

GOOD NEWS

From Getwell

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Home of
The Spiritual Sword Lectureship

Radio Program

The Truth in Love

WHBQ-AM 560 / FM 87.7

Sundays, 8:00 a.m.

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.

WEDNESDAY

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

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ON THE HOME FRONT

This past Sunday was truly a great day here at the Getwell church of Christ. There were three responses to the Lord's invitation on Sunday morning, and one asking for prayers for strength during the evening service. Melvin Hammond and Dion Smith asked us to pray for them that they would continue to resist temptation. Christine Allen asked for prayers for strength as she continues to recover from her stroke and as she goes back to work. It truly was a "Happy Day" on Sunday morning as Daisha Sanders was baptized into Christ. As her brothers and sisters in Christ, let us do all that we can to encourage her, as we all know how much encouragement that a new Christian needs.

Though it is still about nine months away, we have started laying the groundwork for the 45th Annual Spiritual Sword Lectureship. We have sent out invitations to speakers and we are starting to get responses from them. As members here at Getwell, we should be promoting this event already. The theme, "Bring Them In", is something that is vital to all. The theme of evangelism really lends itself to inviting as many people as we can. Let us all work to make this lectureship the best that it can be. I have heard stories of the days when folding chairs were placed in the aisles to give extra seating. Wouldn't it be great to get back to those days once again?

Continuing with our verses to memorize, our next verse will be Matthew 16:18, which states, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." This verse is crucial for us to know because it describes that Jesus only built one church. Notice the singular nature of "my church" as contained in the verse. It is my hope and prayer that these verses will help us in daily conversations with our friends in the world.

Bradley Smith

God's Plan for the Home (Pt. 2)

Bradley Smith

Last week we began a study of God's plan for the home as described in Genesis 2:24 and Matthew 19:1-9. There are many unfortunate changes that some have tried to make to God's commands. Last week we studied the perversion known as homosexuality. This week it is our goal to study a very controversial topic, even among members of the Lord's church: marriage, divorce, and remarriage.

God's plan has always read as such, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Gen. 2:24). Notice, there is no clause in this verse which says, "unless you never really loved each other" or "unless she burns the toast." We use the last example jokingly, but many couples have terminated their marriages based on silly things such as this. God has desired that one man and one woman be together **for life**.

For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away (divorce, BMS): for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously (Mal. 2:16).

We transition into the New Testament and see what God's word has to say about marriage, divorce, and remarriage. It is very simply stated in Matthew 19:9:

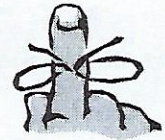
And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

We see that the only scriptural reason for a divorce and remarriage is fornication. Fornication is defined as explicit contact in which one party is married and the other is not (Webster). The only one with a right to divorce and marry another in this instance is the innocent party (the one who did not commit fornication).

No matter what added scenarios one may wish to add, this is the only scriptural reason for divorce and remarriage. If a man and woman are divorced for a reason other than this, they must both remain unmarried, or be reconciled to one another, for the rest of their lives (1 Cor. 7:10-11). This is simply God's Word on the matter. Remember, God's Word is perfect (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

This has been just a brief study of one perversion that many make to God's Word. It is our prayer that we will all consider ourselves.

RON'S REMINDERS



We Have Major Issues – Brad Harrub, Ph.D

Think Magazine October 2019

The Christian family in America (and I suspect abroad) has major issues! I do not say this in a judgmental way, but rather to point out something that I have observed. When I started preaching, I knew there were families out there who had been touched by things like divorce, death, chronic illness, lost children, etc. But I assumed those families were relatively rare and that most people in the audience were "normal." The more I've traveled and have gotten to know people, the more I realize there is no such thing as "normal." The Norman Rockwell family featured in pictures does not exist. After almost twenty, years of preaching I've discovered basically every single family has issues.

Maybe it is a spouse who is not a Christian.
Maybe it is a spouse who is verbally abusive.
Maybe it is a spouse who is a workaholic.
Maybe it is a spouse who no longer loves you.
Maybe it is a spouse who is addicted to pornography.
Maybe it is a child who is rebellious.
Maybe it is a child who got pregnant out of wed- lock.
Maybe it is a child who is chronically sick.
Maybe it is a child who suffers a mental illness.
Maybe it is an older child who has never obeyed the Gospel.
Maybe it is a sibling that is unable to take care

of himself/herself.
Maybe it is a sibling who is causing your parents mental anguish.
Maybe it is a sibling who is addicted to drugs or alcohol.
Maybe it is a sibling who died at a relatively young age.
Maybe it is a parent who has been diagnosed with cancer.
Maybe it is a parent who committed adultery.
Maybe it is a parent who suffers from dementia.
Maybe it is a parent who is unable to pay their bills.

And the list could go on and on and on. These are not theoretical "issues" that a few people have. These are very real scenarios that individuals sitting in the pews around you are suffering. And many of these issues affect the physical and emotional well-being of those around us.

Here's the problem as I see it: Satan has convinced us that we must have perfect families-families without blemishes. Social media like Facebook and Instagram have fed this lie, encouraging Christians to only display pictures of a beautiful happy family. As a result, we never share what is really going on at home and in many cases, we are left to suffer all alone through our issues.

I don't believe this is what God wants and I don't believe this is how the church in Acts 2 behaved. I believe in times past church families were closer. People spent more time with one another in their homes. I suspect being in one another's homes and having all things in common allowed these individuals to have real conversations about what was really going on at home. This was a church family that saw one another more than just an hour or two per week. I believe there was great comfort in knowing you were not the only one struggling. Did they have issues back then? Absolutely. But their stress and emotional health were much better because they had Christian family to talk to and lean on.

Today, pride causes us to hide behind the facade that everything is "fine." We are too busy to have brothers and sisters over for a meal. We settle for fast-food Christians' and believe that 1-2 hours on a Sunday is enough. And Christians all around us suffer silently, thinking they are the only ones who have issues.

How refreshing would it be if we were closer to one another and could be real with each? How liberating would it be to know you do not have to have the perfect family? How thankful would you be to know that others are going through similar trials? How amazing would it be to have an entire church family that truly rejoices and weeps together?

I believe it could happen. I think it needs to happen. Deep down I think people want it to happen. But there is one final "issue" that would need to be exposed before this problem can be fixed-and that "issue" is for Christians to have the courage to admit they have issues and are not perfect. We have to feel comfortable getting our hands dirty with our church family, as we all share in the reality that we have issues. We have to have the strength to admit we are not perfect, and therefore we need Jesus Christ!

Can, you picture it? Can, you imagine walking in to an auditorium full of people with issues who openly acknowledge they have problems and need Jesus? What a beautiful sight that would be . . .