

## Upcoming Events

Plan Congregational Meeting: Financial Report  
Mid-course Review: Saturday Meeting 2021  
Panera Bread Open Bible Study: TBA

### Attitude

*“I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.”*

Paul the apostle, Philippians 4:11

*“The greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances.”*

Martha Washington

*“When you take control of your attitude, you take control of your life.”* Roy T. Bennett

### August Birthdays

4 Noah Perales    6 Gigi Zamarripa    12 Debbie Hoffman  
16 Nick Hoffman    19 Keith Lovelady    25 Pat Limburg

#### Regular Meeting Times

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

**Preacher:**  
(Vacant)

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# Indio Informer

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## The Right Kind of Attitude

By Tim Dooley

*“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus”.*

Philippians 2:5

Boy do we ever think a lot of ourselves! For most of us the universe revolves around our own little puny existence. That’s right...we are selfish, self-centered, egotistical, snobbish, arrogant, and hypocritical. And that fact that most Christians, young and old, think and act like this certainly brings reproach upon the church of Jesus and the name of Christ. But the truth is we are not any different today than man has been for most of his earthly existence.

God knew that we would be and act like this but not because He made us this way but because of sin. Yes, this kind of attitude is sinful! Did you here that? I don’t get my way and I get mad, pout, and seek revenge (I’ll show them) and I am sinning! I don’t like what someone else has done, or not done, and so I run to others and gossip or talk badly about them and I am sinning! When confronted with my actions I get defensive and angry and either lie about it or try to put the blame upon others and I am sinning.

In Romans 12 Paul writes to tell us how we are supposed to live acceptable Christian life and how to treat each other:

**Live Our Lives as a Sacrifice to God and Others** (v. 1-2). This means I need to die to myself. That’s right... it’s not about me! This isn’t how the world lives but it is what is expected of me as a child of God. I am expected to be different (1 Peter 2:9). I am to live a life that exemplifies Christ and brings glory to God (Matthew 5:14-16).

**We Ain’t All That** (v. 3-8). We are not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think. We have a real hard time with this in our society today! In Philippians 2:13, we are instructed,

*“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.”* Caring more about the other person and less about ourselves is the way the Christian is supposed to act.

**Don’t Be a Hypocrite** (v. 9-13). The love that we have for God and others should be real. Hypocrisy has done more to keep folks from Christ than almost any other sin. We need to be real! Consider also that Paul ties this all in here with the idea of good versus evil and I begin to realize how much God hates it when we are hypocritical in our love toward each other. That means we should truly love each other and not just pretend to while being selfish. We are to give preference to each other, devoted to true brotherly love, fervent in spirit, serving, rejoicing, persevering, devoted, contributing, and hospitable.

**React Properly** (v. 14-21). I tell folks all the time (and myself even more often) “Don’t let the actions of others dictate how you act. Act like a Christian no matter what.” We are to bless those who persecute us, not curse them. We are to rejoice and weep with those who are happy and sad. We are not to be stuck-up or arrogant, but humble. We are not to be self-righteous and we are to strive to live peaceably with everyone. We are never to seek revenge or be nasty to others, especially not our own spiritual family. But we are always to be kind, loving, and gracious. Never allow ourselves to be overcome by the evil of others but overcome the evil with good.

Jesus said, *“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another”* (John 13:34). We all need to follow this godly instruction if we hope to go to heaven. Our children are often guilty of these kinds of behaviors and maybe they have learned them from us. Instead of seeking to justify their behavior maybe we should use these as teachable moments and set an example ourselves of how to properly respond to bad things (real or imagined) that others do to us.

For the faithful Christian none of what may happen to us (good or bad) should cause us to act in an un-Christ-like manner. This past week a dear friend reminded me that “This too shall pass, or I will.” And he is right. We make a bigger deal out of small things than

need be that in the great scheme of things will not matter. What matters most is living a faithful, obedient, and acceptable life in the sight of God and being with Him in heaven when this life is over. I love you!

## **Social Distancing**

By Edd Sterchi

To start off this article, I was going to make up a joke about social distancing, but this was as close as I could get! (Give it some thought, it will come to you.)

Now that we are starting to get more and more out into society, we are asked to pay special attention to the social distancing measures that are in place. This is to prevent viral contraction of COVID-19 and becoming infected. The recommended distance to stay away from others is 6 feet. This is common sense.

There is another “social distancing” that God wants us to do. He wants us to social (and private) distance from sin. God knows that if we get too close to sin’s fire, we will get burned. Satan wants us to sin and turn our backs on God. That’s why he tempts us so – for he knows that temptation can lead to sin and sin to spiritual death (James 1:14-15). That’s why God wants us to practice social distancing from sin – so that we do not become spiritually infected.

The Bible is replete in warning us to practice social distancing from sin:

- *“Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn away from it and pass on.”* (Proverbs 4:14-15).
- *“For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God...Therefore do not be partakers with them.”* (Ephesians 5:5-7)
- *“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness”* (Ephesians 5:11).
- *“Do not...share in other people’s sins”* (1 Timothy 5:22)
- *“Flee also youthful lusts”* (2 Timothy 2:22)
- *“Abstain from every form of evil.”* (1 Thessalonians 5:22)