

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Ignorance Isn't Bliss

One of my freshman Bible teachers at Lipscomb used to take surveys of incoming freshman. He asked them various questions about their social lives and the Bible. Their answers revealed a troubling trend among Christian young people. A majority of the freshman attended worship services and Bible studies at least twice a week, they were active in youth group activities, they were raised "in the church," but...a majority didn't know that Noah lived before Abraham. That's right. These 18-year-olds had attended hundreds of Sunday School classes, yet their biblical knowledge was minimal at best. Who was at fault?

Their parents? Church leadership? Their Sunday School teachers? Well, the answer is not so simple.

Some young people do not start paying attention to the Bible until their college years. Yes, they hear sermons and lessons as children. And yes, they know some of the fundamental truths of God's word. But those lessons often come in a distant second to ball games, girlfriends, boyfriends, and school.

Another reason why Christian college freshman do not know God's word is because their Sunday School and Wednesday night classes were not really classes—they were more or

less times for talking *about* God's word (not studying it) and being told not to drink, smoke, and have sex. The students were never required to memorize verses or take notes. Attendance was all that mattered.

Unfortunately, many Christian parents do not teach their children the Bible. Those parents are good about taking their children to Sunday School and other church activities, but they do not talk about the Bible at home.

We should teach our young people to love Jesus and the church, and young people should commit themselves to those lessons.

James Hayes

May 26, 2013

Issue 113

Items of Note:

- Jessica Humston is slowly regaining strength following her first round of chemotherapy.
- Brad Rose was laid to rest Thursday.
- Donna Young is progressing well following hip surgery.
- Becky Rose's wrist surgery was moved to June 6.
- Easton Walker had his tonsils out.
- Mildred Walker fell at home, but didn't break anything.

Church Cookout, Saturday June 8, 3:00. Food at 5:00.

Send News To Janet Tabor at taborj@realtracs.com

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Newell

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Terry Walker

Serve: Demonbreum, J. Walker, Stuard

Pray: Gupton

Pleasant View church of Christ
2500 Highway 49 East
P.O. Box 189
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30
A.M. Worship: 10:30
P.M. Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Phone: 924-9714

Ephesians 4:29

“Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the needs of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.”

“Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn, or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude.”

Denis Waitley

“Nothing is a surprise to God.”

Rick Warren

“I’m not an aging gracefully type. But I do believe in aging with grace.”

Danielle Steel

Worthy Worship

There is not a single verse of Scripture that states, “The Christians came together on Sunday morning to eat the Lord’s Supper, give of their means, sing praises to God, hear a sermon from God’s word, and pray.” There is not even a verse that states, “When the disciples came together to worship...” But we know that the first century Christians worshipped, we know that they did so on the first day of the week, and we know that each of those activities listed above were part of their worship to God. So, we know *what to do* in worship, but we should be just as serious about *how we worship*.

Notice the connection of the worship act and the heart of the wor-

shiper in the New Testament: In Acts 2, the thousands who were converted at Pentecost worshipped joyfully (Acts 2:43-47). Paul instructed the Corinthians to eat the Lord’s Supper while examining themselves (I Cor. 11:28), he told them that God loves a cheerful giver (II Cor. 9:7), and he said that they should sing with the spirit and the mind (I Cor. 14:15). He told the Colossians to sing with thankfulness in their hearts to God (Col. 3:16). Paul and Silas preached in Berea, and those who heard them “received the word with great eagerness” (Acts 17:11).

Going to a building on Sunday and mindlessly participating in all of the

prescribed worship acts, is not worship. It is a way to ease one’s conscience. It is a way for one to appear faithful to the people around them. But God is not pleased. God is mocked by that “worshipper.” True worshippers of God worship Him “in spirit and truth” (John 4:23). True worshippers are compelled to sing praise to God. True worshippers engage their minds when the lesson is presented. True worshippers remember the Lord during the Lord’s Supper and examine themselves. True worshippers generously give of their means as an example of the generosity God has shown them.

Are you a true worshipper?

James Hayes
