

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Why Do You Do It?

**September 9, 2018,
2018**

Issue 378

Why do you pray? Why do you attend worship services and Bible studies? Why do you contribute money to the church on Sunday?

Why do you train your children to follow God? If your answer is, "Because the Bible commands me to," then you need to re-examine your heart.

Remember what Paul wrote at the beginning of I Corinthians 13? He said if he had enough faith to move a mountain, but that act was not motivated by love, it was meaningless. If he were the most generous person in the world because he gave away all his possessions, it wouldn't matter unless he did it from a position of love. Even if he

could speak with an angelic language, his voice would sound like a clanging cymbal if he did not speak with love.

Paul said love is the chief virtue (I Cor. 13:13). Love is what motivated God to send His Son to earth to die for us (John 3:16). Love should be the reason we obey God's commands (John 14:15).

Let me ask again: Why do you pray, worship, give, and train your children a certain way? The answer should be, "Because I love God not only for who He is, but also for what He has done for me." Following commands simply out of duty will cause you to be-

come a ritualistic, robotic Christian.

Titus 2:11-14 describes a love-motivated Christian's life. "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good works."

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Kristine Garrett has an active cancer spot on her hip. She had an MRI Thursday to determine the extent.
- Congratulations to our Bible Bowl team!
- Former member Jimmy Clary had open heart surgery last weekend.
- Former member Carol Ogg passed away. Funeral was Friday.
- Pray for Maeleah Holtz and Robert Williams.

Morning Sermon: "The Cross: The Crowd" Singing Tonight At 6:00

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Smith

Pray: Billingsley

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: E. Walker

Serve: J. Demonbreum, J. Buchanan, J. Walker

Pray: Reed

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

Isaiah 26:4
"Trust in the Lord forever,
for in God the Lord, we
have an everlasting Rock."

*"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast
a stone across the waters to create many ripples."*

Mother Teresa

*"Let him who would move the world first move
himself."*

Socrates

I Didn't Mean To

In 1999, Josh Hamilton was selected by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays as the number overall pick in the Major League Baseball draft. His talent was off the charts. Most experts predicted that Hamilton would be playing for the Rays in just a few years. But that never happened. Hamilton became a drug addict. He flamed out professionally. But with the help of his wife, family, and friends, Hamilton slowly began the process of getting clean. Eight years after being drafted, Hamilton made his MLB debut with the Cincinnati Reds, receiving a 22-second standing ovation. But no matter how well Hamilton played, he could not get back the eight years that drugs had

taken from his life. He freely chose to take drugs, but Hamilton could not choose the consequences of that decision.

On July 7, 2011, Hamilton was playing for the Texas Rangers. A foul ball was hit into the stands but bounced back onto the field. Hamilton, who was playing centerfield, grabbed the ball and tossed it back into the stands—a friendly gesture. A fan leaned over the rail to catch the ball, lost his balance, and fell head-first to his death.

Hamilton was devastated, as anyone would be. He was doing something kind, yet it cost someone their life. He freely chose to toss that ball into the stands, but he could not control

the consequences of that decision.

Those two eras of Josh Hamilton's life provide a lesson for us all. Some decisions you make have direct, clear, lifelong consequences. Those decisions might harm you physically, emotionally, or spiritually. Someone once said, "Everything happens for a reason...and sometimes that reason is that you made a bad decision." Hamilton chose to do drugs, and it changed his life in a negative way. But we also learned that some decisions we make are good, but they end up causing harm. Hamilton never meant to hurt that fan, but the man died nonetheless.

James Hayes
