

Indio Informer

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November 4, 2018

Upcoming Events...

- Fall Gospel Meeting:** Mike Wilson, November 11-14
Veterans' Day November 11 (observed on November 12)
Business Meeting: November 18 at 4:30 p.m.
Ladies Bible Class: November 18
Budget preparations for 2018
Thanksgiving Day: November 22
Barnabas Group Meeting: November 27

Impressive Love

“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38-39

November Birthdays

- 2 Mike Atkins 6 Ashley Tanner 10 Daniel Brown
18 Emilia Letalu 27 Lupita Guzman

November Anniversaries

- 2 Shannon & Susan Hudson

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

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(Address Service Requested)

God Loved: Am I Like God?

By Robert Notgrass

Like happiness, love is best defined by telling what it does. But, the very best way to describe love is to show it. God did this. Since He knows everything and since He IS love (1 Jn. 4:8), we are not surprised to learn that He not only loved the world, but that He sent His Son to die for the sins of the world (John 3:16).

Now, because He actively loved those who hated Him (1 John 4:10) and those who did not deserve love (Romans 5:8), He showed that Divine love does not have to have love in return, but can lead the way by loving the unlovable. This is beyond friendship, beyond sentiment and beyond worth, but solely on God's nature, He loves.

Most of us can love that which is lovely or affectionately. *“But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us”* (Romans 5:8). Therefore, since God loved the unworthy, Christians are to do the same. I mean, God shows his love by doing good to the just and the unjust and therefore, we are to do this as well (Matthew 5:43ff; Galatians 6:10). Yet, this is not man's love. But it based on the fact that God loved us first. And, so, we love as God loves. Christians are rooted in love (Ephesians 3:17). We are to continue to grow in love (Ephesians 4:16). We are to love truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10) and speaks the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). Thus, when one is baptized and rises in a new life (Romans 6:3-4), he puts on a new nature created in God's likeness (Ephesians 4:24). He can be tenderhearted, forgiving and kind (Ephesians 4:32-5:2) and he is been taught by God to love (1 Thessalonians 4:9).

Now most assuredly, the individual that loves God will keep His commandments (1 John 5:3), but the greatest of these commands is to love (Mark 12:28ff) and anyone who loves God will love God's children (1 John 5:1) and no one who hates God's children

really loves God (1 Thessalonians 4:9). So, what is love? Love is being like God and doing that which God does because God is love. So, am I like God?

He Loves Us Individually

By Dan Jenkins

As I reflect about our worship together this past Sunday, I cannot forget when we paraphrased John 3:16 and quoted it together. *“For God so loved me that He gave His only begotten Son . . .”* Think about this and rejoice that He loves each of us individually, so much that He would have given His Son even if we were the only one who followed Him!

It is at this personal level that Christianity takes on new meaning. He loves the world, but He loves each of us—individually. What He does for the world, He does for each of us—individually. What He promises the world, He promises to each of us—individually. He would not change His plan if you were the only Christian. With that in mind, read the following verses I have paraphrased and put your name in the places where the you find the blanks .

“But God demonstrates His own love toward _____ in that while _____ was still a sinner, Christ died for _____. Much more than, having been justified by His blood, _____ shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when _____ was an enemy _____ was reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, _____ shall be saved by His life.”

“Take eat; this is My body which is broken for _____; do this in remembrance of Me” . . . Then He took the cup . . . saying, “Drink from it, _____, for this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for _____ for the remission of sins” . . . “For as often as _____ eats this bread and drinks this cup _____ proclaims My death till I come.” How can anyone be absent from the Lord’s table or find it a “dead time” in worship when eating with the Lord is made personal!

“For the eyes of the Lord are over _____ and His ears are open to _____’s prayers.” How can anyone read this and not stay focused during times of prayer! How can we mediate on these words and not pray more?

“Let not _____’s heart be troubled . . . If I go and prepare a place for _____, I will come again and receive _____ to Myself; that where I am there _____ may be also.” Read these words, make them personal. While God is concerned about all the world, He is concerned about me! The righteous will hear His words about coming and entering into the joys of the Lord. But it is not just the righteous who will hear His words—it is I!

Take time today to think about God and His concern and involvement in the world. More importantly, take time to think of His concern and involvement in our lives—individually!

How Great is Our Love?

By Tim Dooley

We hear a lot about the greatest command. We sing about it, pray about it, preach about it, but it seems that few Christians really practice it. Selfishness, envy, pride, arrogance, anger, hatred, vengeance, laziness, and indifference abound...sadly, even in the Lord’s church!

Paul warns those who have been grafted into the vine to not be high minded and think that they can’t also be removed (Romans 11). The Spirit also reminds us that we need to not think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think, but to be living sacrifices. This takes a transformation of our minds from worldliness to godliness (Romans 12:1–3).

Paul wanted all men to be saved and if that meant he would be lost so they all would be saved, then so be it (Romans 9:3). Shouldn’t we love each other that much? Thanks be to God that he loved us that much! Thanks be to God that Christ paid the price for our sins so that all could be saved. What a sobering thought to behold “the goodness and severity of God” (Romans 11:22).

Let each of us love good, hate evil, be kind, be busy, be joyful, be patient, pray, give, be hospitable, bless, and overcome evil with good. Humble yourself and be a servant to God and others, no matter who they are! Being a Christian and going to heaven is not a passive pursuit. Be active, be loving, and be faithful!