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FIRST CORINTHIANS 13:13

Westhill Church of Christ

3400 W. Hwy 22
Corsicana, TX 75110

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Sunday 9:30a, 10:30a, 6:00p

Tuesday 10:30a

Wednesday 6:30p

Wednesday Benevolence 8:30a

July 9, 2017

Restore Such A One In The Spirit Of Meekness

Dale Grissom

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted” (Gal. 6:1). Restoring the erring is an area in which the church is badly failing.

It is reported that only fifty percent of new converts remain faithful for over five years. Brethren, this just ought not to be. We must do a better job of nurturing our babes in Christ - encouraging, teaching, loving, and bonding, making them feel a welcome and important part of the family of God.

The apostle Paul admonishes us to restore the erring in the spirit of meekness. How can we accomplish this if we don't care about our brethren? And how can we truly care for someone we barely even know? The church is the family of God, and as such we must work to develop a genuine love for each other. Only by spending time in prayer for each other, and by spending time getting to know each other, can we build that bond that God would have us to build. If we have the love we should have for our spiritual family we will be grieved when a brother or sister goes back into the world. Every person who obeys from the heart the Gospel plan of salvation becomes a child of God, and God adds him to the church (Acts 2:47). He will always be a child of God. Though he may become unfaithful, he does not cease to become part of God's family; he is instead a wayward child. Consider the children of Israel, how time and time again they were unfaithful. God grieved over their sins, yet forgave them each time they repented and turned back to Him.

Each of us must truly become our brother's keeper. We must work to set the proper example for others, and we must encourage and build each other up. We must not be timid about talking to one another about matters that concern our souls and where we will spend eternity. May each of us determine to become more spiritually-minded and more sensitive concerning the needs of our brethren.

Christianity is a serious business; we are preparing for eternity. Let's be sure we don't take it too lightly - our souls are dependent upon it!

People Problems

Doug Dingley

had its challenges. So did the church in Corinth – their’s were colossal, widespread, and very well-documented in God’s eternal record. The first-century congregations of Christ’s church in the Galatian region were certainly shown to have grappled with their fair share of struggles. The Ephesian, Philippian, and Colossian congregations were surely not without their conflicts either. Neither were the congregations of Thessalonica, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, or Laodicea without their problems, conflicts, or issues. In fact, it is somewhere between extremely difficult and downright impossible to even peripherally read through the majority of some of those epistles and not come to the conclusion that the main reason they were written in the first place, was to address and correct some of the multitudinous problems in those congregations.

And even in first-century congregations of the Lord’s church which were not necessarily mentioned in the Scriptures, you can be sure that they certainly endured and had to deal with a plethora of seemingly impossible internal problems as well. Why? Because the church is the people. And wherever you have people seeking to work together in close proximity, you can count on having, and having to deal with, problems – even, and sometimes especially, in the church.

Several congregations that I am currently, personally (even if only peripherally) acquainted with through some of its members whom I know and love, either has had, or seems to be having, some measure of “people-problems” over the past few months. This is nothing new. This is to be expected. This is what will eventually, inevitably happen, anywhere and everywhere you have a plethora of imperfect people seeking to work so closely together. Even amongst some of Jesus’ closest and most spiritually intimate first-century disciples, they couldn’t always get along, and therefore had to learn to endure, resolve, and overcome some pretty nasty pride and personality problems (Matt. 20:20-28; Mk. 9:33-37, 10:32-45; Lk. 9:46-48, 22:24-27; Jn. 21:20-22; Acts 15:36-40; Phil. 4:2-3; Jms. 3:2-5:9)! And the reason is: because the church is the people. And wherever you have people seeking to pull together over a lengthy period of time, you can absolutely count on encountering, and having to endure and deal with, some sort of “people-problems” – even in the church. And sometimes, especially in the church. And here’s how and why...

