



HAMBURG PIKE

Church of Christ

The Worker

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A Genuine Bargain in Religion

It takes more than a reduced price to qualify as a real bargain. Some fixed price items can be bargains too, if what you get is worth more than you pay, even at full undiscounted price.

People may be bargain hunters in religion too. They seek a religion that provides benefits greater than the cost. What they often end up with is something that cannot provide their real spiritual needs, but people will accept it because of the reduced cost and commitment on their part. They want to be accepted and approved even though they make a minimal contribution in service, money, etc.

True Christianity is "fair traded." The price is not negotiable but fixed. Its price cannot be lowered or raised. The cost is complete surrender and commitment of oneself to the Lord, willingness to be added to the one and only true church by the Lord Himself and to function only under His headship.

Even with the extremely high cost Christianity is a bargain. The forgiveness of sins, ability to cope with the demands of life, endless spiritual blessings, and the promise of heaven at the end of it - this far outweighs the cost.

It is worth noting that the cost for the Christian is less than what it cost Jesus Christ to provide salvation and heaven for sinners. Be glad you don't have to pay that price.

-- Gerald Cowan preaches for the Dongola church of Christ in Dongola, IL.

Misplaced Priorities

Craig Evans

(This article is from January 2007)

Last night while watching ESPN I saw a news story about the death of Barbaro. After hearing the news story I decided to look at some articles to find out more about him. Here are some of the interesting things that I found.

Barbaro, called Bobby by his friends, was a young talented athlete that was injured back in May. He has endured several surgeries, but finally died after infection had set in. Since his injury, the country has been on "Barbaro Watch" with daily reports in the national media. He was described as honest and blameless, and friendly. It was noted that after everything he went through he was never mean. When his doctor was asked why people were so drawn to him, he replied, "He was so good looking" as he held back the tears. One news caster told how Barbaro had changed people's lives, and David Switzer referred to him as a hero. During his illness 1.2 million dollars was donated to help with medical expenses, thousands of get well cards were sent to him, and a \$500,000 Scholarship has been started in his name to help those who have the same type of injury.

The problem is Barbaro was a horse. What if...

- Prayers were offered for all of the people who are lost instead of a horse without a soul.
- Thousands of cards were sent to people who can read and understand instead of a horse who cannot.
- Widows and orphans were visited instead of traveling to Pennsylvania to see a horse who did not know you were there.
- \$1.2 million was spent on medical bills for the poor, and \$500,000 fund was set up for children.

I am not anti-animal. I have always had pets, and enjoyed wildlife. I would just like to bring some perspective. Horses are not heroes that change lives.

Jesus is a hero that can change lives, and by leading people to him we can change lives.

-- Craig Evans serves as Youth Minister for the Calvert city church of Christ in Calvert City, KY.

"I Hope I Have a Teacher"

Eric Welch

A new quarter for 2016 has started this week. I would like to share some thoughts about the spiritual education of our children

One time before Wednesday evening services at a congregation, I heard a boy say about his class, "I hope I have a teacher tonight." Apparently he had noticed that his teacher failed to inform anyone that she would not be there to teach class? Last-minute emergencies do occur, but teachers who are habitually late or tell no one that they will be absent shows that the spiritual education of our children is unimportant to them and ultimately shows disrespect for Christ. Worse, such apathy can do our children great spiritual harm.

What if Gamaliel had not committed to teach Paul (Acts 22:3)? What if Lois and Eunice did not care about boy Timothy's spiritual training (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-17)? But these teachers did care, and we reap the blessings of their education today. What can we do to "boost our Bible school"?

Pray. The men do a great job praying for our teachers publicly. Imagine the results if we all extended those prayers privately and mentioned the teachers by name.

Enforce. Parents can have their children prepare for Bible class as they prepare for school during the week: Get a good night's rest on Saturday night; Read their Bible lesson; Bring their Bibles; Respect their teachers and fellow students; arrive on time.

Mentor. The best teaching takes place outside the classroom. If you don't teach a Bible class, why not take a young man or woman under your wing just as Paul urged the older generation to do (2 Timothy 2:2; Titus 2:3-5).

The list could go on, but even these three tasks can reap a great harvest in the spiritual education of our children.

Thank you, Jerry and Hayward,, for the detailed way you have set up the program. Thank you, Clint Smith, Sr. for recruiting the teachers and the curriculum. Thank you, teachers, for all your hard work. May we all let continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Think on These...

- Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.
- A lot of church members, singing "Standing on the Promises," are just sitting on the premises.
- You may be only one person in the world, but you also may be the world to one person.
- Those who have no interest in the church are generally those who have made no investment in it.
- Someone suggested that America's number-one energy crisis is Monday morning - how to get on track again at work and do something productive. One might also say the number-one spiritual crisis for the church is Sunday - what to do on the Lord's Day.

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday March 7th, the meal theme is Pizza.

Young men's leadership training class is scheduled for Monday March 7th, 6:30 – 7:30 pm.

The Ladies Bible class is scheduled for Saturday March 26th, 10:00 – 11:00 am.

Fellowship group meetings for March:

- The Williams Group March 13th after the morning worship service
- The Tincher Group March 20th after the morning worship service
- The Smith Group March 20th after the evening worship service

Men of the congregation; the Elders invite and encourage your participation in leading the Wednesday evening devotional. On the bulletin board is a sign-up sheet for the Spring Quarter.

Jerry Montgomery has a handicap bed rail to give away. If you know of someone who may need this please see Jerry.

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

Panama Mission

Pablo Sanchez

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

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

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

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: "A Church that Pleases God" Phil. 1:1-11

Sunday Evening: "The Lamb of God"

Those Privileged to Serve**AM Service**

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
Opening Prayer Greg Blanton
Scripture Harold Tincher
Sermon Eric Welch
Lord's Supper Matt 26:26-68
Message Joe Sweeney
Attendant Jeremy Montgomery
Attendant Jerry Montgomery
Closing Prayer Clint Smith Jr

PM Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdale
Bible Reading Jerry Casey
Selection 1
Prayer Rick Martin
Sermon Eric Welch
Closing Prayer Clint Smith Sr
*If you are unable to serve, please
call Art Patrick 502-819-9481
or Harold Tincher 502-409-3511*

AM & PM Services

Announcements Leon Stocksdale
Lord's Supper Grover Blanton
Offering Ethan Welch
Usher Art Patrick
Count Offering Robby Stocksdale
Assist Count Art Patrick