

**Upcoming Events...**  
**Galatians Class:** Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.  
**Business Meeting:** Today at 4:30 p.m.  
**Mother's Day:** May 13  
**Ladies Bible Class:** May 20  
**Barnabas Group Meeting:** May 29

# Indio Informer

Vol. 29 No. 18

May 6, 2018

## What the Bible says about True Discipleship

*“For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself”.* Romans 14:7

*“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.’”* Matthew 16:24-25

*“Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.”* Luke 14:27

## May Birthdays

2 Peggy Woodruff

15 Kena Brown

### 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)

## A Genuine Bargain in Religion

By Gerald Cowan

It takes more than a reduced price to qualify as a real bargain. Some fixed price items can be bargains too, if what you get is worth more than you pay, even at full undiscounted price.

People may be bargain hunters in religion too. They seek a religion that provides benefits greater than the cost. What they often end up with is something that cannot provide their real spiritual needs, but people will accept it because of the reduced cost and commitment on their part. They want to be accepted and approved even though they make a minimal contribution in service, money, etc.

True Christianity is "fair traded." The price is not negotiable but fixed. Its price cannot be lowered or raised. The cost is complete surrender and commitment of oneself to the Lord, willingness to be added to the one and only true church by the Lord Himself and to function only under His headship.

Even with the extremely high cost Christianity is a bargain. The forgiveness of sins, ability to cope with the demands of life, endless spiritual blessings, and the promise of heaven at the end of it - this far outweighs the cost.

It is worth noting that the cost for the Christian is less than what it cost Jesus Christ to provide salvation and heaven for sinners. Be glad we don't have to pay that price.

## **The Stranger in Our House**

Author Unknown

A few months before I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small Tennessee town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around to welcome me into the world a few months later.

As I grew up, I never questioned his place in my family. In my young mind, he had a special niche. My parents were complementary instructors: Mom taught me the word of God, and Dad taught me to obey it.

But the stranger? He was our storyteller. He would keep us spellbound for hours on end with adventures, mysteries and comedies. If I wanted to know anything about politics, history or science, he always knew the answers about the past, understood the present, and even seemed able to predict the future! He took my family to the first major league ballgame. He made me laugh. This stranger never stopped talking, but Dad didn't seem to mind.

Sometimes Mom would get up quietly while the rest of us were shushing each other to listen to what he had to say, and she would go to her room and read her books. (I wonder now if she ever prayed for the stranger to leave.)

Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions, but the stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our home ...not from us, our friends or any visitor. Our longtime visitor, however, got away with four-letter words that burned my ears and made my Dad squirm and my Mother blush.

My Dad was a teetotaler who didn't permit alcohol in the home, not even for cooking. But the stranger encouraged us to try it on a regular basis. He made cigarettes look cool, cigars manly, and

pipes distinguished. He talked freely (much too freely!) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing.

I now know that my early concepts about relationships were influenced strongly by the stranger. Time after time, he opposed the values of my parents, yet he was seldom rebuked ... And NEVER asked to leave.

More than fifty years have passed since the stranger moved in with our family. He has blended right in and is not nearly as fascinating as he was at first. Still, if you were to walk into my parents' den today you would still find him sitting over in his corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures. His name?...

We just call him T.V.

## **You Need a Doctor?**

By Steve Higginbotham

The book of 3 John begins with John praying for the well-being of Gaius. But take a moment and let the words of his prayer sink in.

John said, *"I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."*

Did you see that? He prayed that his physical well-being prospered as his soul prospered. I wonder what would happen if that prayer was answered just as it was prayed. Would we be full of new found energy, and feel better than we have in years? Or would we need someone to call a doctor or maybe even the coroner?

In a day and age when so much stock is placed on our physical condition, it is refreshing to have our attention refocused upon what is really important... the prosperity and well-being of our soul!

