

Good News

From Getwell

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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.

Volume LXII

January 3, 2021

Number 1

ON THE HOME FRONT

It is truly a privilege to pen the first Home Front article of 2021. We had several visitors this past Lord's Day. I was privileged to have the opportunity to preach as brother Smith is on vacation.

At this writing we have 361 days in the year to serve our Lord. With that in mind what resolutions have you made regarding your relationship with the Lord and your spiritual growth.

Here are some suggestions that come to mind:

- (1) Reading the Bible through in 2021. To make that easier, we have a daily Bible reading chart in our bulletin each month.
- (2) Memorize a Bible verse each week. At the end of the year, you would know 52 verses of the Bible. To help with this we place a memory verse in the bulletin each week.
- (3) Set aside time each day for prayer, Bible study and meditation.
- (4) Each day make it a point to mention God in a conversation.
- (5) Invite someone to services.
- (6) Contact a member of the congregation you haven't seen in a while.

Lastly, let us encourage and exhort one another in the Lord in 2021.

Happy New Year!

Ron Wallace

To Serve Or To Be Served?

Let's face it. We live in the United States of America. The land of instant gratification. The place where encyclopedias worth of information are literally at our fingertips. The society where in a matter of seconds, we can have access to almost every song ever produced and almost every movie/TV show ever released. Get the picture? We love to have things our way. We are members of a society that is obsessed with being served. I'm no innocent party either. I can't stand it when I have a WiFi signal that isn't at least a certain speed. But the point is, because we live in the United States of America, the concept of serving rather than being served is almost as extinct as dinosaurs or sabertooth tigers.

What that means is, for us as New Testament Christians who live in the United States, we are at a disadvantage. We are going to have to fight against the cultural current that is carrying us down a path where serving others rather than being served is disregarded. For the New Testament Christian, there's almost nothing more central to our Christianity than the concept of service. After all, the One whom we follow, whom we seek to imitate, and whom we find our hope in, came to earth **to serve**.

"Even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many"
(Matthew 20:28).

Think about that verse for just a second. Jesus Christ. The Savior of the World. The Son of God. The most important Human Being who has ever walked the face of this earth, and He tells us that He came to serve rather than to be served. As imitators of Him, as followers of Him, serving is also our purpose by default. Now the easier of the two options, to serve or be served, is quite obviously the latter. It's far easier and more comfortable to be served by others than to put effort into serving others. But I encourage you to consider the words of Paul in Romans 12:1, when he says,

"I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God which is your reasonable service."

The truth according to Scripture is that the Christian life is not meant to be one of comfort. Far too often, we get zoned in to this Americanized version of life where we seek comfortable and pleasurable living above all else. But Paul

implores the Romans to present themselves as **living sacrifices** to the service of God. To be served is comfortable. To serve is sacrificial. Sacrificial Christianity is the Christianity we should be striving for.

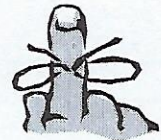
In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul implores the Corinthians to imitate him because he imitated Christ. No disrespect to Paul, but I want to "cut out the middle man," and remind all Christians reading this article that we need to be waking up every single day seeking to more closely imitate Christ. As stated earlier, no one exhibits a better example of serving instead of being served than Jesus Christ. One of the most memorable examples is found in John 13 where Jesus, on the night of His crucifixion, got down on His knees to wash His apostles' feet. But rather than focus on the physical act of washing the apostles' feet like we typically do, I invite you to consider something. Keep in mind that the setting of John 13 is Jesus celebrating the Passover and instituting the Lord's Supper on the night before His crucifixion. It's in verses 5-12 that He washes their feet. Although it's not explicitly stated, verse 12 seems to indicate that Jesus washed the feet of everyone that was in the room ... **including the man who would betray Him just a few hours later**.

You see, Judas Iscariot didn't leave the room until John 13:30. This means that the incredible example of washing feet, the phenomenal act of serving by Jesus was done to the very man who would be responsible for betraying Him in a matter of hours. What a powerful message Jesus Christ sent when He washed the feet of not just the apostles who loved Him and would later go on to be persecuted for Him, but to also wash the feet of the one who would betray Him.

