

Church of Christ

77 Cogan Avenue
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
(518) 563-2970

January 7, 2018

PAY ATTENTION!

I would love to have a dollar for every time I heard my Mom say, “Joe, pay attention to what you’re doing!” As I was growing up, there was always something more fun to distract me from the task at hand.

To be honest, I still need reminders like that, particularly in my desire to become more like Jesus. I suspect that all of us do. We want to follow and serve Him more effectively, but there are so many distractions along the way: A little pursuit of materialism here, a little power trip there. And ooh, there’s an opportunity to chase pleasure for a little while. Before long, we’re spiritually disoriented, frustrated, and perplexed about how to get back on track in our pursuit of Jesus.

We need to take Paul’s instruction to Timothy to heart. He says, in essence, “Timothy, pay attention!” He tells Timothy where his attention should be: “Watch your life and doctrine closely”

(1 Timothy 4:16). Let’s talk about those two words “life” and “doctrine.”

By God’s grace, I have had the opportunity to invest a major part of my life in preaching. A lot of my ministry has been sharing God’s Word in a variety of contexts. But, for a long time now, I have been keenly aware that those moments in the pulpit are only the tip of the iceberg. Scripture reminds me over and over that my life has to match up with what I am preaching. If I am proclaiming the joy of freedom in Christ, then my life needs to show that I am walking in the freedom that He offers. If I am calling God’s people to greater levels of commitment and sacrifice for kingdom causes, then I

need to be stepping out in faith, seeking to grow in my commitment and willingness to sacrifice. Timothy is reminded of this when Paul tells him to “set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12). Nothing hinders our witness for Jesus more than a lack of authenticity. We need to pay attention to the way we live.

Paul also tells Timothy to pay attention to his doctrine. He starts chapter 4 with the warning that “in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons” (1 Timothy 4:1). Since the early days of the church, the enemy has been consistently attempting to distract God’s people by leading them away from the core truths of Scripture. A key responsibility of Timothy, the young pastor, was to “command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer” (1 Timothy 1:3).

Satan continues to sow seeds of doubt in our minds about the authenticity and authority of Scripture—one of our bedrock doctrines. Some well-meaning but misguided churches promote the notion that other religions and belief systems, if sincerely held and practiced, may offer an alternative means of reconciliation with God. This flies in the face of Jesus’ words when He said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6). Teaching which tells us that we need to do good works to be saved is a frontal attack on the grace of the gospel.

So, what’s in it for us?

Paul assures us that the payoff in paying attention to our life and doctrines is huge. “If you do,” he writes, “you will save both yourself and your hearers.” So take my Mom’s advice: Pay attention to what really matters!

Joe Stowell
getmorestrength.org

PRAY FOR...

Alley, Donna & family: struggles
Baker, Hailey: Maddie’s friend, broken jaw
Ballard, Sophie: Nikki’s niece, struggles
Black, Roger: Doug’s friend, stroke
Blier, Christina: health
Burna, Bonnie: Carl’s aunt, cancer
Buskey, Tonyea: Jackie’s sister, heart surgery
Cech, Terry: surgery to remove spots on bladder
Darling, Wendy: Carl & Cindy’s sister, broken ankle
Deeton, Mike: Katelyn’s friend, heart
Doner, Richard: Christian’s uncle, septic
Duprey, Karina: Earl’s niece, cancer
Elders: Alfred and Doug
Forette, Kevin: John’s friend, cancer
Jackson, Jessal: Amber’s friend’s daughter, leukemia
Kashorek, Lorri: lung cancer and success of new treatment
Kaitlyn and Nikki: sickness
Laramy, Paul : Steven’s brother, motorcycle accident
Lebeau, Steve & Gail: John’s friends, health struggles
Lermineau, Sean: Carl’s relative, struggles
LePage, Jim Sr. and Gail: Jim L’s parents, health
Loss: two members of the Hogans’ extended family
McCoy, Donna: Melinda’s relative, health
Miller, Amber: great scan results and new job
Miller, Francis: Jody’s dad, tests
Miller, Jody: struggles
Missions: Brazil, Ghana, Malawi, Ukraine, Zambia
Phillips, Cathy: Mary’s friend, struggles mother’s dementia
Provost, Emilie: raising Sorcha in the Lord
Spencer Carrie: Alfred’s niece, health
Stowe, Jack: health
Stapleton, Katelyn: struggles
Stowe, Kayonna: Nikki’s niece’s friend, cancer
Taylor, Robert Jr.: Nikki’s dad’s preacher friend, dying.
The Oasis Project
Ur: Chris’ friend, mother-in-law passed away
Waters, Scott: Eddie’s aide, biopsy
Whitfield, Freda: Mary Chambers’ mother, health

“Continue to help us keep this list updated and to pray for those mentioned in previous bulletins.”

Church of Christ
77 Cogan Avenue
Plattsburgh, Ny 12901
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shepherds serving under the Good Shepherd:

Alfred Chambers, 901-205-8584
Doug Kashorek, preacher, 563-0835
c645-1509

available: Fri 9-3 or by appt.

Schedule of Services

Sunday
Bible Class 10 A.M.
Morning Worship 11 A.M.

Wednesday
Bible Classes 6:30 P.M.

Welcome to Worship

The church of Christ that meets in Plattsburgh invites you to attend any of our services. We love having visitors and are honored for you to attend. We seek to follow the New Testament in all that we do in our worship services. Our primary aim in worship is to glorify and honor God by worshipping Him "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24) Trusting in the promise of the gospel message, we now live out obedience to God's Word as our only authority and pattern for our lives and the church. We want to encourage you to come and learn, worship, grow, and serve the Lord with us! "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1).

