

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Iris Hash is staying with her daughter, recovering from her hip replacement surgery. She is currently having rehab therapy.

Ray Sturgill is back home, but recently has had swelling in one of his legs and was treated for a blood clot.

Evelyn Murphy has been ill and unable to attend services.

Delores Hendrickson is still struggling with a bad cough but was able to services.

Sean Mathews continues to struggle with GI issues and is now on a special diet.

Shirley Cook's brother, Richard Pflaum, has been diagnosed with lupus.

Mike Parnell's sister-in-law, Ethel Parnell, is suffering from dementia.

Jesse Riddle is on hospice care but is often able to attend Sunday AM service.

Connie Davis is recovering well after surgery to replace her left hip.

Charlie Henard's niece, Brittany Henard, is battling terminal cancer.

Karen Sproles had a nerve stimulator inserted in her knee to help with pain.

Pray For Our Shut-Ins:

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, John & Terry Richardson

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See latest mission reports on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium.

Benevolent Opportunity:

During the month of July, we will be collecting peanut butter and jelly for the Metropolitan School District of Martinsville food pantry.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's business meeting will be Wednesday, August 7th at 5:00 PM.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, August 4th, following the AM services. Following the pitch-in we will have a service in song at 1:00 PM.

2024 Fall Gospel Meeting:

A fall gospel meeting will be held September 6-8 with brother Tom House of the Plainview Church of Christ in Fulton, MS.

Ladies' Inspiration Day:

The ladies of our congregation will be hosting a Ladies' Inspiration Day on Saturday, October 5th for the ladies of our congregation and those from area congregations. Please pray for their success in hosting this event.

Annual Fish Fry:

We will be having our annual church fish fry on Saturday, October 12th at 5:00 PM at the Martinsville City Park.

Radio Program:

Please remember to tune in every Sunday morning at 8:00 AM to WCBK 102.3 FM to hear our radio program which is entitled: "Preparing For Eternity".

God's Plan For Our Salvation

Hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).

Believing what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).

Repentance (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).

Confession (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).

Baptism (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3, 4).

Faithful Christian Living, after the above five steps (I Peter 2:11, 12; Rev. 2:10).

July 28, 2024

MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**540 E. Morgan Street
Martinsville, IN 46151
(765) 342-6027**



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study – 9:30 AM

Worship – 10:30 AM

Evening Service - 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study – 6:00 PM

Thursday

Ladies' Bible Study – 11:00 AM (March through October)

Radio Program:

"Preparing For Eternity"

Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

LOVE FOR THE TRUTH

James W. Boyd

Second Thessalonians 2:10, “And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.” This is descriptive of the lost who, because of unrighteousness, do not love the truth and therefore will not be saved; at least in that condition.

We need a clear understanding what we are to love. There is truth in many areas such as medicine, geography, history, etc. We want truth in every area, but especially truth regarding the soul. We are admonished to love a certain truth. Notice the list:

The truth of God (Rom. 1:25);

The truth of Christ (2 Cor. 11:10);

The word of God (John 17:17);

The truth of the gospel (Gal. 2:5);

the truth that Jesus personified (John 14:6);

All the commandments of God (Psalms 119:151).

THE NECESSITY OF KNOWLEDGE

Can we love truth unless we know what the truth is? We can want the truth but we cannot love what we have never heard just as we cannot believe having never heard. We need knowledge of the truth before we can love it. Some contend nobody can know the truth and they know that such a contention is the truth! Can you imagine that? Some even say there is no such thing as truth and even if there is we cannot ever know what it is. They say trying to discover the truth is like looking for a black cat in a dark room that is not even there anyway. How do they know that is true? Where did they learn that?

But we can know the truth (John 8:32). There were those in New Testament times who knew the truth (2 John 1). Some were walking in truth (3 John 4). How could this be said if nobody could know about truth?

