



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
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I Want a Church That Meets My Needs

By William Wooden

The statement made in this title is not only the desire of many in the religious world, but it is becoming the philosophy of many Christians, because many of us are seeking a religion that “meets my needs.”

The phrase itself has virtually become a new religious term. Many persons praise or blame a particular congregation because it is or not “meeting my needs.”

Let me hasten to say that if the phrase means that we need to satisfy spiritual hunger, then it is a good expression, for surely everyone ought to be in a Christian community where his/her deepest spiritual longings are being addressed. The voice of God needs to be heard through spiritual teaching, and we need opportunities to serve, love and to be called to repentance.

Being part of the church to some means reaching for goals of “self-actualization.” So if the church doesn’t fulfill certain expectations, wants and preferences, then they must move on to another emotional department store with different merchandise more appealing to their “tastes.”

Sadly, and probably without realizing it, many congregations have gotten into thinking that “we have to do all these things and plan all the activities to meet people’s needs so they won’t leave.” Consequently, well meaning leaders have turned God’s church into a merchandising institution. So we promote this program and that program for this group and that group.

But in my judgment, the system has become turned upside down from the way God intended it to be. What ever happened to the attitude in a Christian’s heart of “I’d like to be a part of this congregation because of what I can do to meet its needs?”

When are we the most fulfilled? When our needs are met? Or when we meet the needs of God’s church on this earth?”

We ought to be part of a congregation, not so that our needs can be met, but rather so that we may best meet the needs of God’s work.

Christians need to recall the truth of the scriptures that personal fulfillment is a great spiritual paradox.

We are most filled when we empty ourselves and be filled serving others. Jesus taught us, “. . . *whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister (servant) . . . even as the Son of*

man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister (serve).” (Matthew 20:26-28)

Paul said of his own heart, “*I am crucified with Christ. Nevertheless I live; yet, not I, but Christ liveth in me. And the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.*” (Galatians 2:20)

And again, “*I beseech you therefore by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God which is your reasonable service.*” (Romans 12:1)

“Reasonable service” is not being served (having your needs met), but serving (meeting the needs of others). We need to relearn the axiom, “*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*” (Acts 20:35)

Let’s not demand that God’s church be a place where people (leadership or membership) cater to our desires and preferences. Let’s turn it right-side up again and be part of a congregation, not for what it can do for us, but for what we can do for it!

“A through knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.”

Theodore Roosevelt

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

The disciples had just argued about who was the greatest. After Jesus had explained to them that the first would be last, and a servant of all, He called a little child to Him. He said, *"I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, who ever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."* (Matthew 18:1-4 NIV)

Jesus went on to tell them that whoever welcomes one of these little children in His name, welcomes Him. Then He cautioned them by saying, *"But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea."* (Matthew 18:5-6 NIV)

We are not to be a stumbling block to one of these little children. Children depend on us as adults to care for them. We must care for their well-being as well as for their souls. If we hinder one of them our fate will be worse than we imagined. There is no chance of being saved with a large millstone hung around our neck and thrown into the sea. That is our fate if we mistreat or cause one of them to sin.

"See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of My Father in heaven." (Verse 10)

What exactly was Jesus trying to tell His disciples and us today?

First, to enter the kingdom of heaven, we must become as little children. This means having love and forgiveness.

Secondly, to enter the kingdom of heaven, we must not cause one of these little ones to sin. We must treat them with respect and be good examples for them.

Jesus came as a servant. He expects us to be servants so that we can enter His kingdom. Just as Jesus explained to His disciples, we must be last to be first. And, we must become as a little child to enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Remember Our Sick

Walter Arcynski – health failing, his wife passed away, in a nursing home, St. Louis area.

Amie Barkley – allergic reaction to an antibiotic, affected her eyesight.

Karen Beck – cancer surgery successful, colonoscopy scheduled soon.

Mel Davis – surgery November 4th.

Hoyt Ensey – home, seeing a surgeon Dec. 5th

Joyce Helton – home, recovering.

Betty Ann Johnson – Baptist Hosp., ICU.

Iris Lawley – having some tests run.

Helen Moore – Kevin Nordin's grandmother, home recovering, starting Chemo soon.

Rodney Pfeifer – has completed radiation treatments, on a liquid diet.

Colton Williams – ankle-cast, Oct., 23rd.

