

July 18, 2021

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
P.O. Box 683
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803
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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Elders: Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

Deacons: John Frost, Dave Goff,
Roger Sholders

Visitors are welcome

We offer Bible classes for all ages

We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

Practicing What We Preach

By Michael Hickox

The perfect Teacher not only taught what is right; He also *showed* us what is right.

After Jesus washed His disciples' feet in **John 13**, He said "***For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you***" (**verse 15**). Washing His disciples' feet exemplified selflessness, meekness, humility, and servitude. He preached the importance of these principles on a number of occasions. In **John 13**, He "practiced what He preached."

One of the greatest hindrances to leading others to salvation is the hypocrisy of some who do not practice what they preach. People who "***say, and do not***" (**Matt. 23:3**) are harmful to seed that is sown among non-believers.

We cannot control the actions of all who claim to be Christians, but each of us can (and must) control our own actions to ensure that we are truly a Christ-like example.

May we live in such a way that we, like Jesus, shine bright for the benefit of others and the glory of God (cf. **Matt. 5:14-16**).

Attitude of Gratitude

By Michael Hickox

In the letter to the saints at Philippi, Paul spoke of his “**bonds**” in Christ (i.e., imprisonment) (**Phil. 1:7,13,14,16**). Yet, through this trial, he spoke of joy, peace, and contentment.

In fact, in the King James Version of the Bible, the words joy, rejoice, and rejoiced are used a combined seventeen times in the short letter to the Philippians. Paul realized that as an obedient Christian, he had great reason to rejoice. The **fourth chapter** of the letter notes the “**peace of God, which passeth all understanding**” (**verse 7**), and the contentment that must be “**learned**” (**verse 11**).

One key reason for Paul’s joy, peace, and contentment through trials was his “attitude of gratitude.”

He began the letter by expressing his thanks for the Philippians (**Phil. 1:3-5**). He was thankful for the preaching of the Gospel (**Phil. 1:18**). He was joyful to make sacrifices for others (**Phil. 2:17**). He had appreciation for Timothy (**Phil. 2:22**), Epaphroditus (**Phil. 2:29**), and other “**fellowlabourers**” (**Phil. 4:3**).

He prayed to God with trust and gratitude, and encouraged the Philippians to do likewise (**Phil. 4:6**). He thanked the Philippians for their benevolence and generosity (**Phil. 4:14-19**).

Just as Paul urged the Thessalonian

saints to give thanks in all circumstances (**1 Thess. 5:18**), so he exemplified at a time his circumstances were bleak.

Paul’s example of gratitude is one for all to follow. While most grumble and murmur when life does not “go their way” (cf. **Num. 14:1-4**), Paul recognized that even in difficult circumstances, he had much to be thankful for.

His focus on spiritual things caused him to see his circumstances as full of opportunities for serving God and others.

Paul remembered that “**all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God**” (**Rom. 3:23**). The wages of such sin is eternal death (**Rom. 6:23a**). Eternal *life* is a gift of God (**Rom. 6:23b**), and those who receive it through obedience are blessed far better than we deserve (cf. **1 Cor. 15:10**).

The circumstances through which we bring glory to the One who offers this gift may vary. Yet, no matter how bright or dreary things seem in this life, there are always opportunities to please God. This should make Christians thankful.

Paul’s “attitude of gratitude” was in many ways key to his joy, contentment, and peace. May we strive to have this attitude also, following Paul’s example in an important way in which he followed Christ’s will (**1 Cor. 11:1**).

Area Gospel Meetings

Yale church of Christ:
July 19-23 (with Jim Stauffer)
M-F: 7:00 PM

Casey Westside church of Christ:
August 3-5 (with Kris Emerson)
T-TR: 7:00 PM

*Our Gospel Meeting will be
August 8-13 with Jim Stauffer*
Sun: 9:30, 10:20, 2:00; Mon-Fri: 7:00

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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

"I am the bread of life." – John 6:48

Prayer List

Holly G
Sandy S
Cheryl S
Norma C
Raymond & Maxine
Barbara G (Cancer)
Robert C
Don C (Esophageal Cancer)
Gerry S (Cancer in leg)
Ken G (Pancreatic Cancer)
Ethan W (Injuries from fall)

Daily Bible Reading

July 18 – Ezra 7-10; John 20-21
July 19 – Nehemiah 1-4; Acts 1
July 20 – Nehemiah 5-7; Acts 2
July 21 – Nehemiah 8-10; Acts 3
July 22 – Nehemiah 11-13; Acts 4
July 23 – Esther 1-5; Acts 5
July 24 – Esther 6-10; Acts 6

"Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life.'"

– John 6:68 (WEB)

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, July 18, 2021

Bible Study: Michael

Worship: Jeff

Evening: Mark

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Roger

Clean Building

Debbie

Prepare Communion

Debbie

Upcoming Reminders

Aug 8-13: Gospel Meeting (with Jim Stauffer)

Assignments

Sunday, July 25, 2021

Reading: Jeff

Announcements: Darrell

Table: Dave

Serve: Roger

Douglas

Mark

Dan H

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Invitation: Dan D

Anniversaries

August 15 – Roger & Debbie

Birthdays

August 4 – Steve

August 5 – Julzy

August 10 – Cheryl

August 11 – Jim