

NOVEMBER 7, 2021

CHURCH OF CHRIST



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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....6:00 p.m.

Minister, John Keith
(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We of the Cambridge church of Christ
invite you to all our services.

“...the churches of Christ salute you” (Romans 16:16)

CHRISTIANITY: MAKES YOU A BETTER PERSON

Eph. 4:25-32

INTRODUCTION:

1. Christianity is not merely adhering to a specific set of laws and beliefs—although that certainly is part of it.
2. Christianity is a way of life—it's the best life—and the only way to eternal life!
3. These verses teach us about *moral responsibility*.
4. Argument: Christianity makes you a better person! It causes us to turn from wickedness to righteousness.

I. CHRISTIANITY WILL BRING INTEGRITY (25).

- A. “Lying” *any communication intended to*.
- B. No one likes being lied to; **EX**: Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:3-4).
- C. Christianity brings honesty/integrity to any relationship (Col. 3:9).

II. CHRISTIANITY WILL CHECK OUR EMOTIONS (26-27).

- A. Emotions are not necessarily evil—It is the *object* of such emotions that makes them good or evil.
- B. Anger is not necessarily sinful (Psa. 4:4). Christ got angry (Mark 3:5) and He never sinned (Heb. 4:15).
- C. Our sinful anger gives the devil an opportunity to introduce added sin into our lives (27).

III. CHRISTIANITY WILL CHECK OUR BEHAVIOR (28, 30).

- A. Turn from stealing to working (28; cf. Exo. 20:15; Lev. 19:11; Dt. 5:19; Mark 10:19; Rom. 13:9).
- B. Honest labor allows one to support his family and to supply for the ones who cannot work (cf. Acts 2:45; 4:34; 11:29-30; Rom. 15:26; 2 Cor. 8; 9).
- C. There is also the satisfaction one gets from earning his way in the world.
- D. Turn from grieving the Spirit to bringing Him joy (30).
 1. The Holy Spirit is the One that had “sealed them” (1:13),
 2. He had authenticated them as children of God (Gal. 6:4) “unto the unto the day of redemption” (1:14; Rom. 8:23; Heb. 9:12). (30).

IV. CHRISTIANITY WILL CHECK OUR SPEECH (29).

- A. Obscene and other undesirable speech is to be replaced with wholesome and pleasant words.
- B. Contextually, corrupt speech stands against edifying speech. Negative, critical talk can be just as wrong as swearing and dirty jokes

V. CHRISTIANITY WILL MAKE US KIND (31-32).

- A. Christianity is doing that which is good, right, and wholesome (cf. Mt. 7:12).
- B. Turn from bitterness; turn to tender-heartedness.

CONCLUSION: Christianity prepares us for future judgment, but it also prepares us for our present needs as well—such as how to get to Heaven

WHO WILL BE GREATEST?

Luke records for us two separate accounts of the disciples reasoning and striving about which of them would be the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven.

We find the first incident in chapter nine beginning at verse 46 when Jesus “perciev[ed] the thought of their heart [and] took a child, and set him by him[self]” (47). Then the Lord said to them, “Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great” (48).

The words of Jesus must have surprised the disciples since children were not given any say in important matters, neither were they given much real attention in daily affairs. But Jesus took this lowly child and set him in the place of honor, which place the disciples were seeking; that is, beside Jesus.

The point Jesus is trying to get across to His disciples is that we must receive Jesus with child-like love and humility. The unassuming demeanor of children is a quality that adults in the service of God must emulate. True greatness in the eyes of the Lord is in service rather than status.

Another lesson from this brief narrative is that Peter received no special treatment or praise above that of the other disciples, and that children are not naturally depraved and sinners as Calvinism teaches, or the Lord would not have used one as such an illustration.

The second incident occurred in chapter twenty-two, beginning in verse 24. Jesus responded to their childish strife comparing them to the pagan Gentiles who exercised lordship over those who were considered inferior by the “benefactors” (cf. 25). Benefactor was a title of honor and flattery given to one known for his conspicuous philanthropy (cf. Matt. 6:2-3). Christ solidifies His point by saying unto them, “...he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve” (26).

Christ further illustrates His point with an example: the one being served is considered by society to be greater than the one serving, but in the kingdom of God, the serving is the greater. Christ says plainly, “I am among you as he that serveth” (27). Jesus would give His disciples a most poignant example at the Last Supper, when our Lord washed His disciple’s feet (cf. John 13:4-17).

Jesus achieved greatness by submitting His will to the Father’s. We can achieve greatness in the eyes of God if we will submit to His will in for our lives as well. We are not competing against each other; we are striving to help each other defeat Satan so Heaven may be our eternal home. “Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he will lift you up” (Jas. 4:10) —*R*.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Diann Bachmann, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Angela Herald, Cathy Jackson, Bruce Johnson, Gary & Debbie Jones, Rick Lambert, and Carol Mitchell.

SHUT-INS:
Nancy Love

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: **Debra Bates-Phillabaum, Weston Boulet** (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **Carter Campbell** (John and Mary Smith's grandson), **Colleen Kiester** (Mo Smith's sister), **Linda Potts** (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), **Addy Reed, Holly Ross** (Friend of Betsy Cooke), **Mona Stoffer** (Flavil Miller's daughter), **Bob & Marge Watson**, and remember to pray for **one another**.

Welcome! To our visitors, we are thankful for your presences. Please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection plates or leave it on the seat.

Allow us to answer any questions you may have.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Please keep **Joyce Starrett** in your prayers as she will undergo hip replacement surgery on Wednesday, November 10th.
- **Russ Singleton** is recovering from hernia surgery which he had this past Wednesday.
- Please take time to welcome **Randy Yost** to the congregation He placed membership with us last Lord's Day.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ *Starting this week, services for both Sunday and Wednesday evening will begin at 6 p.m.*
- ❖ We need volunteers to open and close the building, and to do some cleaning for December through April. There is a sign-up sheet on the foyer bulletin board.
- ❖ Please let John know if and when there are any changes needed (additions / subtraction) to our prayer list.
- ❖ Remember our library in the basement.

TODAY'S LESSONS

AM: Christianity Makes You a Better Person (Eph. 25-32).

PM: Resisting the Devil (Jas. 4:1-8)

Bible Study	AM Worship	PM Worship	Wednesday	Contribution
35	61	32	23	\$2308