



Sunday – Sept 17, 2023

The Lakeland Hills Leader

Lakeland Hills church of Christ

2510 Lakeland Hills Blvd
Lakeland, FL 33805
(863) 688-4336

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:00 AM Bible Study
9:50 AM Worship
6:00 PM Worship

Wednesday

7:00 PM Bible Study

Visit our Website:

www.lakelandhillschurchofchrist.com

For Sermon & Class outlines,
Bible Study Materials and
Other Information.

Visit our Facebook Page:

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information, and links to our
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Visit us on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCu7AG_3jUtpBDlr2NPqB3iw for
Live Streams and Video
Archives.

Elders

Bob Marschall
Leon Miller
Larry Wisdom

Deacons

Bucky Day
Sherman Johnson
Michael Sadler
David Williams

Evangelist

Chuck Kozens

REMEMBERING MODESTY

By T. Sean Sullivan

It is not easy to prioritize God's acceptance above the acceptance of our peers. It's not just the young people who struggle with this issue. Now, maybe more than ever, it is also their parents and grandparents. My generation, perhaps more than others before, has transitioned toward wanting our children to express, wear, and do, all the things that our parents wouldn't let us do. Perhaps, we have all lost our moral compass along the way.

Because of this prevalent attitude far too many young people are walking a false pathway that is leading them away from Heaven. We cannot walk with the Lord, while living in immorality-the two ways are not compatible. When we lose sight of this life being our preparation for eternity, we may seek to please this world much more than to please our Creator God (James 4:4). Let's consider together how much we need to remember modesty.

Remembering Modesty

As soon as the preacher brings up modesty, walls of defense begin to construct. Be careful what you may be defending. Modesty by definition is: Behavior, manner, or appearance intended to avoid impropriety or indecency. Defending immodesty is to defend actions, attitudes, and attire that is improper and indecent.

There is a standard by which we should act, react, and yes, also dress-it is not set by the world, by friends, or by fellow students. It is God who provides proper understanding for us. It is His will that we must be doing (Matthew 7:21; Matthew 28:18; Colossians 3:17). There is a big difference between God's way and way of the world (Matthew 6:24).

Some argue that "situations" change the acceptable standards of modesty. If you are in an environment where "words and deeds" are inappropriate, does that remove your responsibility to God? No, Colossians 3:17 says, "...whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." If your workplace is filled with lewd and rude behaviors, infidelities, cursing, and swearing, does that justify your joining in to be just like everyone else? No, Ephesians 5:1-5, "...let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints". If "everyone else" is presenting too much skin, and nearly naked on the beach, or at the pool, does that justify you abandoning modesty, to be just like everyone else? No, certainly not (1 Timothy 2:9-10 instructs women to wear that, "...which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works" and 1 Timothy 4:12 establishes the same high standard for men too!).

Is There Any Limit?

Today, the limits of decency are being rejected. There was a time in the 1800s when a woman's ankle was not to be seen in public, and perhaps that was an

unrealistic concept. Today, we are a long, long way from the ankle. It is quite apparent that many believe that there is no nakedness in fully exposed legs (Not to mention rear ends). God instructed the priests in Exodus 28:42, to "cover their nakedness" and this was accomplished by covering from the waist to the knee-the whole thigh-granted this is Old Testament, but has human anatomy changed since?

It is truly time to rethink which appeals we are trying to provoke. Our American culture has become sex-driven, and fashion standards have followed. Any attempt at modesty is now being characterized as frumpy and prudish-certainly not "cool", "popular", or "acceptable". Propriety and Modesty are not the opposite of beauty or attractiveness. Modesty determines to protect that which should be held as sacred, reserved, and preserved for marriage [Males and Females] (Hebrews 13:4). When we advertise the wrong intention, we will receive the wrong attention!

We need to remember that modesty honors our bodies and honors our Creator God (2 Peter 3:11). We are to refuse the enticement of lust, and we certainly shouldn't be seeking to be enticing anyone to lust!