

Upcoming Events

Independence Day: July 4
“Statement of Information” due to State Secretary
Plan Congregational Meeting: Financial Report
Mid-course Review: Saturday Meeting 2021
Panera Bread Open Bible Study: TBD

Give Thanks

“Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.” Psalms 118:29

June Birthdays

9 Debbie Pescador 12 Celina Perales

June Anniversaries

5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman 9 Sue Tanner
11 Marcos & Celina Perales

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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Don’t Believe Everything You Think

By Oran Rhodes

(From House to House Heart to Heart)

I admit a curiosity for bumper stickers. On occasion, one succinctly states a great truth or at least provokes reasonable thought.

Once I stopped at a light, and the car in front of mine had the sticker, “Don’t believe everything you think!” The more I thought about it, that statement struck me as appropriate.

Often people reason, “If I think it, it must be right.” The press and the politicians seem to believe that if one repeats something often enough, even if it is wrong, people will believe it. When people decide that this propaganda is what they believe, then it must be right.

While the mores of society are in transition, morality is not. Society thinks that we have a new morality but thinking it does not make it so. In spiritual matters, the dangers and consequences are so much more serious because they affect the eternal.

Naaman made this mistake because things did not turn out as he thought they would. He became furious, saying, *“Indeed, I said to myself, ‘He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy’”* (2 Kings 5:11).

Because of his thinking, Naaman could have lost the opportunity for healing simply because what God, through Elisha, required was not what Naaman thought it should be. People reject God’s plan of salvation because it differs from what they think. Different folks

think that God ought to save them by certain means—faith only, sprinkling, good works. Others think God should save them in their sins, not from their sins.

Many become indignant when it is suggested that what they are practicing—whether in worship, works, or manner of life—does not have God’s approval according to the Scriptures. The defense offered is that this is what attracts people, what pleases people, and what people think they should do.

A good reminder to all men is, “*My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts*” (Isaiah 55:8-9).

Whether it is our judgments about our fellow man, about the world around us, or about our responsibility to God, remember that in every case truth should be the measuring standard. Please, do not believe everything you think!

Showing our Appreciation

By Sebastian Stroughter

Any parent can relate to the feeling that your kids don’t completely understand all that you do for them. I’m blessed to have three kids who do a pretty good job of thanking us for what we do for them, but I know that it’s impossible for them to really understand the full scope of sacrifices we make for them. But it was no different for me. When I was younger, I was unable to understand all that my parents did for me. We don’t know until later in life, when we do what we have to for our own children, that we begin to understand how much a parent does for their children.

In the same way, we can’t understand all that Jesus has done for us. But unlike the parent to child relationship, we will likely never truly get it because we can’t be like Jesus. We can’t live a perfect life and then sacrifice that life for the sake of those we love. But we can strive to show our appreciation by giving that sacrifice meaning for our own lives. Jesus gave Himself for us.

Romans 5:10

“For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.”

Like a parent, Jesus finds joy in watching us take advantage of what He did for us. He wants us to be saved through baptism, for the remission of our sins so that we might be with Him in heaven forever. The least we can do is show our thanks, and the best thank you is through obedience.

John 14:15

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

Full Time or Part Time?

By David Sproule

When someone goes looking for a job, they understand the difference (and so does the employer) between a full-time job and a part-time job. The difference not only involves the hours that are spent working, but it also has to do with the energies, the dedication, the long-term commitment and the heart that goes into the work.

The same applies to other parts of one’s life. Some people are full-time football fans. Some people are full-time fishermen or full-time golfers. These folks have full-time jobs, but their minds and energies are focused just as much (if not more) toward these personal endeavors.

What about being a Christian? Are we a full-time Christian or a part-time Christian? Is it one of those things that we do “when we have time?” Is it limited to those “convenient times?” When Jesus returns, will He identify us as a career man, a football fan, a golfer, a political expert, or as a readily identifiable, full-time Christian? Where are our mind and energy focused?