

June 24, 2018

# Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street  
Olney, IL 62450  
217-218-0803  
[www.olneychurchofchrist.org](http://www.olneychurchofchrist.org)

## Services

### Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

### Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Visitors are welcome  
We offer Bible classes for all ages  
We also offer in-home Bible studies

## Attitudes That Hinder Repentance

By Michael Hickox

In **Acts 2**, the apostle Peter preached to Jews who were filled with guilt over what they had done to Jesus. These Jews asked Peter and the other apostles, "***Men and brethren, what shall we do?***" (**verse 37**).

In reponse, "***Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost***" (**verse 38**).

In this verse, the Holy Spirit through Peter set forth commands that must be followed in order for one to become a Christian and receive forgiveness of sins. One thing commanded was "***Repent.***"

Later, in **Acts 8**, a man named Simon heard this same message, and became a Christian (**verse 13**). After becoming a Christian though, Simon sinned against God (**verses 18-19**). The inspired apostle then commanded him, "***Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee***" (**verse 22**).

Once again, "***repent***" was part of God's requirement for sin to be forgiven.

The point is that whether we are a Christian or a non-Christian, in order to receive forgiveness of any sin, *part* of what we must do is *repent* (turn away from sin).

There are a number of excuses made to avoid repentance. Consider some attitudes that hinder repentance, and the answers to these provided in the Word:

# Attitudes That Hinder Repentance

By Michael Hickox

## Ignoring the Seriousness of Sin:

Some fail to repent because they do not recognize how serious sin is. **Romans 6:23** says “*the wages of sin is death.*” Sin, if continued in, leads one to eternity in “*everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels*” (**Matt. 25:41**).

Some take sin lightly because they compare themselves to other people instead of comparing themselves to God’s will. The thought is, “Everybody sins and my sin is no worse than anyone else’s.”

While it is true that many people are living in sin, it is also true that “*many*” are following a broad path that leads to destruction (**Matt. 7:13-14**). If we desire to be the “*few*” who receive life, we must measure things by God’s will. When we do so, we will realize that sin is despicable.

## “Sweeping Sin Under the Rug”:

Another pitfall some fall into is the idea that if “no one finds out” about a sin, it is not a big deal.

After David committed adultery with Bathsheba, instead of acknowledging his sin and repenting, David tried to “sweep it under the rug.” He told lies and eventually ordered an innocent man to be put to death, all in an attempt to “cover up” sin that could never really be “covered up.”

The end of **2 Samuel 11** states “*the thing that David had done displeased the Lord*” (**verse 27**). David learned that there is no such thing as a sin that nobody knows about (**Heb. 4:13**).

## “Attacking the Messenger”:

Some fail to repent because their focus is on the faults of the messenger pointing out sin, rather than the message he proclaims.

Like those who sought to kill Jeremiah for giving them guidance that could lead them to safety (**Jer. 38:4-6**), many “attack the messenger” for speaking words that could lead them to eternal life (**Gal. 4:16**).

This is a surefire way to ensure that we will not allow ourselves to be helped when repentance is needed in our lives.

## Fearing Rejection:

Some fail to repent for fear of rejection they might receive from others (**Jn. 12:43**).

Jesus stated “*He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me*” (**Matt. 10:37**), implying that being His disciple often involves making choices that angers others. We must not fail to repent as needed for fear of what others will think.

## Procrastinating:

Still others fail to repent because they do not have the sense of urgency needed to do so. Some believe that repentance is something they can do “down the road.”

This attitude pretends to know more about the future than God has revealed. None of us know how many more days we have on earth, or even how much longer the earth will exist as it does (**Matt. 24:36**).

When sin is in our lives, may we repent, and not be hindered by these attitudes.

## Area Gospel Meetings

Walnut Chapel Church of Christ:  
June 24-29 (with Boyd Sellers)

Bellair Church of Christ:  
July 11-15 (with Greg Sharp)

Casey Westside Church of Christ:  
July 13-15 (with Andy Cantrell)

Yale Church of Christ:  
July 16-20 (with John Edwards)

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## God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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## Words to Consider

*“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”—1 John 5:13*

## Prayer List

Holly  
Barb  
Hickox's Granddaughter, Lyla (Leukemia)  
Harold (Prostate Cancer)  
Sandy (Foot Injury)  
Betty  
Mabel  
Norma's Grandson, Ryan (Head Injury)  
Mike H (Prostate Cancer)  
Cheryl (Breast Cancer)  
Norma (Injuries from fall)  
June & Family  
Jerry G (Throat Cancer)  
Mattie (Leukemia)  
Tom (Pancreatic Cancer)  
John  
Rex & Family

## Daily Bible Reading

June 24 – Nehemiah 10-11; Acts 4:1-22  
June 25 – Nehemiah 12-13; Acts 4:23-37  
June 26 – Esther 1-2; Acts 5:1-21  
June 27 – Esther 3-5; Acts 5:22-42  
June 28 – Esther 6-8; Acts 6  
June 29 – Esther 9-10; Acts 7:1-21  
June 30 – Job 1-2; Acts 7:22-43

*“And [Ezra] read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.”—Nehemiah 8:3*

### **Prayer Leaders**

Sunday, June 24, 2018

Bible Study: Don  
Worship: Jim  
Evening: Travis

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Joe

### **Cleaning Building**

Cynde

### **Prepare Communion**

Linda

### **Upcoming Reminders**

July 28: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.

August 5-10: Gospel Meeting  
with Chuck Bartlett

### **Assignments**

Sunday, July 1, 2018

Reading: See  
Announcements: Bulletin  
Table: Board  
Serve:

Wednesday, July 4, 2018

Invitation:

### **Anniversaries**

July 11 - Ethan and Lindsay  
July 16 - Darrell and Sidney

### **Birthdays**

July 8 - Mark  
July 12 - Holly  
July 12 - Jessilyn  
July 13 - Ethan