

## Upcoming Events

Final Preparations: **Last Saturday in February 2019 meeting**  
Saturday Meeting **Workday**: February 16 at 9:00 a.m.  
**Panera Bread Open Bible Study**: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.  
**Hebrews class**: Thursdays at 11:00

### New Address

**Keith Lovelady** has a new address:  
2995 N. Cerritos Road, Palm Springs, CA 92262

## Humility

*“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”* Luke 14:11

### February Birthdays

8 Zoie Perales      25 Mike McKnight

### February Anniversaries

5 Mike & Morgie McKnight

#### 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. 30 No. 5

February 3, 2019

## The Importance of Humility

By Jon Mitchell

The Psalmist tells us that God distances Himself from the proud (Psalms 138:6). In fact, a proud look not only separates one from God, it causes one to incur His wrath! This is undoubtedly why James wrote, *“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble”* (James 4:6). But what is humility, really? What does humility demand, require, express, and acknowledge?

James went on to say, *“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you”* (James 4:7). Humility demands full submission to God. It’s difficult to teach those who think they are so wise that they already know enough. Because He gives grace to the humble, God’s people must put off their own desires and accept His law and love. This requires resisting satan and his temptations to follow our own desires. That is what fully submitting to God means. Let us have the Bible and eternity in our minds and entirely adhere to sound Scripture in submission to God!

Then James said, *“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands...purify your hearts...”* (James 4:8). Humility requires seeking God’s favor and mercy. One who seeks His favor and a close relationship with Him must be willing to come to Him, for He does not force Himself upon men. This is a decision based upon an individual’s faith and obedience. However, the key is WORK. It is not easy to cleanse our hands and purify our hearts, but that is what must be done.

Furthermore, James tells us we must *“lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to*

## Obeying God's Commandments

By Kevin Cauley

***“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil”***  
(Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)

*gloom”* (James 4:9). Humility must express appropriate sorrow for sin. The sin that used to be fun and brighten our day must now ruin our days. It must make us feel absolutely terrible. That cannot happen unless we realize that sin will condemn us to hell, and therefore is a serious matter. Only then will we be like the tax collector, a man so sorrowful for his sins that he wouldn’t even look up to heaven but instead wailed, *“God, be merciful to me a sinner!”* (Luke 18:13)

Finally, James concludes by saying, *“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up”* (James 4:10). Humility must acknowledge the sight of the Lord. The Psalmist and the prodigal son recognized that they had sinned against God and heaven (Psalms 51:4; Luke 15:18). God is the primarily the One against whom our sins are committed, and God is the only One who can pardon our sins. When we recognize that, it helps bring about humility.

God gives grace to the humble. While men repeatedly sin against Him, God joyfully accepts those who take action and come to Him in repentance (Luke 15:22-24). The way to heaven is to realize our sins and shortcomings, and humbly depend upon the will of an all-powerful God for our eternal salvation.

### **Fear God: Yes...Reverence...but...Also Be Afraid**

Hebrews 12:25-29

*“See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven. 26 And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, ‘Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven.’ 27 This expression, ‘Yet once more’, denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; 29 for our God is a consuming fire.”* (NASB)

Sin takes a toll on our thinking, and we must pay the price of ignorance by confessing that we don’t understand many things. It is fortunate for us that God, in His mercy and love, understands this, and gives us clear commandments to follow in His word. There are some things that I simply do not need to understand to obey God’s commandments. The only question that I need to answer is whether I am going to obey. This is the greatest struggle that we face as God’s people; will it be our own will or God’s will that we follow? We must obey God’s commandments. If we love God, we will obey (1 John 5:2-3). Failure to obey is simply a lack of love for God in our life.

Sometimes, however, there are those who use God’s commandments to elevate self. The Pharisees had this problem. They did not look at God’s commandments as a way to improve their relationship with God, but rather, as a way to elevate themselves over their fellow man. This notion of “obedience” is deceptive, because it isn’t really obedience, it is haughtiness. The problem is the same problem as those who refuse to obey—they love self more than they love God. We learn that we must empty self if we are to obey God in the way God wants to be obeyed (Philippians 2:5-8).

Love God enough to study His word, learn His commands, and obey them, and be free of self. God bless you, and I love you.

.....

***Obeying God’s Commandments Requires Humility***