



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
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The Importance of Sound Doctrine

As the church has entered the postmodern era, historic Biblical teaching has fallen by the wayside and new theologies have taken their place. The 'new theology' downplays the value of scripture and shifts the focus on emotionalism-experiential Christianity instead of Christianity based on truth.

What makes us feel good is not the measure of truth.

Feelings sway with the wind of circumstances but the truth of God's word stands as a solid rock that does not change whether times are good or bad. Those who are founded upon the rock will never be moved even if the world around them falls apart.

As Biblical teaching is pushed aside, people are no longer standing strong in the Lord. In fact, very few have any concept of an immovable truth or even what spiritual maturity is all about. Unless one's heart is stirred with the truth, very few will ever go beyond their Sunday morning dose of emotional excitement.

There is so much more to Christianity than getting an emotional charge and claiming self-centered requests from the Lord. Without understanding truth – all of the truth, Christians will be dwarfed in their growth and never experience the true things of God.

Devaluing Doctrine . . .

It is a growing trend to devalue doctrine and make the teachings of scripture irrelevant or unimportant. I have repeatedly heard statements from preachers like, "*Doctrine is not important in Christianity. Nothing is important but having a relationship with Christ.*"

This can be made to sound good if presented with passion and this philosophy is packaged in many ways, but it is a completely false statement. In fact, it is IMPOSSIBLE to have a deep relationship with Jesus Christ without doctrine. Look at Jesus' statements in John 14:15, "*If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.*" And in John 14:23-24, Jesus answered and said to him, "*If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My word; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.*"

The Value of Doctrine

Thirty-six times the importance of doctrine is stressed in scripture – and this is only the times that the word "doctrine" is used. There are many more times that the concept of sound doctrine is stressed by God.

When something is stressed twice, it is intended to be an emphasis on its importance. If something is stressed 36 times, how can anyone

say that its not important.

Not only that, but we can see that it is critical. The word 'doctrine' simply means the teachings of the Scriptures. We are not talking about complicated theological concepts that professors argue over in a collage class room; we are talking about how God teaches us to relate to Him, to organize the church, to live holy lives, inherit His promises and experience God to the fullest.

If our goal is to hear an inspirational message that makes us feel good and get through until next Sunday, any religion will do.

If you want to experience God, sound doctrine is critical.

Matthew 15:9
Titus 1:9
I Timothy 4:1
II Timothy 4:3-5
I Timothy 6:3

From: Vision
West Side Church of Christ
Russellville, Arkansas

Sympathy and Prayers for the Family of **Tom Cloud** who passed away February 14, 2008 at his home in Dover, Arkansas.

He leaves so many friends and family. He will be missed by the community and his church.

His Memorial Service was held Saturday, February 16 at the United Methodist Church, Dover, Arkansas.

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

"God has no need of marionettes (puppets on strings). He pays men the compliment of allowing them to live without Him if they choose. But if they live without Him in this life, they must live without Him in the next."

Leon Morris

When God created man He could have made us like puppets. But He chose to make us with a free will. He wants us to make the right decisions. He wants us to follow Him but it must be our choice. He wants us to love and obey Him as He loved us.

God knew from the beginning what the outcome would be when He made us to have a free will. He knew we would sin and fall short of His expectations. Yet, He still created us as we are. *"If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor."* (John 12:26 NKJV) Jesus pleads with us to follow Him. He lets us know that when we do follow Him, His Father will honor us. It is always our choice. Hopefully, we will make the right choice because the reward will be great that awaits us. Someone once said, *"To know the will of God is the greatest knowledge, to find the will of God is the greatest discovery, and to do the will of God is the greatest achievement."*

God has offered us this wonderful grace. We haven't earned it. We can't earn it. Making the right choice will be the difference in spending a life with God or spending it without Him. The things we do in this life prepare us for the next one.

Some of us are so blessed to have been born into a family of believers. This doesn't mean that we always take advantage of this blessing. Many do not. We are a step ahead of those who were not raised in a Christian home. Early on we have the opportunity of learning the will of God. Whether we do the will of God, and take advantage of the greatest achievement possible in our lives, is entirely up to us.

Let's hope and pray that we make the choice to live with God in this life so that we can spend the next one with Him also.

Remember Our Sick

Yvonne Adkisson – surgery Tuesday, Feb. 19, Ft. Smith, AR.

Bob Bennett – had pace-maker surgery, home recovering.

Bernice Brown – hospitalized, maintenance, home soon.

Troy Curtis – hip replacement surgery went well, now doing rehab.

Amanda Dodson – Freida Arnold's niece, much improved with medication.

Sue Griffin - bedfast, health problems.

Leota Hickey – cataract surgery February 27th.

Annette Hull – had body-scan test, waiting for results.

Cleon Johnson – still in UAMS, hopes to go home soon.

Ray King – serious health problems.

Pat McAlister - lower back surgery scheduled March 12th.

Jannie Myers – second cataract surgery February 20th.

