

Words—the Basis of Faith

By: Dan Jenkins

Paul's words to young Timothy were so descriptive of the trials he would have to face. Those verses in 1 Timothy 4 were given to Timothy because of what was happening. The gospel was soon to be preached to every creature under heaven, and the future of the church was so promising.

Paul warned Timothy that the Holy Spirit of God had clearly revealed that some would depart from the faith and begin following false teachers and the lies they taught (**1 Tim. 4:1**). Their teaching was that Christians must refrain from eating certain foods. What was the truth about this matter? The Holy Spirit revealed through Paul that such was false teaching for "...every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer" (**1 Tim. 4:4-5**).

Timothy's task was to take this truth and instruct the brethren. If he did this, he would be a good minister of Jesus Christ, for he had been nourished in the words of faith and had carefully followed them (**1 Tim. 4:6**). Notice how the truths of God are described. They are based on the words of faith.

Look again at the contrast. Some had left the faith by following those who had departed from the faith. When they spoke, they did not speak the words of truth, but they were "...

speaking lies in hypocrisy." Timothy's task was to stay faithful to the truth and instruct his listeners to stay in accordance with the words of faith.

Faith is based on words. If there are no divine words to describe what one believes, then his faith is not based on what God said. We express ideas using words. We express heavenly ideas by using heavenly words. If there are no Biblical words to describe one's faith, then it cannot express an idea which has its origin in heaven.

There is more to be added to these thoughts. Paul instructs Timothy saying, "Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me" (**2 Tim. 1:13**). The words of faith become the basis of the "pattern of sound words." A pattern shows what must be done and become the basis of duplicating precisely what was in the pattern. The reason forbidding the eating of certain foods was false teaching is because such teaching does not follow the pattern. This pattern is expressed in words, sound words.

Now make the application. Timothy was instructed to take the things he learned from Paul and deliver them to faithful men who then could deliver them to others (**2 Tim. 2:2**). Timothy was to take the words of faith and teach as a pattern to be followed by using

sound words. This pattern was then to be given to others. God help us to find the words of faith!



Jesus' Compassion For Lost Souls

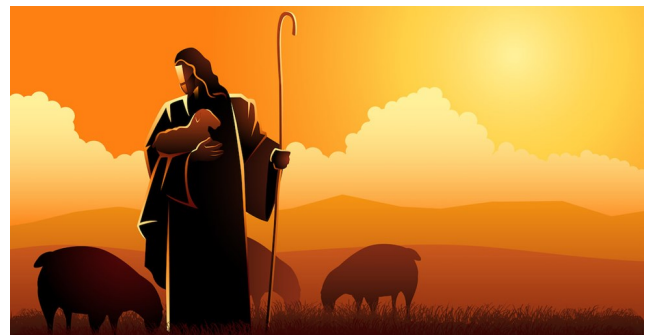
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Matthew describes Jesus' compassion for lost souls: "But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd" (Matthew 9:36).

Do you know His compassion in your life? Do you have compassion for those who are lost in sin? Remember dear Christian, you and I were once lost as they are today. It is our job to show them that there is Someone who cares and can help them find their way.

- **Jesus saw people.** He did not look past them, ignore them, or turn away from them.
- **Jesus was cognizant of their condition.** They were tired and lost in the world.
- **Jesus compared them to sheep without a shepherd.** They go astray, get into trouble, and are destroyed by enemies.
- **Jesus was moved with compassion for them.** He understood them. He sympathized with them. He loved them.

Jesus said what He would do for them: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep" (John 10:11). We are the sheep. Jesus is the good Shepherd. He did for us what we could not do for ourselves. Without Him we are all desperately lost.



Upcoming Events

Oct. 30-Nov. 1: Midtown will be hosting an evangelism seminar with guest speaker Rob Whitacre. There will be a potluck luncheon after morning service with a 1pm afternoon service. Please bring a potluck dish to share. (This luncheon will be in lieu of Nov. 6)

Area Events (More info on the bulletin board in the hallway):

Oct. 23-26: Gospel meeting at Portland church of Christ.

Nov. 12: Bible Bowl 2022 at Weber Road

Prayer List

Prayer Requests:

Penny Cuevas and family. Penny's father passed away last week.

Clifton and Jackie Rutherford. Clifton is caring for Jackie who is needing extra care right now.

Allen Clifton and family. Allen's brother David passed away. Funeral services were last week.

Veronica Serenil, who is recovering from eye surgery.

Clark Withers who will have a medical procedure on Oct. 26.

Members

Jeff Cannady, Les Daltry, Kin and Sandra Marie, Ann Pantel, Veronica Serenil, Clark Withers, Dee Gilpatrick, Faye Henderson.

We rejoice that Gloria Perez was baptized last week. May her walk with Christ bear much fruit. A sticker with her contact info is on the table in the foyer.

Service Roster

Week of October 23, 2022

Sunday Morning

Scripture Reading..... Jeff Cannady
Song Leader Rick Bass

Opening Prayer..... Steve Randle
Closing Prayer..... Ken Dorries

Lord's Supper & Offering

Bread..... James Cammock
Cup..... Clifton Rutherford
Offering..... Ron White
Assist..... Mike Atkinson
Assist..... Lupe Escojido
Assist..... Bryant Siegel

Sunday Evening

Song Leader Jeff Cannady

Opening Prayer..... Fred Scherffius
Closing Prayer..... Steve Randle

Lord's Supper & Offering..... Lupe Escojido,
Bryant Siegel

Wednesday Evening

Adult Class..... James Cammock
Song Leader Doug Jobes
Devotional James Cammock

Other

Prepare Communion Bass

Congregational News

Birthdays

Desmon Flonnory..... Oct. 24
Mary Jo White..... Oct. 24
Caitlin Serenil.... Oct. 28

Anniversaries

Phillip & Nicolette Garcia..... Oct. 29

Food Helpers for the month of Oct. - Team B.

If you have any prayer requests or upcoming events to be announced, please contact our secretary, Nina Siegel, at (361) 573-0030.

Our Elders

Mark FitzSimmons
Ron White

Our Deacons

James Cammock—Evangelism
Lupe Escojido— Benevolence
Bryant Siegel—Education and Finance

Our Preacher

Brandon Starling

Weekly Reading

“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is
evil. Cling to what is good.”
Romans 12:9

Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 P.M.

Attendance Records

Week of October 16, 2022

A.M. Bible Class.....66
A.M. Worship.....98
P.M. Worship.....71
Wednesday Bible Class.....53

*Financial information is located on the bulletin
board in the hallway.*

Supported Works

John & Carla Moore *Bible Land Passages*
B.K. York *Southwest School of Bible Studies*

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