

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

What Is A Mission Trip?

Members of churches of Christ strive to be “people of the book.” Our goal is to conform our lives to God’s inspired word. We are not guided by any other authority. No matter what we do individually or corporately, the relevant commands and examples of the New Testament should not be ignored or excused.

So, do we live by those principles when we go on mission trips? We read of many mission trips in the book of Acts. Paul went on three (some count four) missionary journeys, accompanied by other faithful men.

The primary objective of those trips was to teach the

gospel and build the faith of those who were converted. Paul explained this process to the Corinthians when he said, “I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth” (I Cor. 3:6). Their teaching was so bold that they were often imprisoned and chased out of towns. Mission work was not a comfortable experience. Teaching God’s word to a rebellious world is never easy.

Today’s mission trips bear little resemblance to the mission trips of the New Testament. Today’s trips are benevolent trips—building houses, hugging babies, and distributing clothing. The theory is that the love of the missionaries

will compel the lost to obey the gospel. There is no doubt that that has happened many times. But Jesus commanded us to make disciples by baptizing the lost into Christ and teaching them to observe all that Jesus commanded. There is no mention of benevolence in the Great Commission. The world already has Habitat for Humanity, Save the Children, and Soles4Souls, but it doesn’t have the gospel. Why give them something that they already have?

Benevolence is one thing; mission trips are something else. Let’s be biblical as we do both.

James Hayes

October 13, 2013

Issue 132

Items of Note:

- Mildred Walker has been in Northcrest Hospital this week with a blood infection.
- Continue to remember Randy Gupton (kidneys), Larry Crabtree, John Hayes, Addie Farmer, Jay and Carolyn Newell, and Jessica Humston.
- Rhett Massey, a 3-year-old boy in the Sycamore church in Cookeville, is suffering from neuroblastoma. 1144 Crescent Dr. Cookeville, 38501.

Men’s Meeting Tonight At 5:00

Singing Tonight at 6:00

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Baker

Pray: Brown

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: J. Walker

Serve: Trent, Gupton, Rose

Pray: Garrett

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

Proverbs 19:19
“A man of great anger will
bear the penalty; For if you
rescue him, you will only
have to do it again.”

*“It is impossible to account for the creation of
the universe without the agency of a divine be-
ing.”*

George Washington

*“I think it’s very important to maintain the clas-
sical Christian distinction between the Creator
and the creation.”*

John Polkinghorne

What Is A Mission Trip?

Former Indiana University basket-
ball coach Bobby Knight visited a
Michigan University football prac-
tice in the early 1980s. Michigan’s
head coach, Bo Schembechler, was a
no-nonsense, hard-nosed, old school
football coach, and Knight was inter-
ested in how Schembechler con-
ducted practice even though they
coached different sports. During one
of the water breaks, Schembechler
strolled over to the fence to shake
Knight’s hand. Knight compli-
mented Schembechler on his team
and his practice. Schembechler gave
a wry grin and said, “Coach, it’s
football. It’s just blocking and tack-
ling.” From the days of leather hel-
mets to the modern days of instant

replay and Jumbotrons, football—at
its core—is all about blocking and
tackling.

Isn’t it interesting that when some-
one offers an unconventional way to
do something, the majority will mi-
grate toward the fundamentals?
Most of the new diet fads focus on
one section of the food pyramid, but
the fundamentals of good health
have never changed: eat moderate
amounts of the things God made
and exercise. Late night infomercials
often feature get-rich-quick schemes
that encourage you to invest in
highly risky ventures. But the funda-
mentals of financial security have
never changed: spend less than you
make, avoid debt, and save some-

thing every month.

There are fundamentals of faith as
well. The fundamentals seem tired,
traditional, and boring to some, but
God’s word never changes.

Paul acknowledged the fundamen-
tals when he wrote, “For I delivered
to you as of first importance what I
also received, that Christ died for
our sins according to the Scrip-
tures...” (I Cor. 15:3).

Knowing and practicing the funda-
mental doctrines of faith will pro-
duce committed, lifelong Christians.

James Hayes