Tom Williams – had surgery, doing better.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**
Robert Lee

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:
Evelyn Driver
Melba Hodges

Stella Manor: **Pauline Dale**
Louise Killer
Mae Vanzandt

Towbin Health Care, LR:
Charles Hickey

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Amie Barkley, A. G. Barton, Carolyn Bennett, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Wm and Susie Boley, James Chadwick, Jeff Davis, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Hoyt and Sarah Ensey, Jeania Griffin, Paul Griffin, J. R. Hale, Dorothy King, Jim Lackey, Rose Lee, Liliya McDaniel, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, Charles Proctor, Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, J. D. Whiteside and Judy Will.

Special Children: Elysia Lee, Emmy May, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Expectant Mothers: Kelly Chance, Beckie Clark, Amy Johnson, and Kristen Nordin.

Our Military: Greg Davis, Cole Wetzel and Rudy Will.

How to Have a Great Marriage

Your marriage does not have to be just good; it can be great!

What separates good marriages from great ones?

Give God His place in your marriage. Remember that Solomon said, *"A threefold cord is not quickly broken."* (Ecclesiastes 4:12) Couples who strive to build a relationship with Christ at its center enjoy an enormous advantage over those who do not. *"Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it . . ."* (Psalm 127:10)

Remember your vows. Husbands, did you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect your spouse, forsaking all others? Wives, did you promise to love, honor, cherish and obey your spouse, forsaking all others? Consider Matthew 19:9 and Hebrews 13:4).

Express love each day. *"Show . . . the proof of your love."* (Corinthians 8:24)

Appreciate one another. When you stop to count your blessings, do not forget to count your spouse! *"Who findeth a wife findeth a good thing."* (Proverbs 18:22) An attitude of ingratitude will eventually manifest itself in selfish and disrespectful behavior toward one another.

Treat one another as the most important person in the world. Who on earth is more important to you than your spouse? In terms of your relationships with others, no relationship is as important to maintain and cherish than the one you have with your spouse.

Rod Halliburton
House to House, Heart to Heart

Sympathy and Prayers for the family and friends of **Jessalyn Davis** who passed away Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at her home.

Memorial service was Friday, February 22, 2008.

Events

Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8
Bible Story and
Activities

Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

Lads/Leaderettes Leaders

Dover Church of Christ
Meet every Sunday, 5PM

Song leading
Bible Reading
Advanced Bible Reading

Lads to Leaders' Leaderettes Convention

March 20 thru 23
Nashville, Tennessee

Dover Men's Devo Night

Thursday 7:00 PM,
March 13th
Host: Jim Killer

Mark Your Calendars

Dover Ladies' Night

(4th) Thursday 7:00 PM
March 27th

Hostess: Diane Walters

AREA WIDE YOUTH DEVOTIONAL

3rd Sunday, 6:00 PM
March 16, 2008
Clarksville Church
of Christ

Baptism

**Congratulations!!
Colton Williams
Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2008**

Conway County

Ladies Day

Saturday
March 8, 2008

Hosted by the Downtown
Church of Christ
100 W. Church Street
Morrilton, Arkansas

Breakfast 8:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00 PM

Theme: "Facing Your
Fears"

Including the dramatic
monologue "Save Momma"
and keynote address by:
Lynne Gentry, Dallas, Texas

March Birthdays

- 02 Kelly Williams
03 Bryan Bates
Keaton Creel
Rick Hollis
07 Harold Turner
Colton Williams
12 Carl Lawley
13 Matthew Moss
17 Jim Killer
18 Ryan Whiteside
21 William Boley
22 Alan Herron
25 Blake Brown
26 Mike Creel
Shelby Statler
27 Wilma Johnson
28 Kaeli Miller

If we missed your birthday,
please let us know so it won't
happen again.

Dover Church of Christ Ladies Day

Saturday, April 26th

**Theme: "He is the Potter,
We are the clay."
(Isaiah 64: 8)**

More info to follow!

**"In Search of the Lord's Way"
Now 24/7**

The Search Program can now
be accessed any time website:
www.searchtv.org

Mack Lyon's weekly lesson can
be heard and seen on KARK,
Channel 4, Sunday, 7:30 AM.

THOSE TO SERVE

March 02, 2008

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Dennis Whiteside
Chris Loper

Communion

Podium: Earl Whitted
Serve: Rick Hollis
Robert Bird
Sid Womack
Steve Pennington

Scripture Reading

Drew Walters

**Sunday P.M.
Prayers**

Chris Moss
Brett Walters

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Singing Night

Prepare Table for Communion

Troy and Rachel Curtis

Communion to Shut-Ins

Allen Veasman
Blake Forehand

Greeters

Allen and Marilyn Veasman

Wednesday Night Devotional

March 05, 2008

Alan Boatright

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes
9:45 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 P.M.
Ladies Tuesday Bible Class
10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Classes
7:00 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams
Church Office: 479-331-3428
Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Jim Killer 331-2802
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Rex McDaniel
Joe Miller
Chris Moss

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: JoAnn Killer
Sunday Church: Pat McAlister
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ
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