

PRAYERS

Butch and Chris – They continue to recuperate. Chris has returned home.

Chance – She is dealing with the effects of dialysis.

Carmen – She has been nursing a sore back

Anita - Traveling to Arizona

Connie – Traveling to Council Bluffs

Congregation News

Today is Pot Luck. Please stay for lunch and share a meal with everyone.

Please stay after the meal for the afternoon singing.

We are saddened to learn that Steve and Caylin Scheff will be moving to the Fargo area within the month. We wish them all the best.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: There must be a lot of good in some people because very little of it ever comes out!

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

4/15/18

4/22/18

Bible Class	Colby Crawford	Paul Darling
Announcements	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Song Leader	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Opening Prayer	Colby Crawford	Paul Darling
Lord's Supper	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Scripture Reading	Paul Darling	Tom Bright
Sermon	Paul Darling	Tom Bright

Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

Adult	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Children	Colby Crawford	Linda McBrayer
Toddlers	Cindy Bright	
Babies	Anissa Crawford	

Birthdays & Anniversaries

April 19 th	Steve and Caylin Scheff
April 20 th	Colby and Anissa Crawford

Building Cleanup

Crawford

Aberdeen church of Christ

1801 S. Lincoln St.

Aberdeen, SD 57401

605-225-3621

www.aberdeenchurchofchrist.net

Bulletin Submissions

If you would like anything added to the bulletin such as prayer requests, news, or events, please make submissions by

Friday night to: tlbj@sbcglobal.net

Aberdeen church of Christ

April 15, 2018

DO THE GOOD DIE YOUNG?

You most likely have heard the old saying, “the good die young”. But according to a survey done by researchers at the University of California Riverside, the saying, “nice guys finish last” is closer to the truth! “The bad die young and the good live longer” was the general conclusion based on the data collected. The study was sponsored by the National Institute on Aging and the results were published in the *“American Psychologist.”* Specifically, the study showed that “people considered honest and caring lived longer than self-centered ones.” And “children who were considered stable, resilient, conscientious and truthful were about 30 per cent less likely to die in any given year” than children who were unsettled, rebellious and prone to tell lies. The study simply echoes the truth of what God has stated in His Word from ancient times. Consider the following:

“The fear of the Lord prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be short-ened” (Prov. 10:27). “He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known. He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow: but a prating fool shall fall” (Prov. 10:9-10). “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee” (Deut. 20:12). “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them” (Deut. 30:19-20). “For, He that would love life, And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips that they speak no guile: And let him turn away from evil, and do good; Let him seek peace, and pursue it” (1 Pet. 3:10-11).

So, what took a team of researchers hours and hours of work over a period of years at a cost of thousands of dollars could have been learned just by opening God’s Book and reading! And what’s more, those researchers didn’t even attempt to explain WHY those who are good outlive those who are bad--but we know why, don’t we? *“For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and years of thy life shall be increased” (Prov. 9:11).*

TV CHURCH

Micah 7:18 NKJV *Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage?*

How is it that we can come into the Lord's presence to worship him, and come away with the image of someone or something other than God? Whether it be the majesty of the architecture, the "entertainment" value of the worship "production," or the charisma of the preacher, when we leave worship and our enduring memory is something other than God, something was wrong! Worship should be in honor of the Lord, and the Lord alone! Anything less would be idolatry.

In his book "Amusing Ourselves to Death," Neil Postman writes of his effort to find the effects of television on public discourse. In his chapter on religion, he sets about his research by watching thirty-five hours of television. I don't know whether to admire his commitment or have him committed! Following his marathon television viewing, Postman makes these telling observations:

"On television, religion, like everything else, is presented, quite simply and without apology, as entertainment." In a word, the Christian message has been shaped by the effort to please the viewer rather than to please God. Something has gone awry. On these shows," he declares, "the preacher is tops. God comes out as second banana" (page 116).

When God is not the object of our affection, admiration and praise, then, beloved be sure of this, the fruit has gone bad! With deepest respect to the Lord may I say that, God is second banana to no one.

My concern is that "church," at least the way many understand it today, has been affected by what we see on television. Glamour replaces in-depth Bible study, shallow sentiment replaces deep devotion, ratings replace repentance. The lure of a camera close up is just too great a temptation for many religious leaders, and most viewers are thoroughly unable to analyze substance over style.

Like a stealth bomber, television affects us in ways subtle, yet profound:

- * It pressures us to deliver messages in about 19 minutes, the length of the average sitcom, rendering a plunge into a Bible text or topic difficult.
- * It emphasizes image over analysis. Illustrations have always been an important part of a sermon, of course, but

these days, "image is everything."

* It encourages a channel surfing mentality among Christians. If the show didn't "do it" for us in this congregation, we can go to another that appeals to us more. Commitment to a church community is thus rendered temporary and shallow.

* And, of course, it tempts churches to choose "worship leaders" and preachers on the basis of their appeal, rather than the appeal of Christ, thus rendering him, well, second fiddle!

But in the Lord's church we cannot afford to let a skin deep society determine our agenda. Be analytical; ask yourself if the man preaching is presenting God's word in its purity; continue to ask whether an act of worship is done according to scripture, no matter how compelling the appeal to the emotions.

I am not advocating a cold approach to worship that has no feeling. I am simply reminding us that we need to look beyond the speaker's eloquence to the content of his message.

The Aged Christian

You tell me I'm getting old, I tell you that's not so.
The house I live in is worn out, and that, of course, I know.
It's been in use a long, long while, it's weathered many a gale.
I'm really not surprised you think it's getting somewhat frail.
The color's changing on the roof, the window's getting dim,
The wall's a bit transparent and looking rather slim.
The foundation's not so steady as once it used to be,
My house is getting shaky, but my house isn't me.
My few short years can't make me old, I feel I'm in my youth.
Eternity lies just ahead, a life of joy and truth.
I'm going to live forever there; life will go on—it's grand!
You tell me I'm getting old? You just don't understand.
The dweller in my little house is young and bright and gay;
Just starting on a life to last throughout eternal day.
You only see the outside, which is all that most folks see.
You tell me I'm getting old? You've mixed my house with me!