

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

August 13, 2023

Welcome!



"Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is the man who desires life, and loves many days, that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil and do good; Seek peace and pursue it."

Please join us again this afternoon at 6pm for worship in song!

Minister: Timothy Agee
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Prayer List

Our sympathy is with the Buchanan family on the passing of **John Buchanan** Friday night

Several of our number are recovering from recent covid cases. **Keith Walker** is home from ICU with it. **Mamie Hamilton** is also recuperating at home.

Maria Hunter Harrington is undergoing tests to determine why she is passing out. She is still in chemotherapy.

Steve Webb is continuing chemotherapy, but is back at work.

Diane Singleton continues to struggle with her health

Continue to pray for: **Kristine Garrett, Bige Shepherd, Forshia Pennington, Carol Saling, Keith Walker, Camille Brosky**, those in **Ukraine**; **Judy Cook**, the **Brown** family, **John Hayes, Nick Phifer, Weston Johnson** and **Bill Gillock**

*We invite everyone to join us Wednesday night at 7:00 when **Garrett Dickerson** will bring us a lesson titled "God Secrets"*

Serving Today

Song Leader:
Ricky Mayo

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Charlie Baker

Prayer:
Ricky Mayo

WORSHIP (10:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Jared Roaden
Matthew 18:1-4

Wait On Table:
Eddie Walker

Serve:
Jearmie Gupton
Doug Demonbreun

Prayer:
Mike Reed

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 am
Sunday PM Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 pm

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Becoming Like Children - Matthew 18:1-4

Pleasant View Church of Christ – August 13, 2023

The idiomatic phrase “to play second fiddle” is used in our culture to refer to someone who has assumed a subsidiary role to another, as in *Mary resented always playing second fiddle to her older sister*. This phrase alludes to the part of second violin in an orchestra. Although many would argue it is just as important as first violin, it has been used as a figurative term to communicate the idea of subordination since about 1800. Leonard Bernstein, the late conductor of the New York Philharmonic orchestra, was once asked to name the most difficult instrument to play. Without hesitation, he replied, “The second fiddle. I can get plenty of first violinists, but to find someone who can play the second fiddle with enthusiasm—that’s a problem. And if we have no second fiddle, we have no harmony.”

It is difficult for us as human beings to play “second fiddle” to anyone. We live in a society that is obsessed with greatness. Every year, we name the greatest movies, musicians, athletes, writers, scientists, etc. The disciples of Jesus were the same way. They were also very concerned about greatness, even to the point where they asked Jesus “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” (**Mt 18:1**)

Jesus’ response was to use a small child as an object lesson for them. He told them to “turn” and “humble” themselves like the child (**Mt 18:2-4**). He tells them that unless they do this, they will not even be part of the kingdom of heaven. What are the characteristics of little children which demonstrate humility before God and others? There are three things we will focus on in this lesson that we can learn from small children about humility:

1. Humility Through A_____

Small children do not see color or race or socioeconomic status. They do not make distinctions between others like older children and adults do but are willing to interact with others unconditionally. Jesus also exemplified a willingness to reach past social and cultural barriers to have an impact on the life of others (**Mt 8:1-4; 9:9-13; Jn 4:1-41**).

2. Humility Through A_____

Infant children are completely dependent on others for everything in their young lives. Because of this, they have an amazing capacity to trust. Contrast the faith of the centurion in Mt. 8:5-13 with the wavering faith of the disciples who could not understand how Jesus was going to feed the 4,000 (**Mt. 15:32-28**) after having just witnessed Him feed the 5,000 with five loaves and two fish (**Mt. 14:13-21**). How many of us are more like the disciples than the centurion?

3. Humility Through A_____

Little children have a sense of wonder about everything; sprinklers watering a lawn, a cardboard box, a ceiling fan. This type of wonder was experienced by those who had a genuine encounter with Jesus and His message (**Mt. 27:45-54; Acts 2:42-47**). If we had this same time of wonder, how would our life be different?