The things God created are to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth (1 Tim. 4:3). Heb. 10:26 mentions those who willfully sinned even after knowing the truth. Not only can we know the truth but we can understand it (Eph. 3:1-5). A mystery is something that may not be known but can be known. The truth here is called the “mystery of Christ,” meaning, that the truth of Christ was once unknown because it was unrevealed but now it can be known because it has been revealed. It is no longer a mystery.

Just how much Biblical evidence does one need to refute this foolishness that we cannot know the truth? But the big question is: will we know it? When we do, will we love it? Many learn it and come to know it but never love it.

MOTIVE

What is our motive for knowing the truth? The truth can set us free from the Law of Moses (Rom. 7). It set us free from the law of sin and death (Rom. 8). It grants to us liberty in Christ (John 8:32). Are not these reasons enough for us to love the truth?

In addition, it is by the truth that the heart is purified (1 Peter 1:22). We are sanctified, set apart, made holy, by the truth (John 17:17). We are saved by the word of truth (James 1:21). Peter went to the house of Cornelius to preach the Gospel to them. Cornelius had been told they would be saved by the words Peter spoke (Acts 11:14). Peter’s preaching enabled them to hear the word of the Gospel, believe, obey and be saved (Acts 15:7).

The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16). We want to be saved from sin, but there is no salvation apart from hearing, believing and obeying the truth (Acts 18:8). There is no “new birth” without being begotten and we are begotten by the word (1 Peter 1:3). How much more motivation does a person need or expect to have a love for the truth?

Everyone, however, does not love the truth as is evident from our opening text and as we can observe in daily living. Preaching the truth can even make enemies (Gal. 4:16). Some turn their ears away from the truth (2 Tim. 4:4). James 3:14 says that some do what is unthinkable but do it anyway; that is, lie against the truth. Some in Galatia to whom Paul wrote were not walking uprightly according to the truth (Gal. 2:14).

LOVE IN ATTITUDE AND ACTION

Love is an emotion and an attitude that demonstrates itself by word and deed. How do we know we love the truth? This is something that considers the heart of man. If we love the truth we will believe and obey it. We will never exchange the truth for a lie. Proverbs 23:23 says, “Buy the truth and sell it not.” We will strive to live harmoniously with the truth. Loving the truth is the result of a deliberate choice. Living the truth is also a choice. Those of our opening text neither loved nor lived the truth.

When we love the truth we will search for it where it can be found—in the word of God, the Bible. Like the noble Bereans, we will search the Scriptures daily. We will consider truth the most valuable commodity to possess. We will receive the truth as did those on Pentecost. Paul told the brethren in Thessalonica, “But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through the sanctification and belief of the truth” (2 Thess. 2:13). We will be of the disposition that once truth is established, we will accept it and hold to it.

Like the early Christians, we will be willing to suffer for the truth. Many of them gave their lives for the truth. “Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute, and say all manner of evil against you, for my sake” (Matt. 5:11). Suffering for the truth has been the history of Christians. We can expect persecution (2 Tim. 3:12).

Along with that, we will have a strong desire to proclaim the truth to others that they also might be saved. Concern for the souls of others is a characteristic of Christians. We will never be ashamed of truth even as we live in a skeptical and wicked world that is hostile to the truth. We will speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:15).

FINALLY, BUT NOT THE LEAST

When we love the truth we will defend the truth. There have always been those who attack the truth. Such exists now and will exist until the Lord comes again. Jude 3 urges that we contend earnestly for the faith. Paul was set for the defense of the Gospel (Phil. 1:17). Some will wrest, twist, malign and misrepresent the truth. Error cannot be tolerated because “a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump” (1 Cor. 5:6). Error will take away the church, salvation, heaven, not only for us but for those loved ones who follow after us.

We have different abilities and capacities for defending the truth and there are different weapons. Not everyone is skillful with every weapon. But we must resign ourselves to fight for the truth because that is the will of God. The psalmist wrote, “O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day” (Psalms 119:97).