

NEWS AND NOTES

- ◇ Please remember in prayer– The Claridy and Marschall families, Ken and Arlene Turner, Vivian Dillman, Tammy Sadler, Ronnie Henderson, Madge Hicks, Nadeen Fields (Moses’ sister) Bucky Day’s mom (Gerri), Larry Wisdom’s sister, and Keri Rice’s mother (Diane Fields).
- ◇ Please remember also our shut-ins:
- ◇ Group 1 meets tonight.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1st and 3rd Friday each month - Teen Bible Study
- 2nd Sunday each month - Afternoon Singing
- 2nd Monday night of each month— Ladies’ Bible Class. (
- 4th Sunday of each month -Men’s Class *(Next Week)*

* * * * *

Assignments

Wednesday Night: 2/20/13

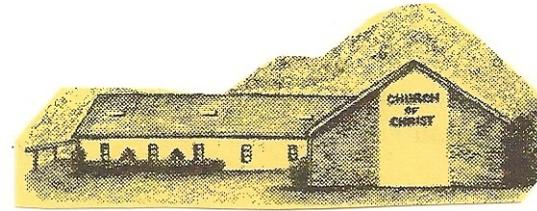
Song Leader: Bucky Day
 Opening Prayer: Jordan Lawson
 Invitation: Colby Sadler
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Daniel Stagers
 Parking Lot: Larry Hicks

Sunday Evening: 2/24/13

Song Leader: Nick Groenhof
 Opening Prayer: Bob Marschall
 Lord’s Table: Nick Ross
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Butch Morgan
 Parking Lot: Paul Llyod

Sunday Morning: 2/24/13

Lord’s Table: Nick Ross (B)
 James Van Doorn (C)
 Serving: Ed Lawson
 Eddie Lawson
 Song Leader: Colby Sadler
 Opening Prayer: Sherman Johnson
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Keith Marschall
 Parking Lot: (9:00) Leon Miller
 (9:50) Norm Blackburn



**Lakeland Hills
LEADER**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

2510 Lakeland Hills Boulevard Lakeland Florida 33805 (863) 688-4336

www.lakelandhillschurchofchrist.com

ELDERS

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378

SERVICES

Sunday
 Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
 Morning Services 9:50 A.M.
 Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
 Wednesday
 Bible Study 7:30 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
 Michael Sadler
 Eric Stevens
 Moses Stevens
 David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

“Looking for the Good”

The Bible still reads...

"Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. - Matthew 7:1-2

“Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?” -James 4:11-12

What is judging? Sometimes in the Bible, judging is prohibited (*Matt. 7:1; Jas. 4:11-12*) and sometimes it is encouraged...

“Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.” - John 7:24

“For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore “put away from yourselves the evil person.” -1 Corinthians 5:12-13

It is clear that judging is used in more than one sense in the New Testament, so...

What is the kind of judging that Jesus does allow?

The type of judging that’s rendered in civil courts, *Romans 13:1-7*

The judgments of the church made toward rebellious brethren, *1Cor. 5:1-13, 2Thessalonians 3:6*.

We’re to make individual judgments with regard to wrongdoers. –*Titus 3:10-11*

WE ARE to recognize and disapprove of sin. - *James 5:19-20*

We see in *2Peter 2:1, 1John 4:1, and 1Thessalonians 5:21* that we are to draw a line between truth and error.

What is the kind of judging that the Lord forbids?

Look to the text in *Matthew 7:1-6* to see the premise of what Jesus is teaching in the broader context. Jesus is warning against hypocritical (and insincere) judging. As you judge, you will be judged... If you aren’t merciful to others, don’t expect mercy for yourself. The kind He forbids is harsh, malicious, ill-natured judgment.

What causes bitter judging & fault-finding?

Many times it is simply driven by envy and hatred... An effort to divert attention from one’s own sins (*John 12:5-6*) Many times it’s brought on in an effort to justify one’s own sin in the life and soothe their wounded conscience. *“Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.” –Romans 2:1* Some folks (whether consciously or unconsciously) do it because they think if they find something wrong with this person... then think of themselves, “Well... I’m not so bad”. Also, sometimes people simply get caught up in trying to build themselves up by tearing others down.

(Luke 18:9-14) Remember, when you point the bitter finger of judgment at another, you have 3 more pointing right back!

Beware of fault-finding... we only see the outward man, not the inward man. Sometimes folks do things without even realizing it - even with regard to sin. Can you read someone’s mind? Is it just to assume another person’s motives? No. Also, not everything we condemn in others is actually sin! Let us be very careful in how we use our judgment.

The remedy for speck-finding...

“Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.” Matthew 7:12. Consider also, that most of our harshest judgments are against our own brethren! Having the same Father, being members of the same family - it should make a difference in our behavior!! Fault-finding is contrary to the very spirit of brotherhood. Let us ever be mindful of self-examination... and extend the proper type of love. *“Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless indeed you are disqualified.” -2Corinthians 13:5* Remember, we will all be judged

with the same judgment we render... *“But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.” –Matthew 12:36-37*

Look for the best in others. Some people seem to have a knack for being able to do that - to see the potential that others possess. Saul of Tarsus was blasphemer and a persecutor... But God saw in him the potential of being a chosen vessel and minister! He would go on to say, *“And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. - 1Timothy 1:12-13.* Paul was not forced to do anything; he was given opportunity to serve the Lord because of his potential. The Lord saw the good in Saul... do we **look for the good in others?**

-IR