Shut-ins - need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**

Robert Lee

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:

Evelyn Driver

Stella Manor: **Louise Killer**

Mae Vanzandt

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Amie Barkley, Bob/Carolyn Bennett, Bill Boley, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Susie Boley, Tommy Causey, Eugene Cox, Troy/Rachel Curtis, Jeff Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Sarah Ensey, Mark Franke, Carol Graham, Sue Griffin, Joanna & Jim Gerst, Pat Holloway, Ruby Gene Johnson, Dorothy King, Robert Paul Leavell, Rose Lee, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, Gary Nicholson, BJ/Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, Juanita Townsend, Judy Will and Patsy Wisbrock

Special Children: Zeke Church, Garrett Hogan, Tiffany Knight, Elysia Lee, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Our Military: Cole Wetzal, D. J. Bandy and Travis Coe.

Prayers and Sympathy for the family and friends of **Thelma Arcynski** who passed away Monday, October 27, 2008, at her home in Lake St. Louis, MO. Services Thursday, October 30th, St. Louis, MO.

More Is Caught Than Taught

If a child is taught that he is his own authority, he will look upon all other authority with disrespect.

If a child is taught that God and His word are final authority, he will look upon all authority emanating from Him with respect.

If a child is taught he is part of the theory of evolution, he will look upon himself as an advanced animal.

If a child is taught that he is created in the image of God, he will look upon himself as an immortal soul.

If a child sees the Bible is only read in church assemblies, he will look upon it as unrelated to daily life.

If a child sees the Bible read and obeyed in his house and education, he will look upon it as a guide to life and eternity.

If a child is taught that there is no absolute truth, he will look upon morals as subject to his emotions of the moment.

If a child is taught that God's word is absolute truth, he will look upon morals as subject to firm biblical precepts.

If a child is allowed to read profane and foul literature, he will look upon life as permissive and perverted.

If a child is taught that God hears and answers prayers, he will look upon prayer as a source of strength to help through life.

If a child is taught that reasonable parental discipline is an infringement upon his rights, he will look upon his parents and teachers with contempt.

If a child is taught that parents are responsible to God to discipline him for his highest eternal good, he will look upon his parents with love and respect.

*From House to House/Heart to Heart
Jacksonville Church of Christ
Jacksonville, Alabama*

DO NOT ACCEPT THE NEW DOLLAR COINS AS CHANGE

"IN GOD WE TRUST" is GONE!!! If ever there was a reason to boycott something, THIS IS IT! Together we can force them out of circulation.

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

Dover's Lawn Mowing Schedule

Saturday, November 22nd

Marion Helton

Alan Boatright

Area Wide Youth Devo

3rd Sunday,

November 16th,

5:30 PM

Dover Church of Christ

Dover, Arkansas

Dover Ladies Night

Thursday,

November 20th, 7PM

Hostess: Roxanna Shoptaw

Mark Your Calendars

2008 – 2009

Lads to Leaders

Leaderettes

Overall Theme:

*"... All that You command us
we will do,
and wherever You send
us we will go."
(Joshua 1:16)*

Lads to Leaders
and Leaderettes

Will meet/: First & Third
Sundays, 4PM

Boys: GUARD (Guys
Understanding Authority and
Real Discipleship

Girls: GIFTS (Girls In
Fellowship and Team Study

Please Note:

Dover Church of Christ's
Wednesday Evening
Services has been changed to
start at 6:30 PM

November Birthdays

06 Roxanna Shoptaw

07 Charlene Clark

09 Kim Walters

10 Andy Jackson

Diane Shinn

14 Daniel Loper

15 Adam Pointer

Brent Hottinger

Chris Loper

Michael Williams

18 Clara Hefley

Kevin Miller

19 Marion Helton

20 Carla Oakes

29 Taylor Thomas

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

"In Search of the

Lord's Way"

Now 24/7

The Search Program can now
be accessed any time on
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

November 16, 2008

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Donny Forehand
Chris Loper

Communion

Podium: Sid Womack
Serve: Chris Besterfeldt
Chris Moss
Drew Walters
Gary Williams

Scripture Reading

Brett Walters

Sunday P.M.
Prayers

“Young Men”
“Young Men”

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
“Young Men”

Prepare Table for Communion

Steve and Suzy Pennington

Communion to Shut-Ins

Alan Boatright

Greeters

The Elders

**Wednesday Night
Devotional
November 19, 2008**

Jim Killer

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
6:30 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
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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