

Upcoming Events...

1 Corinthians Class: Every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.

Ladies Bible Class: Today, December 17 at 4:00

Establish Master Calendar for 2018

Corporation meeting: Budget/Financial Report

Barnabas Group Meeting: December 26

A Thoughtful Person said...

“The most influential person in the room isn't the one who is being a bully, talking loudly, and imposing him- or herself on others. Surrendered people understand that true power comes from being respectful and listening. Surrendered people know themselves and are empathetic toward others. They don't measure themselves by how much they are liked, nor do they compete for attention. When they sit quietly in a room, others always seem to come to them.”

- Judith Orloff -

December Birthdays

6 Olivia White 17 Bill Brown 27 Sue Tanner
29 Noah McKnight 30 Richard Karns 31 Bob Pescador

December Anniversaries

12 Ron & Peggy Woodruff 18 Jim & Marie Burruss

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

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Respect for Each Other

By Dan Jenkins

Our nation has changed in so many ways, and this is so evident in the respect we have for each other. This is reflected in the way we sometimes speak to others. Since the words which come from our lips show what is in our hearts, to solve the problem we need to change the way we see each other. Jesus said, *“For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks”* (Matthew 12:34). The way we talk to each other should be that which edifies and builds up, and imparts *“...grace to the hearers”* (Ephesians 4:29). How should we regard others as we speak with them? How do we show our respect for them?

Paul’s instruction to young Timothy illustrates the attitude of respect which should characterize each of us. Evidently, Timothy was faced with rebuking older men who were Christians and needed to make changes in their lives. Paul said, *“Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father”* (1 Timothy 5:1). The Greek word for “rebuke” in this passage literally means “to pound, to flatten, to strike with blows.” There is never a time for young men to look at older individuals and treat with disdain. Yet, so often in our day the respect for those who are older no longer exists.

Look at how the Holy Spirit of God described for this young man to deal with those older men in his world. There is never a time for harsh words from arrogant hearts to berate anyone. Paul told this young man to speak to those older as he would his own father.

Paul then turned his attention to the way Timothy was to speak to those near his own age or even younger. How should young men treat their peers? Deal with them as you would deal with your own brother. The term “brotherly love” says so much about the respect

we must have for each other (Romans 12:10; Hebrews 13:1; 2 Peter 1:7).

How should Timothy treat older women? Paul says he should have the same respect he gives his own mother (1 Timothy 5:2). That special place mothers have in our hearts reflects the attitude we need to have toward all older women.

Finally, Paul discusses the respect young men should have toward young women. They should be treated as sisters with all purity. Barnes' commentary says it this way, "*He was therefore to guard his heart with more than common vigilance in such circumstances and was to indulge in no word, or look or action which could be by any possibility construed as manifesting an improper state of feeling.*"

Take time to apply these principles to every relationship and the respect we should have for each other. Respect everyone, older and younger, with the dignity God sees in them. It might not change the world, but it will change ours!

Feeling Ashamed

By Kevin Cauley

The Bible teaches that there are some things that we should be ashamed of and there are other things that we should not be ashamed of. Ezra was ashamed of the sin that Israel had committed against God. He said: "*O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God: for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens*" (Ezra 9:6). David was ashamed of the transgressor. He wrote: "*Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause*" (Psalm 25:3). Isaiah was ashamed of idolatry. He wrote, "*They shall be turned back, they shall be greatly ashamed, that trust in graven images, that say to the molten images, Ye are our gods*" (Isaiah 42:17). We should be ashamed of some things.

However, there are other things of which we should not be ashamed. The Psalmist wrote: "*Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.*" (Psalm 119:6). Paul

said: "*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek*". (Romans 1:16). He wrote to Timothy: "*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.*" (2 Timothy 2:15).

The world tries to deny the shame that God has placed within sin. It tries to live with sin and without shame. Such a distortion of God's creation brings shame upon the sinner whether he realizes it or not. However, God does not want us to live in such shame. He gives us His word so that we can live without shame. When we love and obey God, accepting the forgiveness that He offers through Jesus, we have no reason to be ashamed.

Be Spiritual

By Tim Dooley

There is a lot of talk these days of people who claim to be "spiritual" but not "religious." The problem with this mindset is that Paul, by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, declared the spiritual man to be the one who receives the things of the Spirit and brings forth the fruit of the Spirit.

One of the problems in the church at Corinth was division resulting from a lack of love and humility. They were following the preaching styles of men and not the message of Jesus. In chapter two Paul declares that there are "natural" men who do not receive the things of the Spirit and there are "spiritual" men who do. He chastises the Christians at Corinth for being neither, they were not "natural" nor "spiritual," but "carnal." Like little spiritual babies, that is, Christians who were acting like "natural" men and not "spiritual" men.

It would do us well to ask ourselves what manner of men are we? We are to be mature, spiritual, and faithful stewards of the spiritual things of God. Our giving, living, and loving should all reflect the fruit of the Spirit: "*love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, [and] self-control*" (Galatians 5:22-23). Be faithful!