

August 13, 2023

God Forgives, I Don't

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
P.O. Box 683
Olney, IL 62450
618-843-4684
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.

Bumper Stickers. Some bring a smile, some a chuckle. Some bring a frown and others a wag of the head. Once in a while though, some are upsetting; very upsetting. This past week I saw one that made me do a double take. I couldn't believe the brash attitude it portrayed. Boldly situated on the back window of a pick-up truck, the sticker read, "God forgives. I don't."

No doubt, the owner was proud of his or her sticker. Its message most likely made a statement that fit his or her personality. That message, as I interpreted it, was, don't mess with me—I get even. What a bold and arrogant attitude to have. But more than that, what an irreverent, blasphemous way of stating it.

What the owner of that sticker fails to realize is that with such an attitude, he or she cannot find true happiness or peace of mind when one stores up bitter feelings and cultivates arrogant pride, it festers and eats at that person till he or she is consumed and utterly miserable.

God Forgives, I Don't cont'd.

Knowing the potential for men to hold grudges and the damaging effects of it, God warns, *"You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the Lord"* (Leviticus 18:19). Again in James 5:9 He states, *"Do not grumble against (grudge) one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold the Judge is standing at the door!"* Instead of holding grudges and seeking to get even, God desires that we *"Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord"* (Romans 12:17-19)

Another sad reality is that when one fails to forgive, he or she cannot be forgiven. Jesus made this clear when He said, *"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly*

Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14,15). Many, including the sticker owner, may not be concerned now with being forgiven by God, but there will come a time when they will earnestly covet His mercy (2 Thessalonians 1:7,9). The problem is, then it will be too late.

Brethren, though we may not display our unforgiving attitude with a bumper sticker, often it is just as evident. And as surely as it will keep the sticker owner and others from being happy and being forgiven by God, so it will have the same damaging effect on us.

Let us, therefore, examine ourselves and guard against this destructive attitude. And as God desires, let us *"be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you"* (Ephesians 4:32).

~ Ken McDaniel, 1996

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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Meeting Topics

8/13–BS:Tell Me the Story of Jesus

AM:We Have Found the
Messiah

PM:The Birth of Jesus

8/14 – The Son of God

8/15 – Jesus Is Our Savior

8/16 – King Of Kings and Lord of
Lords

8/17 – Death, Burial & Resurrection

8/18 – Is Jesus Making a
Difference in Your Life?

Prayer List

Holly Gerber
Cheryl Smith (Surgery Recovery)
Robert Cantonwine
Doans' Grandson, Wilson
Chris Fisher & Family
Nora & Her Family & Family
Those Battling Cancer

Chris Fisher
2911 Kaskaskia Way
Indianapolis, IN 46217

Daily Bible Reading

Aug 13: Ps 87-88; Rom 13

Aug 14: Ps 89-90; Rom 14

Aug 15: Ps 91-93; Rom 15:1-13

Aug 16: Ps 94-96; Rom 15:14-33

Aug 17: Ps 97-99; Rom 16

Aug 18: Ps 100-102; 1Cor 1

Aug 19: Ps 103-104; 1Cor 2

Aug 20: Ps 105-106; 1Cor 3



Prayer Leaders

Sunday August 13, 2023

Bible Study: Darrell
Worship: Jim
Afternoon: Douglas

Wednesday, July 16, 2023

Mark

Prepare Communion

Donna G

Clean Building

Donna G

Preaching Aug. 20, 2023

AM – Mike

PM – Ray

Celebration of Life

Ken Fisher

Saturday, Aug 26th @ 1:00

Assignments

Sunday August 20, 2023

Reading: Mark
Announcements: Mike
Table: Roger
Serve: Jeff
Darrell
John
Dan H

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

Invitation: Roger

Anniversaries

August: 15 – Roger & Debbie

Birthdays

August:

19 – Paula
24 – Debbie
25 – Olivia
31 – Stephanie