

Show No Partiality

It is an undeniable truth that life is not fair. Oftentimes we see firsthand how those less qualified receive a job promotion, while those much more deserving are passed over. But just because the world is not fair does not give Christians permission to treat others unfairly. On the contrary, we have many passages of Scripture that teach otherwise.

James, the Lord's brother, teaches of the sin of partiality by showing how wrong it is to favor someone new to our assembly simply based upon the clothing one wears. He then states, "But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors" (James 2:9 [NAS]). James and the Apostle Paul both point out that we should model our lives and treat others as God does, by judging their actions righteously, and to do so without partiality. Paul writes in Romans 2:9-11 [NAS], 9 There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, 10 but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 11 For there is no partiality with God.

The Prophet Micah sums it up nicely when he writes, "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8 [NAS])

- David R. Ferguson preaches for the Lakeland Church of Christ in Mattoon, IL.



The Worker

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I Need Thee Every Hour

"What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you....And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:9, 19 ESV)

Peace and tranquility in life is very important to each of us. Sometimes, however, it seems to be missing. In Scripture there is a peace from God that is never missing. Paul reminds us of that in the two verses from Philippians 4. We are also reminded of this in the song we sing, "I need thee every hour." Let us reflect on a few thoughts from the song.

1) No tender voice like thine can peace afford. There is nothing like the soothing voice of a mother to help when the pain of life is so great it makes one immobile. Jesus's voice is tender (Matthew 11:28-30), but let us not think it is so tender that He does not demand that we turn from our sins and live righteously (Ephesians 5:17, 17). It is unfortunate that many in this world look upon Jesus as only a tender voice that calls us from despair, and while He is that, I am glad He is certainly that and more.

2) Temptations lose their power when thou art nigh. When you are tempted, and the temptation is overwhelmingly powerful, to whom do you turn in this time of crisis? Or, perhaps, a better question might be, do you turn away from the temptation? Temptation hits us all differently, but also with a good deal of sameness (if you will). In times of weakness, it is the time when the Lord's name is not only on our lips, but in our heart. Though we are vulnerable, He is our strength. Sometimes the temptation is so great the ability to withstand seems impossible. Consequently, we just say to ourselves, "I will pay the price later." The problem is, when later comes, the price is every bit as oppressive as the original temptation. The weight of guilt is oppressive, and those who give in are called to run from the continuing danger in soupy mud two feet thick.

3) In joy or pain, come quickly and abide or life is vain. There is no person like a Christian who has life laid out in such a way the path is clear. Some who try to live without the Lord can turn to a loved one to help in time of need, but sometimes that loved-one has no answer, no solution to the deep and dark counsels of one's heart. To who, then, does a non-Christian turn? The Christian turns, and continues to turn to the Lord, for only He can give an answer and solution to most emptiness of life, taking the "vainness" away and giving hope. Sometimes, however, the taking and giving experience can be painful. What will you gain for your pain?

4) O make me thine indeed, thou blessed Son. God's love is so great that His Son came to this earth to not only give us relief from sin, but hope to tread our way through this life. More than that, however, He came to give us life, life in Him, in the Father's Son. "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:26-27, KJV).

Does peace flow like a river through your soul? It won't if the love of God is not center-seat in your heart. It may be a challenge for each of us to find that desired peace, but the peace we should desire is the peace that comes from God, surpassing all understanding.

- Ron Thomas served as preacher and an elder for the Highway Church of Christ, Sullivan, IL

Leadership

Elders Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey

Deacons Clint Smith Sr, Clint Smith Jr,
Robby Stocksdales, Joe Sweeney

Pulpit Minister Eric Welch

Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Panama Mission

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

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: "Surviving the Family Hurricane" Proverbs 15:13-23

Sunday Evening: "The Kindness and the Severity of God" Romans 11:17-22

Those Privileged to Serve

AM Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
Opening Prayer Joe Sweeney
Scripture Harold Tincher
Sermon Eric Welch
Lord's Supper
Message Rick Martin
Attendant Brandon Slotman
Attendant Grover Blanton
Closing Prayer Hayward Blanton

PM Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdales
Bible Reading Leon Stocksdales
Selection 32
Prayer Doug McArthur
Sermon Eric Welch
Closing Prayer Bill Cravens
If you are unable to serve, please call Art Patrick 502-819-9481 or Harold Tincher 502-409-3511

