## **Attention!**

Business Meeting: Today at 2:30 p.m.

Upcoming Gospel Meeting: October 23-26...Danny Linden Reminder: Hand out meeting flyers

## Be the Example

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, think about these things." Philippians 4:8

"Let your light so shine that men may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16

### **October Birthdays**

28 Allan Brown

#### **Regular Meeting Times**

Sunday......9:45 a.m. Sunday......10:45 a.m.

Wednesday......7:00 p.m.

Website: indiochurchofchrist.com

**Preacher:** Jack Critchfield

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

(Address Service Requested)

# Indio Informer

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### The Value of God's Word

Richie Thetford

Have you ever had something you valued very highly and were afraid that you might lose it? Most of us take great care in protecting what we highly treasure and try to learn the best way to protect it. Sometimes our efforts to preserve and keep our treasures are useless due to ignorance or neglect of the correct measures to be taken. Therefore, that which provided great benefit and was of much value is lost and can't be recovered no matter how hard we try.

Atheists, secular humanists, and others who don't want to hear anything about God or His standard for living, enjoy all the benefits that come from a society that generally practices the teachings of the Bible. These people are willfully ignorant of the knowledge that the Bible and its teachings restrain evil and bring order to society. They're ignorant that the Bible sets forth the individual as being very valuable. This country is based upon this very idea, and its laws are constituted to protect the individual.

If, as the Atheists and others in ignorance desire, Bible teaching is removed from the great majority of our society, that removal will eventually destroy the value of the individual. When the value of the individual is destroyed, our orderly society and freedoms will be gone. Anarchy, violence, and lawlessness will replace the order and freedom, and a dictatorship or other type of oppressive government will take over.

Do we value God's word? Do we want our children, and grandchildren to grow up with freedom to practice what the Bible teaches? If you do, store up the word of God in our heart, and teach our children God's word, morning, noon, and night. It all begins with each one of us. Before our homes can function properly, we

must first function properly in the ways and teachings of God. When we are practicing godliness and are truly loyal to Christ, then our homes will reflect that. When our homes reflect Christ, then our local congregations will also reflect Him. It all starts with "ME."

## They Live This Way

By Ron Thomas

Luke 10:25 - "Teacher, what shall I do to inherent eternal life?"

You'll notice what Jesus did not say. "As long as your heart is tender, as long as you love me, as long as you love your family and do good by other people, then that is all you need to do. I will save you; you'll rest in peace."

You'll notice Jesus said nothing of the sort. So why do people live this way? People live this way because they want to live with one foot on each side of the fence. They live this way because they have been told the Lord's standard of judgment is merciful, not something as stringent as the Gospel of Christ. They live this way because "Surely, the Lord in His mercy will overlook my failings and have a desire to save me." They live this way because they are mindful of all the good that is done and, "Why would the Lord punish me simply because I didn't go to church?" they live this way because they want the Lord to judge them, not on His standard, but by their own. They live this way because people live delusional lives.

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seems right unto a man but ends in death." As sad as that is, there are many Christians doing the same.

## I Once Shot a Woodpecker!

Author Unknown

I was looking through the hometown newspaper the other day and I came across this:

A speaker was lecturing on Forest Reserve. He began the lecture by saying, "I don't suppose that there is a person in the house who has done a single thing to conserve our timber resources." Silence ruled for several seconds, and then a meek voice from the rear of the hall timidly retorted, 'I once shot a woodpecker.'

Conserving timber resources was the thing of most importance to the speaker in this story, and it seems that he was trying to impress upon everyone else this important fact. The man who had "once shot a woodpecker" had done very little toward accomplishing the end the speaker had mentioned.

That put me to thinking about something a little different but extremely more important. What have I done toward making the church of which I am a member the most effective in reaching others with the gospel?

The answer comes back to me, "I once shot a woodpecker." Has this ever happened to you?

### **Putting Forth the Effort**

Excerpt from article by Alan Smith

A Christian once approached a great man of God and said, "I'd give my life to know the Bible as well as you do." His reply was, "That's what it took." We want the end result, but we often don't want to put forth the effort to achieve that result.

Paul exhorted the young man Timothy with these words: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

The word "diligence" suggests a great deal of effort and dedication on our part. May God grant us the strength to accomplish our goals as we supply the diligence.