

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

**Pleasant View church of Christ**

## How To Leave A Church

**February 16, 2014**

**Issue 149**

I have been a member of five churches of Christ in my life. Thankfully, none of my moves have been the result of a church split or a doctrinal dispute. But there are many who change churches for those reasons and many others. How and why someone leaves a church will greatly affect the church they are leaving, and it will greatly affect how well they function in their new church. Here are some things to think about before you decide to leave a church:

(1.) *Don't leave mad.* That principle would apply to any relationship, but it is particularly useful when changing churches. Emotions come and go. Once

the anger fades, someone might regret leaving that church.

(2.) *"My needs aren't being met" should never be your primary reason for leaving.* Your God-given objective as a Christian is to serve, not be served.

(3.) *Are you expecting the church to do something it cannot possibly do?* If your major complaint is that the church doesn't have a member who is willing to do mission work in China with you, you might be expecting too much. Every congregation has limits; don't expect them to live outside of those limitations.

(4.) *Don't make ultimatums*

*or threats.* The congregation is bigger than you. "My way or the highway" is not a Christian attitude. The Bible never commands any Christian to hold a congregation hostage.

(5.) *Ask yourself, "Am I holding myself to the same standard as I am holding everyone else?"* People tend to expect more from others than they are of themselves. If you aren't willing to contribute, why are you upset when others won't, either?

Every Christian should support their local church to the best of their ability, and if a change is needed, they should make the move with godly dignity.

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Sympathy is extended to Robert Williams, on the loss of his wife, Nell. The funeral was last week.
- Addie Farmer is set to see another doctor about potential surgery on her back.
- Continue to send church news to Janet Tabor so she could distribute it via email. It's the quickest way for news to travel between services.
- Remember Mildred Walker and Jay Newell.

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## Thank You To The Bakers For Hosting The Youth Event Last Night A.M. Sermon: "What Kind Of Church Will We Be?"

### THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Rose

Pray: L. Newell

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: T. Walker

Serve: Stuard, Donkin, Gupton

Pray: E. Walker

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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

Romans 8:11

“But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”

“What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.”

John Steinbeck

“If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.”

Kent Keith

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## Saving More Than Ten Lives

On February 2, Academy Award-winning actor, Philip Seymour Hoffman, was found dead in his New York City apartment. He was 46. Hoffman had taken too much heroin, a drug that he had been addicted to for much of his adult life. Years earlier when Hoffman was clean, he was rehearsing his role in *Moneyball* when he and *Moneyball* writer and former heroin user Aaron Sorkin started trading heroin horror stories. Both men were leading productive lives at the time, but Hoffman made an ominous prediction: “If one of us dies of an overdose, probably ten people who were about to won’t.” His meaning was clear: Their deaths would make news and

possibly scare ten people clean.

I don’t know how many people dropped heroin for good because Philip Seymour Hoffman died of an overdose. Maybe ten. Maybe more than ten. Maybe a thousand. This we know for sure: Hoffman died for himself. He died trying to reach the ultimate high. His death wasn’t for the good of others. His death didn’t affect the souls of his friends and family. He was just a man who made a conscious decision to fall into the trap of drugs, and, like millions of others, he couldn’t find his way out.

Jesus Christ’s death was different: He died over 2,000 years ago for nothing...and for everything...and millions have been saved.

Jesus didn’t die due to selfish compulsion. Jesus wasn’t controlled by a substance. He knew that the world deserved to be whipped and crucified for their sins, but He loved us so much that He took the beating for us. He was innocent; we were guilty. We were dead; He made us alive. We were lost, but He found us.

The world today loves to worship celebrities and ooh and ahh over their accomplishments. But celebrities are frail, fallible human beings who can do nothing but entertain us. Jesus Christ is the only one who can prepare a place for us in heaven.

James Hayes

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