures given by God thoroughly furnish us “unto all good works” (II Tim. 3:16-17), we cannot trust in catechisms, prayer books, disciplines, or other creeds of men to guide us. We must go “to the law and to the testimony” and speak according to this word, or there is no Heavenly light in us (Isa. 8:20). Paul wrote, “But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is in the image of God, should shine unto them” (II Cor. 4:3-4). Members of the churches of Christ (Rom. 16:16) are commanded to “sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear” (I Pet. 3:15).

1. When asked about why we worship as we do, we answer with the authorization of such Scriptures as John 4:24; for singing Ephesians 5:19; for preaching II Timothy 4:1-4; for partaking of the Lord’s Supper on the first day of every week Acts 2:42; 20:7; for prayer I Thessalonians 5:18; and for giving as prospered on the first day of the week I Corinthians 16:1-2.

2. When asked about why we teach and practice Godly living and purity of life, we offer such Scriptures as Titus 2:11-12 and Romans 12:1-2.

3. When asked why we teach the plan of salvation being necessary to enter the church of Christ, we refer our friends for hearing to Romans 10:17; for believing to Hebrews 11:6; for repenting of our sins to Luke 13:3; for confessing the name of Jesus to Romans 10:9-10; and for being baptized to wash away our sins to Mark 16:15-16 and Acts 22:16. We want all to know what the Scriptures say, “For by one Spirit (His teaching, GC) are we all baptized into one body” (I Cor. 12:13).

4. When asked about why we teach all men will be lost who do not obey the Gospel, we cite II Thessalonians 1:7-9 and I Peter 4:15-18.

5. When asked why we teach that one must remain faithful to the Lord in order to be saved or otherwise he falls from the grace of God, we suggest men read Galatians 5:4, Revelation 2:10, Colossians 1:23, and I Corinthians 10:12-13.

6. When asked why we wear no other name but the name of Christ, for individuals (Christian) and for the church (church of Christ), we ask all to read I Peter 4:16, Acts 11:26, 26:28-29, and Romans 16:16-17.

We plead with all to study these Scriptures in the light of the eternity to which we are all rapidly passing (Matt. 25:46).

RON'S REMINDERS



As I work with the young people of the congregation I came across this article concerning the young of the church. Unfortunately, we lose so many of our young as they transition from teens to adulthood. The author of this article particularly highlights the very positive “Lads to Leaders” program.

—Ron Wallace

Training Youth In Faithfulness

“WE DON’T RISE TO THE LEVEL OF OUR EXPECTATIONS; WE FALL TO THE LEVEL OF OUR TRAINING,” noted the ancient Greek poet Archilochus. For this reason, I am an advocate for Lads to Leaders.

Many programs for spiritual development are based on expectations. Filled with hype, they over-promise and under-deliver. Some, dangerously, lead youth away from the old paths of the faith. Even with those we trust doctrinally, however, we must make sure they actually instill faithfulness in our youth.

On this front, I have total confidence; the Lads to Leaders program has provided decades of successful training among congregations of the Lord’s church. No comparable program for youth development can show the proven results of participants maturing into active and faithful members of the church.

Achieving success seldom rests upon doing one outstanding thing. Normally, success comes from cultivating a habit of right choices. Countless little things, rather than one big thing, make the difference.

We send our young people to a great event and expect their lives to be inalterably changed. Give me a break. This approach is the very definition of attempting “to rise to the level of our expectations.” Yes, the teenagers may come back from a one-and-done event pumped. But they are not equipped. They have not been trained for spiritual vitality.

In contrast, the Lads to Leaders program does not rest on a once-a-year hype. Yes, the conventions are imposing and inspirational, but they are built upon an ongoing work of the local church.

I have been involved in various brotherhood programs. There is great value in many of them. But in reading the Bible, I do not read about youth rallies or retreats or conferences. I read about God’s people being gathered into congregations that are overseen by elders, served by deacons, and instructed by evangelists.

The Lads to Leaders program builds the local church. And it trains. Through planned repetition, it instills the practice of faithful Christian service into the lives of those who participate.

Reviewing the various aspects of the program offered by Lads to Leaders, you see many things most congregations are already doing. Bible reading and memorization, teaching Bible classes, and training in leadership are just a few of the many possible areas of involvement. One aspect of the Lads to Leaders program I must highlight is, in keeping with biblical teaching, girls do not lead in worship activities for mixed groups of men and women.

Young people with various interests and abilities can find some aspect of the program to embrace and in which they can excel. I am especially thankful Lads to Leaders has included the Bartimaeus section of events, providing access to participation for those with special needs. I want to encourage every congregation to look carefully into what they are doing for the youth of the church. If you see the need for deeper biblical training, please consider the Lads to Leaders program.

—Alan Tidwell

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