

### Upcoming Events...

**Galatians Class:** Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

**Barnabas Group Meeting:** April 24

**Business Meeting:** today at 4:30 p.m.

**Ladies Bible Class:** Sunday, April 15

### “What Really Matters”

*“Never let hard lessons harden your heart; the hard lessons of life are meant to make you better, not bitter.”* - Roy T. Bennett –

*“God knows our situation; He will not judge us as if we had no difficulties to overcome. What matters is the sincerity and perseverance of our will to overcome them.”* - C. S. Lewis -

### April Birthdays

1 Daniel McKnight    11 Dolly Cashion    23 Shannon Hudson  
3 Amanda Hoffman    16 Alana Hudson    26 Stori Rose Hoffman  
6 Susan Hudson        17 Belva Meanor

### April Anniversaries

19 Bill & Kena Brown

#### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

#### Preacher:

Mike McKnight

#### Church of Christ

81-377 Ave 46  
Indio, CA 92201  
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

# Indio Informer

Vol. 29 No. 14

April 8, 2018

## Life Happens

By Mitchell Skelton

Life is never easy. Life on this earth will introduce you to a myriad of emotions. In the course of one day, we can experience boredom and excitement, elation and desolation, life and death. Whether your outlook on life is positive or negative, life is filled with diversity. Just when we think we have it figured out and know what to expect, life happens. The past few days in my life is a good example of the range of emotions life will throw your way. Tuesday found me conducting the funeral of a young Christian woman who died of cancer; Thursday dawned with the birth of a daughter to a good friend and fellow gospel preacher; Saturday ended with joining a young couple in holy matrimony. Contemplating this whirlwind of events, I could not help but think that there must be a learning opportunity here.

A humanist would simply say that I had just witnessed the "circle of life." One life ends while another begins with some living in between. This "circle" idea may seem all neat and orderly, it may fit perfectly into the secular world, yet it fails to address the needs of man who is created "in the image of God." The essence of being created in the image of God is that we have an eternal soul. Instead of the "circle of life," we more aptly resemble an infinite line. Sure, we have a definite point of origin but when it comes to our soul there is no end.

How we live while on earth and our response to the cross of Christ will determine where we spend the majority of our existence. Job summed up human existence by saying, *"Man born of woman is of few days and full of trouble"* (Job 14:1). Job was beginning to understand that life on this earth is insignificant when viewed in light of eternity. This life we are experiencing is only a tiny portion

of our whole existence. Job seemed to understand this as he said, *"If a man dies, will he live again. . . I will wait for my renewal to come. You will call and I will answer you; you will long for the creature your hands have made"* (Job 14:14-15).

Let us not get so caught up in the happenings of life that we forget why we are here. We are the only ones who can let life get in the way of salvation. God has promised that no matter what happens in your life it will not stand in the way of your salvation unless you allow it. *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 8:38—39).

### **What God Wants**

By Jay Kelley

*"He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."* (Micah 6:8). These three things - act justly, love mercy and walk humbly - are the focus of a Christ-centered life.

God expects His people to treat others fairly. Jesus summed that up in the Golden Rule. Fair treatment means a day's work for a day's pay, whether you are the worker or the payer. It means a fair shake for everyone with whom we deal, regardless of our personal feelings. It means standing up for right when it isn't popular. Ultimately, it means doing what God tells us to do all the time.

To love mercy is more than being merciful. It is one thing to grudgingly give mercy to those who deserve otherwise because God has ordered it as though we were children ordered to make up after a fight. It is quite another to love mercy so much we look for ways to show it. Jesus loved mercy, and his example was one of the greatest compassion in confronting the sins of the people combined with stern rebuke for those who led them.

Finally, we are to walk humbly with our God. When we think of the great privilege to walk with God, how can we do any less than walk humbly? It is a human tendency to get a little full of ourselves from time to time, and Christians are no exception.

It is good for us to remind ourselves that we are here simply by God's grace and the message we have been given is not our own, but God's. If that message is rejected, we should not angrily assume it is personal. Rather, as those who love mercy, we should be saddened when someone seals their doom by rejecting God.

In the end, our outward obedience - frequency of communion, worship and even mode and reason for baptism - must come from a sincere desire to please God.

If not, we might as well be heathens.

### **Saying Versus Seeing**

By Ron Adams

It's important that we teach our children to love one another. However, this becomes difficult when they hear us constantly criticizing and complaining about others.

What they see outweighs what we say. It's critical that we teach our children to obey all of the Lord's commands. However, the job becomes hopeless when they see us excusing ourselves from obeying certain commands we may find "too restrictive."

What they see outweighs what we say. It's crucial that we teach our children how the Lord wants them to act as husbands, wives and parents. However, there is more likelihood they will follow our example rather than follow our teaching.

What they see outweighs what we say. Unless, and until, what we say and what we do are one and the same, we will never be convincing.