Whenever one repents and is baptized into Christ (Acts 2:38-41), they are to bury the old man of sin there and rise to walk in newness of life (Ro. 6:1-11). However, the old man of sin doesn’t always stay dead, down, and drowned. He, with all of his ego-driven, pride-powered, selfish ambition and self-promoting sin won’t stay down without a constant and hard-fought daily fight to keep him there. Don’t think so? Then why did the once-humble sister

Check your bible. The Lord’s church in first-century Rome certainly

Corinth – their’s were colossal, widespread, and very well-documented in God’s eternal record. The first-century congregations of Christ’s church in the Galatian region were certainly shown to have grappled with their fair share of struggles. The Ephesian, Philippian, and Colossian congregations were surely not without their conflicts either.

servant-saints of Philippians 4:2-3 still have a problem? Also, please reconsider Colossians 3 if you would. It was written to those who were already Christians (Col. 1:2, 2:11-15, 3:1-4). And yet, what does the apostle Paul tell his Colossian brethren by divine inspiration in verses 5-17? ‘You’ve got to keep putting the old, sinful, selfish, petty and prideful man of sin to death!’ In other words, it is a continual, everyday, and ongoing process (2 Ptr. 1:1-11)! It is an everyday battle we all must personally fight (Lk. 9:23-25; Ro. 7:14-24; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; Phil. 3:12-14).

But sometimes we slip up, and the old man of sin slips out. Sometimes, someone will push just the right button, at just the wrong time, and before we can even begin to take the proper precautions, he shifts his ‘weight,’ sheds his shackles, and shoves his way past the ivory bars that have held him back and in check for so long. And when he breaks free, it all breaks loose. Feelings get hurt; friendships get sunk; relationships are severed; and reputations are ruined. And in some of the more tragic scenarios entire congregations can get ripped apart. . . while under the withering onslaught of such satanic and sinful immaturity and criticality, many blood-bought and priceless eternal souls can be lost forever, becoming spiritual casualties as a result of getting caught in the crippling, congregational crossfire of such needless warfare.

But while the church is the people; and where you have people you have problems; Jesus has and is the answer, having not changed in all the centuries since He was here. Whenever such personality and pride-driven conflicts erupt, they are the same types of “teachable moments” that Jesus’ disciples were continually given the opportunity to learn godly wisdom from (Matt. 20:20-28; Jms. 1:2-5) as are we. The Great Physician’s all-soothing, all-healing balm of Gilead (Jer. 8:22) can be abundantly found and applied, from God’s divinely-inspired prescriptions for all such certain-to-happen problems, in places like: Jn. 13; Rom. 12-16; 1 Cor. 1-3, 8, 12-13; Gal. 5-6; Eph. 4-6; Phil. 2-4; Col. 3; 1st Thess. 2-3 and other chapters, as well as entire books like James and 1st John.

Yes, the church is the people. And yes, wherever you have people, you will inevitably have problems – in the world or in the church. But the difference in the church, is that we have the divinely-inspired and all-powerful antidote and cure for all such issues directly at our fingertips! This, in the form of the eternal written word and wisdom of the almighty God of peace Himself! What a gift! May His people diligently learn, apply, and utilize it on a daily basis! . . . For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men. Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another. . . Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God (Rom. 14:17-19, 15:5-7).

Pure & Practical
RELIGION
inspired thoughts by James
2017 Westhill Summer Series

June 7	Justin Williams	Introduction to James
21	Robert Dodson	Chapter 1 Faith...Hearing & Doing
28	David Mahoney	Trials: Joy/Wisdom/Reward (1:2-8, 12)
July 5	Jim Haden	Temptations: In poverty/In wealth/In desire (1:9-11, 13-18)
12	Scott Barham	Christianity 101: Practical Religion (1:19-27)
19	Jay Lockhart	Chapters 2-4:12 Ignorance of Worldly Living
26	James Olsen	Worldly Preferences (2:1-13)
August 2	Josh Haden	Worldly Faith (2:14-26)
9	David Shastid	Worldly Divisiveness (3:1-18; 4:1-12)
16	Steve Bailey	Chapters 4:13-5 Leaning on OUR Power
23	Billy Roughton	Boasting in our Empty, Worldly Wealth (4:13-5:6)
30	Dale Hill	Suffering w/ Patience & Praying w/ Faith (5:7-18)

WesthillWORKS!

Community Outreach

Benevolence Program
Habitat for Humanity
Food for Fitness

Local Missions

Cherokee Children’s Home
In Search of the Lord’s Way
Southwest School of Preaching
Brown Trail Spanish School of Preaching
The Truth in Love *ttil.tv*
WVBS Online School
school.wvbs.org
La Poynor Prison Ministry
(Steve & Carrie Handley)

Foreign Missions

Four Seas Bible College, Singapore
New Zealand Harvest Missions

Leadership

Elders

Percell Milton - 903.673.1819
Paul Slaughter - 903.872.1228
Paul Stewart - 903.872.3464
Darwin Thomas - 903.695.0176

