

Upcoming Events

Last Saturday in February Meeting: February 29
Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Today, thank you, brother Odorizzi!

Quotations about the Gospel

“There is nothing attractive about the gospel to the natural man; the only man who finds the gospel attractive is the man who is convicted of sin.” - Oswald Chambers -

“If the Lord’s bearing our sin for us is not the gospel, I have no gospel to preach.” -C.H. Spurgeon -

“Everything in Scripture is either preparation for the Gospel, presentation of the Gospel, or participation in the Gospel.”
- Dave Harvey -

March Birthdays

8 Drina Zamarripa. 18 Buddy Cashion
28 Sandra Jones 30 Barrett Hoffman

March Anniversaries

6 Harold & Dortha Gentry

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The Power of an Invitation

Author Unknown

Brother Glenn L. McCullough was in the dairy business near Tupelo, Mississippi. Mr. A.D. Prince was a salesman from Memphis who regularly called on him for needed supplies. One day, Mr. Prince arrived at brother McCullough’s farm rather late in the afternoon. He was told he would have to come back the next day because there was a Gospel meeting at the Gloster Street church of Christ that night and he was getting ready to attend. Mr. Prince said that was fine and agreed to come back the next day. As he was leaving, brother McCullough thought, "I should ask him to attend our Gospel meeting." He invited the salesman to stay for supper and attend the Gospel meeting. Mr. Prince agreed and not only attended that night but attended three nights of the Gospel meeting conducted by Jack Meyer. Even though he learned what to do to become a Christian, he did not obey the Gospel during his visits.

A few months later, Mr. Prince was given a new job and did not come back to Tupelo to call on brother McCullough. Many years passed by and one day brother McCullough saw a newspaper story about A.D. Prince III, who was a student at a Christian college. He made a few phone calls and found out Mr. Prince had received another invitation to attend a tent meeting in Memphis which was a few blocks from where he worked. He attended the Gospel meeting and obeyed the Gospel the first night. Later, he became an elder in the church and the student honored at the Christian college was his grandson.

Years later, both brother McCullough and brother Prince learned they had a terminal disease and were given just a few months to live. As time drew near for both men, brother Prince had his sister to drive him from his home in Arkansas to brother McCullough’s home in Tupelo to pay one final visit and to say, "I want to thank you for inviting me to the Gospel meeting that night. If it had not been for your invitation, I probably would never have heard the

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)

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

(Address Service Requested)

Gospel and become a Christian. It was your invitation that made it possible for my family, my grandchildren, and me to become Christians. I will be forever grateful. Thank you."

What would have happened to the Prince family if brother McCullough had said, "My conscience says I ought to invite this salesman to the Gospel meeting, but I know it won't do any good?"

The Bible says, "*Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage*" (Matthew 22:9). Gospel meetings are not out-of-date; neither is inviting the lost to hear the preaching of the Gospel.

Easy Isn't Always Best

By Don Loftis

The media is filled with products which promise great results for minimal efforts. We are told that we can lose 20 pounds without any exercise and can eat all the foods we want, if we take one little "miracle pill" a day. We can make \$100,000 a year by working only 10 hours a week, if we join a popular on-line business group.

A lot of folks must feel the same way about their religious involvement. They desire all the spiritual blessings (forgiveness, peace, fellowship, hope, etc.), as long as they can drop in to worship once a month and give their \$50 a year. They want to be spiritual giants tomorrow without giving up any of the pleasures of the world today.

Jesus warned His listeners, "*Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.*" (Matthew 7:13-14). Later He said, "*If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.*" (Luke 9:23). Paul understood the true price tag of loyalty to Jesus and passed that message along to a young preacher named Timothy by stating, "*Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.*" (II Timothy 3:12).

It is difficult to swim upstream, but Christians are called to challenge and resist the evil within culture. The Lord shapes our lives more through adversity and temptation than prosperity

(James 1:2-4). Bargain religion is destined to fail, because Jesus demands more. Remember, we were redeemed not with cheap grace but with the blood of the Son of God.

Don't Overlook the Obvious

By Larry Pasley

"Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson went on a camping trip. As they lay down for the night, Holmes said, 'Watson, look up and tell me what you see.' Watson said, 'I see millions and millions of stars.'

Holmes asked, 'And what does that tell you?' Watson replied, 'Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Theologically, it tells me that God is great and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it tells me that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you Holmes?' Holmes answered simply, 'Somebody stole our tent.'"

People are bad about overlooking the obvious in religion also. The religious world is full of people who have studied the bible all their life and yet missed key points in God's teachings.

Almost every book of the New Testament has statements that show that the doctrine of "Once Saved Always Saved" is false and yet many in the religious world have overlooked the obvious. (Hebrews 6:4-6).

The necessity of baptism in becoming a Christian is prevalent throughout the New Testament and yet many still claim that it has nothing to do with salvation. They are overlooking the obvious (Mark 16:16).

The connection of obedience to our salvation is also dominant in the scriptures but many still hold to the doctrine of "Faith Only", overlooking the obvious (James 2:24).

Still others teach as doctrine the traditions and teachings of men, never recognizing the difference. They overlook the obvious (Matthew 15:8).

May we not fall into the trap of overlooking the obvious in our desire to live our lives pleasing to God.