

Good News

From Getwell

Published by
Getwell Church of Christ

1511 Getwell Road
Memphis, Tennessee 38111-7299

Phone: (901) 743-0464

Fax: (901) 743-2197

E-Mail: mail@getwellchurchofchrist.org

Website: www.getwellchurchofchrist.org

ELDERS

Dewey Murray
Daniel P. Phillips
Ron Wallace

MINISTERS

Bradley Smith, Minister
Ron Wallace, Assoc. Minister
Daniel P. Phillips

Publishers of

THE SPIRITUAL SWORD

Alan E. Highers, Editor

Home of

The Spiritual Sword Lectureship

Radio Program

The Truth in Love

WHBQ-AM 560 / FM 98.5

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

What a blessing it is to be part of the Getwell church of Christ! We are glad to see each one here and we are thrilled with the participation that we each have. In order for a congregation to function properly, each one must work together, and that is exactly what we have done. Thank you very much for your assistance in these efforts.

If you have not read the latest issue of the Spiritual Sword, I would highly encourage you to do so. Listed below are the topics and writers:

- A Soul Winner for Jesus- Alan Highers
- The Great Commission- Hugh Fulford
- Preaching that Will Save- Phil Sanders
- The Value of a Soul- Steve Higginbotham
- The Mission of the Church- Glenn Colley
- Effective Gospel Meetings- Dan Jenkins
- Personal Bible Studies- Gary Hampton
- What if I am Lost?- Allen Webster
- Planning our Work- David Pharr
- The Power of God unto Salvation- Hiram Kemp
- The Power of Radio and Television Preaching- Hugh Fulford
- You Never Mentioned Him to Me- Alan Higher

Bradley Smith

From The Desk Of Bradley Smith

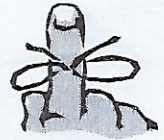
What I Have Learned from One Year of COVID-19 (Part 3)

Some Value Masks Over the Messiah

The idea of wearing masks really gained popularity in May and June of 2020. Naturally, this was a very divisive issue in the Lord's church. Those who felt one way about them said that if one wore a mask, he was acquiescing to a large government ploy for control. Others who felt the opposite way said that if one did not wear a mask, he did not truly love his neighbor. Usually, when you have two extreme positions, the truth is somewhere in the middle.

Issues arose over congregations asking members to wear masks or leaving it as optional. Unfortunately, I personally have heard of congregations splitting over this mask issue. All of this boils down to a principle found in Romans 14. In dealing in matters of opinion, we should not impose something on someone that is not bound by Scripture. At the same time, I should go out of my way to not cause someone to stumble. If my not wearing a mask is going to cause a brother to question his Christianity, I should wear one. If my wearing a mask is going to compromise a sister's soul, if possible, I should either not wear it around her, or stay away so as to not make her stumble. When we value masks over the Messiah, we lose sight of our goal. We are to build one another up, not tear one another down (Eph. 4:29, etc.).

RON'S REMINDERS



The Heart

What we think about, what we dwell on, ultimately determines what we will become.

Today, the heart is thought of as the seat of emotions, and the mind, as the seat of reason. Young infatuated couples are said to be "following their hearts and not their heads." In the Bible, however, it is the heart that thinks: "As he thinks in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7 NKJV). It is in the heart where we decide our purpose: "Each one must give as he has decided in heart" (2Corinthians 9:7 ESV). Benevolent actions flow from a good heart; wicked, evil actions flow from a corrupt heart (Matthew 15:17-20). When we decide what to fill our minds (hearts) with, we are deciding what kind of person we will be.

Most of us are familiar with the clever turn of words, "We are not what we think we are, but what we think, we are." It is in the Bible that what we think about, what we dwell on, ultimately determines what we will become: "As he thinks in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7 NKJV).

Covetousness and lust are two kinds of thoughts God's law forbids us to harbor. To covet is to desire what belongs to another to the extent that we would do wrong to take it we had the opportunity.

To lust after a woman, similarly, is to desire to have her illicitly to the extent that we would take her if we had the opportunity. God also wants us to realize that a woman is not a sex object but a God-

made creature of infinite worth created in the image of God with an eternal spirit. Our thoughts should center on, "How can I help her get to heaven?" rather than "How can I have her for sex?"

If we deliberately center our thoughts on God and how we can please Him, that is what will define us. The apostle Paul reminds us it is not easy to keep our minds centered on God and His will; often, it takes a struggle (Romans 7). But the very struggle is evidence of a strong desire to keep our minds, our hearts, centered on God and His will.

Think of good works you can do: sick people who need food, lonely people who need visiting, weak and sickly people who need their houses cleaned or their yards mowed, and plan how to help them. If you fill your mind with trashy novels or dwell on imaginary sexual conquests you would like to make, do not be surprised if you find yourselves acting out such fantasies in life.

We can control what our actions will be and what direction our lives will take by controlling what thoughts dominate our thinking. Working with computers, we learn "GIGO," "Garbage in, garbage out." The same is true of our hearts; be careful what we fill them with. "As he thinks in his heart, so is he."