

Getting What You Need Out of Life

There is a passage in Matthew 6 that deals with not worrying about the necessities of life (verses 25-32). God promises to provide them for us if we follow His plan, which is found in verse 33. Note the verse and what is required of us: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

Obligation = seek

Webster's defines seek as "to resort to, to go to." We must make an industrious, continual effort. This will take our time and resources, but we must be willing to do what it takes.

Object = kingdom of God and His righteousness

The kingdom of God and His righteousness are all the things pertaining to our relationship with God (our Christianity, the church, worship, evangelism, etc.). That is what we must seek.

Order = first

These spiritual matters must be placed first in our lives--first in importance, in point of time, in emphasis, and in our affections. Nothing must come before our faithfulness to God.

Outcome = all these things shall be added to you

God promises that we will never be in want of the necessities of life if we truly trust in Him and are active in His kingdom.

Edd Sterchi church of Christ Harrisburg, Illinois

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: "The Father of Lights" James 1:13-18
 Sunday Evening: "A Melting Pot?"

Leadership

Elders Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey
Deacons Clint Smith Sr, Clint Smith Jr,
 Robby Stocksdale, Joe Sweeney
Pulpit Minister Eric Welch
Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Class 10:00 AM
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM
 Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 PM

Panama Missions

Evans Campbell Pablo Sanchez

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125

Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org Email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org

Those Privileged to Serve

AM Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
 Opening Prayer David Blackwell
 Scripture Grover Blanton
 Sermon Eric Welch
 Lord's Supper Luke 22:14-23, 39-70
 Message Rick Martin
 Attendant Greg Blanton
 Attendant Brandon Montgomery
 Closing Prayer Joe Sweeney

PM Service

Song Leader Stephen Cravens
 Bible Reading Clint Smith Sr
 Selection 48
 Prayer John Keaton
 Sermon Eric Welch
 Closing Prayer Leon Stocksdale
*If you are unable to serve,
 Call Art Patrick 502-819-9481
 Or Harold Tinchler 288-5956*

AM & PM Services

Announcements Jerry Casey
 Lord's Supper Matt Johnson
 Offering Robby Stocksdale
 Usher Harold Tinchler
 Count Offering Art Patrick
 Assist Count Harold Tinchler

Last Sunday

Contribution Attendance
 \$3073 78



The Worker

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Throwing Stones

Speaking unkindly of the mistakes and failures (sins) of others without considering their own sins is a practice all too common among the public in general and Christians in particular. While such as it occurs in the world is unacceptable, it should be totally unspeakable among Christians.

Someone has rightly said, "People who live in glass houses should not throw stones." This adage speaks volumes to the hypocrisy of those who forget that they, too, are human, and that God does not categorize sin on a continuum from large to small. Sin is the transgression of God's law (John 3:4).

The Pharisees, intent upon tempting the Lord, brought a woman before him whom they accused of being taken in the act of adultery. "Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?" (John 8:5). It is true that Moses so commanded (Deut. 17:7); however, they forgot a major element in that command: the witnesses who brought the sinner forth were to be the first to stone him. Jesus, knowing the hearts of these deceitful Pharisees, added a most significant requirement before which they could not stand: "...He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone" (John 8:7). These self-righteous Pharisees were convicted of their own consciences and so departed "...beginning at the eldest, even unto the last..." (v.9). Jesus did not condone the sins of the adulterous woman, nor did he justify the self-righteousness of the Pharisees who departed convicted of their own consciences, and no doubt, ashamed.

The Lord taught another potent lesson similar to that of "casting stones." It is another regarding the self-righteous magnifying the sins of others while they refuse to reflect upon their own sin. This is the case of the mote and the beam. "...And why beholdest the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye" (Matthew 7:3-5).

Brother Burton Coffman makes this observation in his commentary on Matthew: "One who judges others is compared to a person presuming to cast a splinter out of his brother's eye while a plank is in his own eye! This is a vivid picture of a person who ignores his own grievous sins while trying to correct the relatively minor shortcomings of another. The mote and the beam represent the disparity between that which is tiny, insignificant, almost invisible, and that which is obvious, flagrant, and obtrusive. The mote hunter is the nitpicker, the specialist in fine, disputed points, who focuses on the most minute deviations while ignoring far more basic and important considerations."

Christians should forgive the trespasses of brothers (Matthew 6:14-15). They should help bear the burdens of their brothers (Gal. 6:2). They should love one another with pure hearts (1 Peter 1:22). By doing these things, they will not be engaged in "throwing stones."

A. C. Quinn preaches for the Church of Christ in Celeste, Texas.

Guarding Our Children

Eric Welch

On August 20, a woman made the statement to infamous atheist Richard Dawkins that she was not sure what she would do if she were carrying a baby with Down Syndrome. His advice? “Abort it and try again. It would be immoral to bring it into the world if you have the choice.” I am not at all surprised by his answer. What do you expect from someone who militantly claims that he knows there is no God?

The ethical code of this militant atheist is, as he himself later wrote “morality is based...on a desire to increase the sum of happiness and reduce suffering.” Whose happiness and suffering is he talking about? Because you cannot get altruism from evolution, the only happiness that you can promote as an atheist is your own. Why be concerned for others? Then why stop with the disabled unborn? If someone gets in the way of my happiness and causes me to suffer, why not just destroy them? When the only ethical code of atheism is survival of the fittest, what else can you expect?

What I am saddened about is the foothold that this religion (atheism) is having on our children. The atheistic worldview asserts that faith is irrational, truth is relative, and Christians are intolerant and regressive. These ideas have permeated every part of our culture and our children have easy access through media, school textbooks, popular music and college campuses.

How many hours a day are our children exposed to this atheist religion? How many hours are they exposed to Christian influence? What are we doing to guard our children from such destructive thinking?

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 “⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children”

Hamburg Pike Happenings

A Teen Devotional is scheduled for Saturday September 20th at 5:00 pm. More details to follow.

A Building Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 11th at 6:30 pm at the church building.

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday September 15th at 6:00 PM. The meal theme will be “Soup”, please sign the sheet if you plan to attend.

A “Kid’s Movie Night” is scheduled for Friday September 19th at 6:30 PM at the building. Please see Clint Jr. for details.

All are invited to meet at Logan’s for dinner on Thursday September 4th at 6:00 PM. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. See Irvin for further details.

Men and young men of the congregation are encouraged to volunteer for a Wednesday evening devotional during the fall quarter. The Elder’s ask that the message be 3 – 5 minutes in duration. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Think On This...

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

Some minds are like concrete - thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

Many church members, singing "Standing on the Promises," are just sitting on the premises.

Don't put a question mark where God put a period.

God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called.

You may be only one person in the world, but you also may be the world to one person.

What this country needs is more free speech that is worth listening to.

The longer a person remains in error the more certain he becomes that he is right.