

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Sunny & Joey Day (*Have been sick*), Reagan Cunningham, Kelly Cochran, Kurt Dickey, Betty Eubanks, Larry Hicks (*Bronchitis*) Linda James, Yvonne Jordan, Keith Marschall (*Recovering from procedure done on his knee*), Butch Morgan, Dottie Reynolds (*Asked for prayers last week; let's seek to really encourage her!*), Wayne Ryland (*Ongoing medical*), Kaitlyn Sadler, Paula Sullivan, and Ken & Arlene Turner (*Can no longer drive at night*).

Our friends and family: Susan Bebbly (*Bucky Day's sister; diagnosed with cancer*) Joe Brown (*Cancer, also now has shingles*), Elnora Bennet (*Moses Stevens' sister*), Mildred Church (*Shut-in*), Shelby Sprott, Brian James (*Cancer has reappeared*), Debbie Montgomery (*The Blackburn's daughter is in ICU*), and Ardis Tucker.

Ladies' Bible Class: The next ladies' Bible class is going to be February 8th, at Angela Wisdom's home (at 7PM). In preparation, please study lesson number XIII (13) that begins on page # 85 in the book, "Some Do's and Don'ts for the Christian". (*See the sign-up sheet in the foyer*)

Afternoon Singing: Our next afternoon singing will be held at 5pm on February the 14th.

Kid's Review Class: Also on February the 14th, shortly after the evening worship service, in room # 7.

Group Meeting: Group (1) meets tonight after worship.

Area Gospel Singing: The Trilacoochee Church of Christ is having their annual gospel singing this Friday, January 29, at 7pm. Many of their members support our annual sing, so let's try to be involved with theirs, if possible.

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 1/27/16

Song Leader: Keith Marschall
 Opening Prayer: Eddie Lawson
 Invitation: Nick Ross
 Announcements: Bob Marschall
 Closing Prayer: Jim Elliot
 Recordings: Bucky Day
 Usher: David Williams

Sunday Evening: 1/31/16

Song Leader: Colby Sadler
 Opening Prayer: Larry Hicks
 Lord's Table: Jeremy Wharton
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Jim Elliot
 Recordings: Clay Sadler
 Usher: Mike Sadler

Sunday Morning: 1/31/16

Lord's Table: Jeremy Wharton (B)
 Jerry Williams (C)
 Serving: Trent Stevens
 Jordan Lawson
 Song Leader: Larry Wisdom

Opening Prayer: Leon Miller
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: David Williams
 Recordings: Clay Sadler
 Usher: Mike Sadler



**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
 Larry Wisdom (863) 583-4311

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
 Charles Rawdon
 Michael Sadler
 Moses Stevens
 David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

“Enlightened”

Would you like to be thought of as enlightened? Want people to think of you as a progressive thinker, one not bound by traditions? Want to be praised for moving past the intolerant bigotry and narrow-mindedness of previous generations? If you want to be recognized as having broken free from the shackles of traditionalism, you should do the following.

Without offering any substantive proof from a study of context or producing any important evidence from the consideration of other relevant texts, assert that...

- The New Testament's restrictions on the roles of women in the church simply reflected the first century Greco-Roman culture and have no bearing on us today.
- The teachings of 1 Peter 3 and Ephesians 5 regarding the roles of husbands

and wives in a similar fashion simply reflected the cultural biases of the first century in which they were written.

- While you don't want to downplay the significance of baptism, it is a dangerous thing to put the kind of legalistic emphasis on it that so many have in the past.
- Arguments about the silence of the Scriptures are nothing more than Church-of-Christ traditions.
- Instead of being so enslaved to the written word, we need to rely more on the presence of God within us.
- It behooves us to recognize that there are other ways of looking at some of the passages traditionally understood to condemn homosexual behavior. Remind people that God loves unconditionally and we're all sinners, the people Jesus was happy to associate with.
- We need to be less focused on outward obedience and more concerned with the heart.

If you make these and similar assertions you will be applauded by

many and on social media sites such as Facebook, & you are certain to garner multiple "likes." And, if someone were to question or challenge you on any of these assertions, rest assured that a number of people will rush to your defense and savagely attack your critics for "so obviously lacking the love of Christ." Does this sound appealing? It seems to have a strong appeal to some, but please allow me to point out a few problems with this "enlightened" approach.

- Jesus associated with sinners because He had come to call them to repentance, not simply to make them feel good about who they were. **Matthew 4:17; Luke 5:32**
- Jesus is the revelation of God's grace, but that grace teaches us to turn away from ungodliness, worldly lusts, and lawless deeds. **Titus 2:11-14**
- Jesus is the author of eternal salvation to those who obey Him. **Hebrews 5:8-9**
- The New Testament's teachings about the roles of women were

based on Old Testament precedent and apostolic authority in **1 Corinthians 14** (see **14:34, 37**). In **1 Timothy 2** they are said to be rooted in the principles of creation and the curse, not first century culture (**1 Timothy 2:13-14**).

- If one can simply dismiss the teachings of **Ephesians 5:22-33** about the husband and wife, can he do the same thing with its teachings regarding Christ and the church? After all, isn't one a figure of the other?
- Faith does not come through an inner voice, but by the word of God (**Romans 10:17**). To be filled with and influenced by the Spirit is equivalent to allowing the word of Christ to dwell richly in you. Cf. **Ephesians 5:18-19** and **Colossians 3:16**.
- It was the Scriptures that Timothy was to allow to thoroughly equip him. **2 Timothy 3:16-17**
- The book of Hebrews will still attach great significance to the things not said, i.e. the silence of God. **Hebrews 1:5, 13; 7:11-14**
- Baptism is still connected with being saved (**Mark 16:16; 1 Peter**

3:21), remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**), the washing away of sins (**Acts 22:16**), and the saving death of Christ (**Romans 6:3-4**).

- When you turn to the Scriptures you will find homosexuality described by the following: vile passions, against nature, shameful, error (**Romans 1:26-27**). It, along with other sins, will keep one out of the kingdom of heaven unless it is repented of (**1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 2 Peter 3:9**).
- It is not a loving and enlightened spirit that allows people to continue in sin. Truly enlightened people join God in calling all men everywhere to repent and turn from their ignorance. **Acts 17:30-31**

The choice is our—we can be seen as an enlightened people who have thrown off the shackles of traditionalism or we can hold to that which is incorruptible, the word of God which lives and abides forever. **1 Peter 1:23-25**

- John R. Gibson