

PRAYERS

Butch and Chris – They continue to recuperate.

Chanice – She is doing better but still dealing with some health issues.

Carmen – Visiting family in Nashville

Congregation News

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Some children are not disobedient to their parents--because their parents never tell them what to do.

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

4/29/18

5/6/18

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

Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May 6th – Nate Thompson

Building Cleanup

April – Crawford
May – Darling

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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

Aberdeen church of Christ

April 29, 2018

THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEED

Our modern society is characterized by electronic and mechanical conveniences, escape entertainment, sexual freedom, upward mobility and practically unencumbered leisure. What else could any people need? Could there be more to life? What happens when the electronics and machines go haywire? The entertainment is over? The sexual freedom is found to be no more than barnyard immorality? The mobility becomes stalled? The leisure turns to boredom? What do we say when life's other side is seen--when people moan for lack of jobs--when they complain about soaring prices in stores--when loved ones die?

Can science help? Science surely has its place, but it cannot soothe the soul. Science can ease some suffering through medicine, but it cannot tell the "why" of suffering. Can education help? H. G. Wells once believed more education would make men better, but World War II showed some of the most educated nations committing some of the worst atrocities man has ever seen. Education has a place, but it is not the ultimate answer to man's spiritual problems. Can great sensual pleasure help? No one opposes good, clean fun, but in this day and age "King Jazz" (or Jazzy-Z) has replaced King Jesus. We live in the "gusto generation," where there is more enthusiasm for beer, wine, whiskey and drugs than there is for God, Christ, the church and the Bible. Is it any wonder that today's suicide rate is so high!?!

What then is the greatest need of the world? In a nutshell, here is the answer: **The world's greatest need is salvation from sin.** If that need is filled, then nothing else matters. And if that need is not filled, guess what? Nothing else matters! The truth is, all have sinned (**Rom. 3:23**). The newness of life that we all need is described in **Romans 6:1-4**. We who are Christians have a responsibility to take the gospel--the means of being saved from sin--to the world in which we live.

Are we doing our part? God knows the answer--do you?

Would Jesus Approve of Modern Christianity?

Recently, over 40,000 people answered this poll question, “If Jesus suddenly came back to earth today, would He approve or disapprove of modern Christianity?” It might surprise you to know 87% of Americans answered that Jesus would disapprove of modern Christianity. **This brings a few questions to my mind.**

1. Upon what basis is this judgment being made?

What standard are they using to make the judgment that Jesus would disapprove of “modern Christianity.” If they are using the Bible to say, “What I see in the religious world today does not match what I read in Scripture,” then I would totally agree. Most of what is called “Christianity” today looks very little like the Christianity of Scripture.

However, it’s also possible that some of those who answered this question are basing their judgment on their idea of Jesus, rather than on the Jesus who actually reigns in heaven. If they are saying, “Modern Christians are all homophobic and judgmental,” then they don’t know the Jesus of Scripture. Yes, Jesus loved everyone, but He also told people if they didn’t repent of their sin they would perish (Luke 13:3).

I don’t believe Jesus would approve of those who hatefully protest at homosexuals funerals, but I also know for a fact that Jesus would not disapprove of Christians saying exactly what the Bible says, homosexuality is a sin (see Romans 1:26-27 and 1 Corinthians 6:9-20).

2. What are they doing to change things?

If 87% of people in America truly believe the modern version of Christianity is – for the most part – broken, then what are they doing to fix it? If they believe that mega churches are shallow, superficial, and only after their money, why are so many of them still attending? If they believe that the teachings of these churches don’t match Scripture, are they demanding that we get back to the Bible? Are they opening Scripture and saying, “See, here is what Jesus actually said, let’s do that”?

The time is ripe for another great restoration movement in America. When the overwhelming majority of Americans say, “This isn’t right!” it’s time for those of us who have been saying that for decades to figure out how to show them what pure, simple, New Testament Christianity looks like.

3. If Jesus wouldn’t approve of it, can it even be called “Christianity”?

Isn’t the question itself an interesting one, “...would Jesus approve or

disapprove of modern Christianity?” Doesn’t it stand to reason that any teaching, practice, or lifestyle with which Jesus would “disapprove” cannot in any way be called “Christianity”? If being a Christian means belonging to and following Jesus Christ, then those who do not follow His life and teaching cannot be called Christians and their religion cannot be called Christianity.

It’s time we say, “That’s not Christianity.” We obviously believe it. Why not say it? When the infamous Westboro group protests with their hate-filled signs, let’s all stand up and say, “That’s not Christianity.” And on the opposite extreme, when a preacher says homosexuality doesn’t violate Scripture, let’s stand up and say, “That’s not Christianity either.” When a mega church “pastor” teaches feel-good religion, just to bring in more people and more money, let’s stand up and say, “This certainly isn’t Christianity.”

I realize this is bold, but we must be willing to look at Scripture and determine what genuine Christianity is and what is counterfeit. When we find counterfeits, let’s stop calling it “modern Christianity” and simply say, “it’s not Christianity at all.”

Who Am I?

He persecuted early Christians.

He was converted on the road to Damascus.

God used him as a missionary to the Gentiles.

He wrote several letters included in the New Testament.

Answer to last week - **Elijah**

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!