

**PRAYERS**

**Butch and Chris** - Chris had her last chemo treatment and they will schedule surgery next.

**Wilma** (Anita’s Sister) – Had surgery after a fall and is doing OK.

**Connie LaRocque** – Doing better after surgery and is traveling in Missouri.

**Mark** (Linda’s family) – Making good progress in rehab.

**Chance** – dealing with strep and some health issues

**Congregation News**

Pot Luck is today after morning worship. Please stay and share the food and enjoy the fellowship. Please plan to stay for the afternoon singing immediately following.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** Common honesty should be more common.

**Those Privileged to Serve**

**Sunday Morning Service:**

**2/18/18**

**2/25/18**

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

**Bible Classes**

**Sunday Morning**

**Wednesday Evening**

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

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Building Cleanup**

McBrayer

**Aberdeen church of Christ**

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**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](mailto:tlbj@sbcglobal.net)

# Aberdeen church of Christ

February 18, 2018

## Christians are for Real

If one is a Christian that means that he or she does have a job to do, to be, a ministry to fulfill. Each and every Christian has something they can do and need to do for Christ and His church. We are told in 1 Peter 2:21 that Jesus left us an example for us to follow in his steps. Jesus, Himself, said in Luke 19:10 that He came to seek and save the lost. So, there is just one of the examples Jesus set for us along with many others in His caring for helping others. There are four basic attitudes that Christians must have, what are these attitudes?

1. All Christians must want to accomplish the work of God. Again, the example of Jesus in John 4:34, *“My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work.”* That means we must have a “servant” mentality (Mt. 20:28; Phil. 2:21-26; 2:3-4). We must understand that God has given each of us jobs to do and, the abilities to do those jobs (Rom. 12:1-8).

2. All Christians must recognize that a harvest time is coming. At that time, the angels will gather all souls and bring them before the judgment seat of Christ. (Mt. 13:37-43; 25:31-46). At that time, we will all be judged according to our deeds (John 5:28-29), *“Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment”* and also 2 Cor. 5:10.

3. All Christians must be willing to involve themselves in the work of sowing. Somebody has to scatter (sow) the seed, the saving word of God (Rom. 10:14-15) *“How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things”.* Christians must take an active part in personally spreading the gospel (3 John 1:5-8).

4. All Christians must be willing to involve themselves in the work of reaping. There are many souls who have heard the truth but, they need someone to help them respond to, act upon what they have learned, to complete the work of evangelism. Christians must involve themselves in winning souls for Christ. Brethren, there are souls out there that only you can reach. It may be because of the respect they have for you, it may be because you are the only real true Christian they know. That means their salvation depends on you!

Christ accomplished what He came to do, may we accomplish our tasks as well.

## **The One Thing Your Non-Christian Friends Need to See in Your Life**

The Christian lifestyle is foreign to most people, and that becomes increasingly true every day. There was a time where a church of some kind had a part in most people's lives, but that's just not the case anymore, and so the truths of religion and the kind of commitments we make just don't make any sense to a lot of those people. They see Christians doing, not doing, saying, and not saying the kind of things they do without any understanding of why people would make those sacrifices.

The temptation is to make it as easy as possible for these people to call themselves Christians, but that's the wrong choice. The truth is, the Christian life is about sacrifice. Jesus told people that they'd have to take up their crosses daily (Luke 9:23) and that they may have to turn their backs on family (Matthew 19:19) if they wanted to follow Him. For most people, that's too much to ask.

So, in the lives we live, and in the example we're setting, there's one truth that we need to make clear if they are ever going to be convinced to become Christians: **It's worth it.**

It's worth not sleeping in, going fishing, or catching some of the football games on Sundays. It's worth giving up the kind of movies and TV shows that Christians shouldn't watch. It's worth the difficult battles with sin. It's worth removing anything that stands between us and Christ. That's exactly what Paul wrote, saying, "Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ" (Philippians 3:8). What was his reason for giving all of those things up? Knowing Christ, gaining Christ, receiving His righteousness, knowing the power of His resurrection and suffering, and attaining to the resurrection of the dead. There's just so much to be gained when we trade the world for Jesus, and so little to be lost. So how do we show them this trade is completely worth it?

**First**, we do it by the way we talk. Everybody's heard the old phrase about saying we "get" to go to worship instead of saying we "have" to, and that's true, but it goes so much deeper than that. We should never sound like children whose parents told them they can't do something fun – "Well, I would skip church/go to the bar/watch that movie/look at that picture, but I'm not allowed to." Instead, the renewed mind of the Christian views those things as worthless, completely unworthy of our attention. We don't talk as though we're missing out, but as though we have no need for those

things to improve our lives. We talk as people whose joy is found in the things that really matter – loving God and loving people. Christians are the only people living life as it was truly meant to be lived, in step with our Creator and receiving the peace that He brings. If our attitudes betray that truth, and if our words reflect our attitudes, we'll never convince people that the Christian life is worth it.

**Second**, we do it by the joy we show. Joyless Christians are the biggest detriment to the church's outreach. We have something the world just doesn't, and that's the true source of our joy. Sure, they can find things that make them happy from time to time, but as Solomon so wisely pointed out in Ecclesiastes, that's all fleeting. All of that happiness is nothing in comparison with the constant, steady joy of knowing the Father and living in fellowship with His Son. We show this joy by delighting in the word (Psalm 1), delighting in serving others (see Jesus' attitude in Philippians 2), and delighting in our relationship with God, showing them that the godly lifestyle brings us so much more happiness than the things they hold onto.

The other way we show joy is by leaning on God through all of life's uncertain and difficult times. Without the anchor of faith, most people have no idea how to navigate the waves of life while maintaining a sense of peace and joy. But that's what we receive when we know that God is in control. The world can't understand that mindset, and so it's of utmost importance that we help show them that faith is worth it in life's darkest hours.

It's no small task to convince people to give up the lives they live. Most people fear change, and so there's really only one way to get them to do so: convince them it's worth it. Let's make sure our words and our lives are showing the world around us that whatever things they think are gain, we've counted as loss because Jesus is better.

### **Welcome to our Assembly. . .**

Whether you are a first time visitor or a long time member of this congregation, we are happy to have you with us this morning. For those visiting, please make yourself comfortable. A good deal of information about this church and its activities can be found on this sheet. We encourage and invite anyone interested to participate in the activities offered throughout the week. If you have any questions about the facilities, our worship service, or want more information about the church, feel free to ask anyone present. Someone will be glad to help you!