To serve or to be served ... that is the question. It's a question that the world, society, and simple human nature will answer one way, while Jesus Christ answered a different way. Despite the urge and pull to be served as much as possible, we as Christians, if we are truly seeking to imitate Christ, must reject that urge. To serve as Christ served, to live a life of sacrificial Christianity, that is the answer.

Will Harrub, Think Magazine, November 2020

RON'S REMINDERS



Wrapped, Tied, and Tangled

We are living in times where so many people are wanting to be heard, are fighting for a cause, are pushing for change and are standing for what they feel are their rights. The mindset of many has become more sensitive, bold, anxious, weary and even prideful. It can definitely feel, at times, as if we are skating on thin ice.

It is most important during these troubled times that we, as Christians, not find ourselves wrapped up, tied up, or tangled up in worldly issues and problems. As Christians we need to understand how we can easily become distracted and find ourselves consumed in the many worldly situations that have recently been brought to the forefront in our societies. These distractions are in our neighborhood, our workplaces, our schools and in our very homes. We have allowed the TV, Internet, radio, and let's not forget that one device we cannot live without. . . the almighty cellphone to cause us great distraction. These items used for communication, entertainment, and information are all being used by Satan to steer our minds and hearts away from the Lord. Satan wants our vision to become blurred. When our vision becomes blurred, we lose our focus on the Lord and we become an easy target for that deceiver, that liar from the beginning, Satan.

Satan has an agenda. He waits for the opportunity to intertwine us into his affairs and to use us for his own evil purpose. As children of God we must remain watchful and recognize the ways of Satan's entrapment.

In our Christian journey we have recognized three ways that Satan entraps us as Christians. **First entrapment is that Satan wants to wrap us up.** When we become wrapped up, we become completely preoccupied and absorbed in worldly issues, and the hustle and bustle of day-to-day affairs. We can even get so wrapped up in something or someone, that it can become impossible to pay attention or to listen to anyone else. Isn't that us today? We have gotten so busy and wrapped up in worldly causes, that we have forgotten our main cause, our first cause. We have forgotten our loyalty and obedience to our Lord. Matthew 6:24 tells us, "we cannot serve two masters, for either we will hate the one and love the other, or else be loyal to one and despise the other." Satan wants to wrap us up in problems and not solutions. He wants chaos instead of peace. Romans 12:2 says to us, "not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Recognize this entrapment and resist.

The second entrapment is that Satan wants to tie us up. When tied up you become bound, connected or fastened to

something .BEWARE! We have heard the saying, "Everything that glitters is not gold." Satan has a way of tying people and situations to you, to make you feel as if you are needed or necessary in situations. He will trick your mind to think that if you're not a part of something then you are less of a person. He is the master of lies. There will be times in our Christian journey where we must just stand alone. 1 Peter 2:9 says, "you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation." You are a peculiar people. Satan wants to tie us to this world, but stay focused. We must make the choice of God's way of doing things and not the world's way.

The last entrapment of Satan is that he wants to tangle us up. When we become tangled up, we are caught, trapped or mixed up in something. This reminds me of Christmas time, when separating lights for the Christmas tree. No matter how neatly I put them away the year before, I somehow still find myself untangling a confused mess of lights again. Today we are experiencing political entanglement, racial entanglement, and even pandemic entanglement. We are in a mixed-up world of confusion. This confusion is what Satan thrives on. We must remember to keep ourselves clear of involvement in confusing situations. 1 Corinthians 14:33 says, "God is not the author of confusion but of peace."

The Lord has everything to offer us and when we live for His will and His ways, **He will wrap us up in His promises.** 2 Peter 3:9 says, "He is not slack concerning His promises, ... is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

He will tie us up in His peace. Philippians 4:7 says that the Lord is able to give to us what the world cannot—the peace that passes all understanding. That should keep our hearts and our minds focused on Jesus Christ.

He will tangle us up in His protection. In a world that just gets worse and worse. The Lord will provide His protection from the seen and the unseen. 2 Thessalonians 3:3 says, "But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one."

Let's not let the world entrap us, but let's let our entrapment be in the Lord. What a wonderful and comfortable feeling it is to know when we are wrapped, tied, and tangled in the Lord's blessings. Remain Blessed.