

Church of Christ

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

November 4, 2018

ONE AT A TIME

A lot of us long to see the day when our country returns to its moral foundations. Yet, as wonderful as it would be to see a nation reclaimed for God and the principles of His Word, if it were simply a political victory that reinstates rules of better behavior, the changes would only be external, and our hearts would not be changed. I am for being a good Christian citizen and seeking to preserve morality. Any country is better when the values of biblical morality reign. But if we hope only in political change to reinstate living by God's laws, then we have lost sight of Christ's primary mission for us.

As Ravi Zacharias has noted, "If we succeed in making America more moral, then what we will have is more lost moral Americans." In *The Pilgrim's Progress*, Pilgrim gets sidetracked into a layover in the village of Morality, where all is morally correct. He finds, however, that morality without the cross cannot alleviate his burden of sin.

Unfortunately, we have been led to believe that political triumph over the enemies of godliness is a priority goal. Yet, politics can be a seductive sidetrack. It tempts us to shift our eyes away from what must be the focus of true followers—concern for the lost and for the growth of believers in Jesus.

Maybe you can identify with the woman who approached me before a meeting. She

told me that for two years she had been so deeply involved in political causes that she had neglected her growth in Jesus and her commitment to her local church in both time and giving. She had even come to see those on the other side of the political fence as enemies rather than ones for whom Jesus died. She admitted that during this time her intimacy with the Lord had dimmed. She was convicted about how quickly her political adrenaline had eclipsed her passion for the things of God and eternity.

While it may be energizing and exciting for us to believe that we are doing our Christian duty by marching, politicking, protesting, and supporting groups that do these things, it may well distract us from the most important task—glorifying God through Christlikeness and an unwavering commitment to the eternal destinies of friends and enemies alike.

When Jesus instructed His followers to "make disciples of all nations," He didn't mean that we should get caught up in political agendas that drive the nation's government. He intended that we reach the people of our nation with the message of the gospel.

The best way to win any nation to God is to care about the eternal destinies of its citizens and to seek to lead them to the true King one at a time!

Joe Stowell
getmorestrength.org

PRAY FOR...

Bailey, Susan: Jim B's friend-struggles
Baker, Helen: Melinda's mother, health
Bennett, Jim: health
Boula, Pat: Chris C's friend-heart valve replacement
Brownwood, John: struggles
Burna, Jennifer: Carl & Cindy's cousin, cancer
Cech, Matthew and Terry: health
Collins, Mary: Patty's friend, struggles
Conley, Annie May: Mary's sister in TX, in hospital
Darling, Wendy: rehab and health struggles
Dashnaw, Justin: rehab following surgery
Elders: Alfred and Doug
Gundrum, Eloise: one year-old, cancer
Hemingway, David: struggles
Kashorek, Lori: healing~non-chemo cancer treatment
Lapier, Lisa: Patty's neighbor, lung cancer
Lebeau, Steve & Gail: John's friends, health struggles
Lermineau, Sean: Carl and Cindy's relative, struggles
LePage, Jim Sr. and Gail: Jim L's parents, health
Mariah's family: struggles
Miller, Jody: struggles
Missions: Brazil, Croatia, Malawi, Zambia
Nelson, Barb: Alex & Nick's grandmother, cancer
Sinclair, Sharon: treatments for cancer
Warrick, Oaklyn: 1 year-old, heart surgeries
West, Larry: Melinda's friend in CA, health
Whitfield, Freda: Mary Chambers' mother, health

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

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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: by appointment

Schedule of Services

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

Wednesday
Bible Classes 6:30 P.M.