Deacons

James Ainsworth - 903.872.1390
Scott Barham - 903.641.0133
David Baumgartner - 903.654.4057
Zach Drain - 903.521.6055
Dan Gibson - 903.641.9587
Joshua Haden - 903.602.9645
Micah Haden - 903.673.1177
Michael Jones - 214.803.5984
Roy McCullough - 903.872.2069
Greg Olsen - 903.654.1406
James Olsen - 903.874.8918
Rusty Owens - 903.695.0095
Billy Roughton - 903.654.4032

Dickie Russell - 903.874.4457
David Shastid - 903.257.6464
Brent Stewart - 903.641.9052
Justin Williams - 903.875.8288

Ministers

Cory Myers - 512.627.6672 (Family)
Tim Cooke - 903.641.5515 (Seniors)

Staff

Jay Mahoney - 903-467-9093 (Office)

Prayer List

Please remember **Beverly Cooke's nephew** is waiting on results from biopsies taken during surgery Monday.

James Welch is home recovering from some recent health issues. Please pray for him and Sue.

Jim Howard has been at Baylor Hospital being treated for infection in his knee. When he has more strength he will be moved to Arlington for rehab.

Dianne & Bobby Compton's grandson is recovering from back surgery last week and needs continued prayers.

Please remember **Gerald Armstrong** has been having multiple health problems recently.

Please remember **Nancy Milam** has had some medical issues and still needs prayers.

Billie Thomas had an MRI last week due to arm and shoulder pain. Please pray for her to get relief.

Continue to Remember: Wanda Horner, Shirley Wardlaw, Lanny Powers, Juanita McCary, Don Bowen, Royce Bunch, Aline Barrett, Melba & Eleanor Bower, Jerry Cockerham, Wanda Brown, Ricky Stepp, Anita Hawkins, Rita & Dan Dominy, Terri Shook, & Ava Johnson, Meagan Gould, Velma McDougald, & Carolyn Bailey

Announcements

Summer Series "Pure & Practical Religion" *Inspired thoughts by James*, will continue Wednesday with Scott Barham teaching Christianity 101: Practical Religion

The 39th Annual Southwest School of Bible Studies Graduation weekend will be July 14-16. We are very proud of our own **Corey Tackett** who will be among those graduating!

Leadership Initiative for young men is scheduled for July 28-30. Registration is now available online.

We are very excited that **Anthony Warnes and his family** will be joining the family here! Beginning Aug. 6, he will begin his ministry with us as **Westhill's pulpit minister**.

Birthdays This Week

July 11 - Wayne Prater & Emily Roughton
 July 12 - Felisha Heim & Keitha McDougald
 July 14 - Debbie Banks & Izabella Webster

Next Week

Bible Class *The Life of the Apostle Paul*

AM Sermon *Speaker: Robert Dobson*

PM Sermon *Q & A Discussion Panel*

Records for July 2, 2017

Bible Class	149
AM Worship.....	204
PM Worship.....	125
Wednesday.....	142
Contribution	\$10,031.68

Military: Clay Bayes, Jason Book, Alston Compton, Robert Johnson, Ryan Payne, Douglas Ramsey, Ryan Stewart, & Blake Barrett

COMING UP: Q & A PANEL DISCUSSION
 SUNDAY PM, JULY 16, FOUR MEN FROM OUR
 CONGREGATION WILL BE ANSWERING QUESTIONS FROM
 THE BOOK OF JAMES. THIS DISCUSSION WILL COMPLEMENT
 THE WEDNESDAY SUMMER SERIES ON JAMES, AND WILL
 HELP EACH OF US TO GROW IN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF
 PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY! COME AND GROW!

Privileged to Serve

Song Leader	David Baumgartner
Opening Prayer	Jim Haden
Communion Leader	Frizzell Henry
Communion Servers	
George Schmidt	Jim Haden
Wade Braly	Aubrey Parrish
Nicholas Tooley	Thomas Saunders
Kyle Slaughter	Jimmy Horn
Eric Olsen	Michael Jones
Rusty Owens	Darwin Thomas
Brian Hand	
Closing Prayer	Ken Green
Nursery	Tina Roughton & Kailey Knikade
PM Song Leader	Justin Mahoney
PM Opening Prayer	Bradley Wilson
PM Closing Prayer	George Schmidt
Wed. Song Leader	Paul Ross
Wed. Summer Series	Scott Barham
July Contact Elder	Paul Slaughter