From the Shepherds ...

We need to be a 'People of the Word.' Therefore, in 2018, we'd like all of our members to diligently study God's words that bring life! Whether you follow the published plan that will bring you through the Bible in a year or one of your own, stay in the Bible a little each day. A 30 Day Challenge (the NT in a month) and a significant-passage-per-day-through-the-Bible plans are available as well.



We've Got Class!

Join us Next Sunday at 10 a.m. for: Adults: John's class--Search For Truth, lesson 6 Youth classes as well ... and don't forget to meet at Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Mission Moment.

•Please pray for all our mission works.

Munchie Moments

Fellowship Meal: our next 4th Sunday meal is 1/28 after morning service. Please invite a friend and bring a dish to pass.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: the next 1st Sunday breakfast is on 2/4 at 8 a.m.

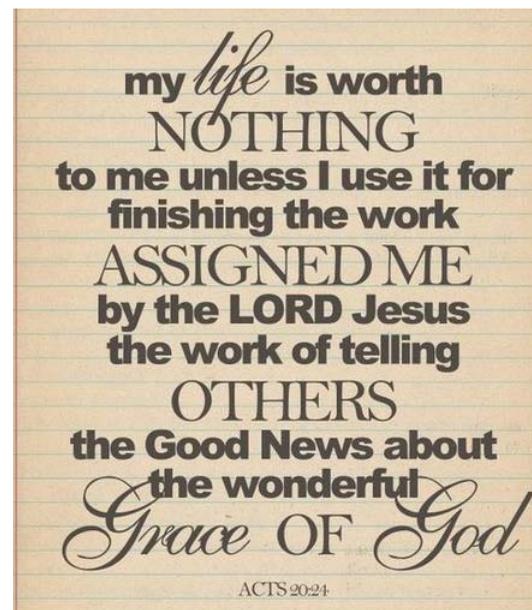
The Oasis Project

The Oasis Project will be every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30-5:30 p.m. For confidentiality reasons, if you are not vetted, please stay away from the church building during those hours. Thank you.

Doug's Devotional

"And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way ..." Colossians 1:10.

We love because the Lord first loved us, though we were enemies to Him and separated from Him, and sent Jesus as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Christ's love, therefore, is the motivating force behind all that we do, and from that love come our values of benevolence, edification, and evangelism. This is not just what we do; it is who we are as 'Christians.' All three values are wrapped up in the command to 'live a life worthy of the Lord.' We cannot remove one and still be pleasing to God. The most common way to do this is to leave out evangelism. This is one who still calls himself a Christian, comes to worship service and most classes to learn about Jesus, serves in many of the church's projects out of his concern for the poor, but never reaches out to the lost around him with the gospel. This is a very selfish 'Christian' indeed, who having been rescued from darkness and brought into the kingdom of the Son, keeps the saving knowledge of redemption and forgiveness of sins to himself. Is God pleased with the life you are living that you believe is worthy of Him?



Sundae Toppings

Today: 8 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
1/14, 12:30 p.m. Ladies' Time
1/21, 12:30 p.m. Family Meeting
1/28, 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Meal



Key Word Search

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 a.m., 11a.m. 7 p.m.
In Search of the Lord's Ways: "From God or Men"
Key to the Kingdom:
"Genesis: A New Beginning"



2018 Weekly Bible Reading Plan



Day 8 - Genesis 26-30
Day 9 - Genesis 31-35
Day 10-Genesis 36-40
Day 11-Genesis 41-45
Day 12-Genesis 46-50

Read a little every day!



Mark Your Calendar

1/10, Carl's birthday
1/11, Silvia's birthday
1/12, Patty's birthday
1/20, Brant anniversary ('89); Steve P's birthday
1/28, Tim's birthday in Christ ('09)
2/10, Howard's birthday

Wash & Wear

- the cleaning sign-up for this season is on the fridge. Taking a turn is appreciated & needed.
- the church's blue polo shirts in a variety of sizes are \$15 each (to cover cost only).

Today:1/7

Announcements: John
Opening Prayer: Alfred
Song Leader: Doug
#382 "Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?"
#410 "He Leadeth Me"
#366 "By Christ Redeemed"
Talk/bread prayer: Carl
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Tyler
Pass/collection prayer: Howard
#523 "I Know the Lord Will Find a Way for Me"
Scripture Reading: Chris - Colossians 1:10-14
Lesson: Doug "Live a Life Worthy"
#359 "I Love the Lord"
Closing Song: #851 "I'll Fly Away"
Closing Prayer: Jim B
Subs: JL, SS

Next Sunday: 1/14

Announcements: Jim B
Opening Prayer: Garth
Song Leader: Chris
Talk/bread prayer: John
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Alfred
Pass/collection prayer: Carl
Scripture Reading: Howard - John 17:15-19
Lesson: Doug "Your Word is Truth"
Closing Song: Jim L
Closing Prayer: Steven

Week of December 31

Bible Class	25
Morning Worship	33
Wed. Bible Class	12
Contribution	\$677.00
Weekly Ave. Needed	\$575.00

November→December Averages; 1 Year Ago
Sun. Bible Class Ave. 25→ 23; 23
Sun. AM Worship Ave. 33→ 31; 33
Wed. Bible Class Ave. 13→ 14; 5
Weekly Contribution Ave. \$653.44→ \$835.82; \$926.78
Yearly Contribution Ave. (18 weeks) \$699.28