AM & PM Services

Announcements Jerry Casey
Lord's Supper Clint Smith Jr
Offering Irvin Williams
Usher Marc Owens
Count Offering Joe Sweeney
Assist Count Harold Tincher

Last Sunday

Offering \$2,889
Attendance 84

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

Coins for Christ

Eric Welch

Our gospel meeting speaker, Jack Honeycutt, is coordinator for the India mission work that is overseen by the Willette congregation in Macon County, Tennessee, outside Red Boiling Springs. Jack leads mission teams several times a year to the southern part of India. When he is not in India, he spends much of his time giving reports, speaking on lectureships, and conducting gospel meetings.

Becky, Jack's wife, also travels with him to India and will come with him to our meeting. This year at Polishing the Pulpit, she spoke on a panel with other women in a ladies' lecture on the subject of what women can do on the mission field. One idea Becky presented was the use of coin jars by congregations to collect coins for the purchase of Bibles for use in India. The Telegu language Bibles cost \$2.50, and the Honeycutts buy these Telegu Bibles in India to give to those who need them.

Beginning Sunday, October 9, with the elders' approval, a jar will be placed on the foyer table. If you would like to contribute to the purchase of Bibles for India, please feel free to drop in your change; your contribution is strictly voluntary and private. This collection will be a great opportunity for our children to participate in the church's mission effort and to teach them to give so that someone on the other side of the world might learn the gospel. You and your family may want to collect coins at home, and that will be fine, too. It is also an opportunity to prepare for the meeting and to get to know our speaker.

Due to the limited time before the gospel meeting begins, Stephanie and I will be able to take the collection to the Honeycutts over the Christmas holidays when we visit family. This will give us over two months to collect the coins. Jack and Becky are not aware that we are starting this coin collection for Bibles in India, and I'm sure it will be a pleasant surprise for them.

Please feel free to visit their missions' website to learn more about the church's work in southern India: indiamissionwork.org. Both will be glad to answer any questions you might have.

The gospel meeting will be a great blessing to us and to our community, and I know we will indeed be a blessing and great encouragement to the Honeycutts. So, let's start filling up that jar with coins for Christ!

Role Models

"He who walks with wise men will be wise. But the companion of fools will be destroyed" (Proverbs 13:20, NKJV).

It has been said by some professional athletes that they desire not to be role models. When I hear this I marvel at the naiveté because each person is influential to some varying degree, and it can't be anything but this way. Thus we can't control whether or not we are influential, but we can control what others see and hear in us. The wise one gains wisdom from the wise, and the righteous one gains righteous wisdom from One who is the standard of righteousness (John 14:6). The fool, on the other hand, is also influential, but his influence not only destroys himself—it leads to the destruction of others who follow in his footsteps

- Ron Thomas preacher for the Sunrush Church of Christ, Chillicothe, OH.

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet October 10th at 6:30 pm; the meal theme is Pizza.

Our Fall Gospel Meeting is scheduled for October 21st thru the 23rd at 7:00 pm on Friday and Saturday with regular class and worship times on Sunday. The speaker is Jack Honeycutt. The lesson titles: "The Origin and Development of Islam," "The Real Agenda," "Bible vs. Quran," "Jesus vs. Muhammad." Flyers are available in the foyer.

In preparation for our gospel meeting, a work day is scheduled at the building for Saturday October 8th. We will start about 8:00am and work until around noon.

A sermon request form is available in the foyer. Eric asks that you complete and return to him as soon as possible. Your requests will be used as sermon topics in 2017. Please take copies for your entire family including children. Remember no question is dumb if asked sincerely.

Thanks to all the youth who have been participating in the worship notes on Sunday mornings and evenings. Keep up the good work but keep in mind that you must complete the entire sheet. Mr. Irvin is checking the sheets each week.

Congratulations to the following children who completed their worship notes and earned a prize: Kylie, Callie, Imri, Clinton, Jaren, Reagan, Morgan and Nora. Great job kids!

Quotes & Sayings

- Children have more need of models than of critics.
- When weighing the faults of others, be careful not to put your thumb on the scale!
- The Bible will keep you from sin, and sin will keep you from the Bible.