

NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, August 17, 2008

BIBLE STUDY..... 10 a.m.

“Gospel of Luke”

MORNING WORSHIP..... 11 a.m.

Speaker: Dan Austin

EVENING SERVICE.... 6 p.m.

Speaker: Dan Austin

WEDNESDAY MEETING..... 7 p.m.

“The Parables of Jesus”

John 15:9-13

As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

NKJV

News & Notes

Welcome Visitors. If you are a visitor in our congregation today we welcome you and invite you to stay for a while after service.

Please continue to pray for our deployed military member, **Sam Barton** and his family.

Please pray for our sister **Marie Adams** who is coping with health problems. **Martha Holloway** received good news from her recent biopsy—please continue to pray for her.

Meredith Hoskins is travelling to Kentucky this week. **Yedid Minjares** is in the Sequoias this weekend. Please pray for their safe return.

It is good to have **Vicki Barton**, **Logan Harper** and **Matt Wells** back with us.

I've found a friend, oh, such a friend! He loved me ere
I knew Him
He drew me with the cords of love, and thus he
bound me to Him

And round my heart still closely twine those ties which
naught can sever
For I am His and He is mine, forever and forever

I've found a friend, oh, such a friend! So kind, and
true and tender
So wise a counselor and guide, so mighty a defender
From Him who loves me now so well, what pow'r my
soul can sever
Shall life or death, or earth or hell? No. I am his
forever

James G. Small/Geo. C. Stebbins

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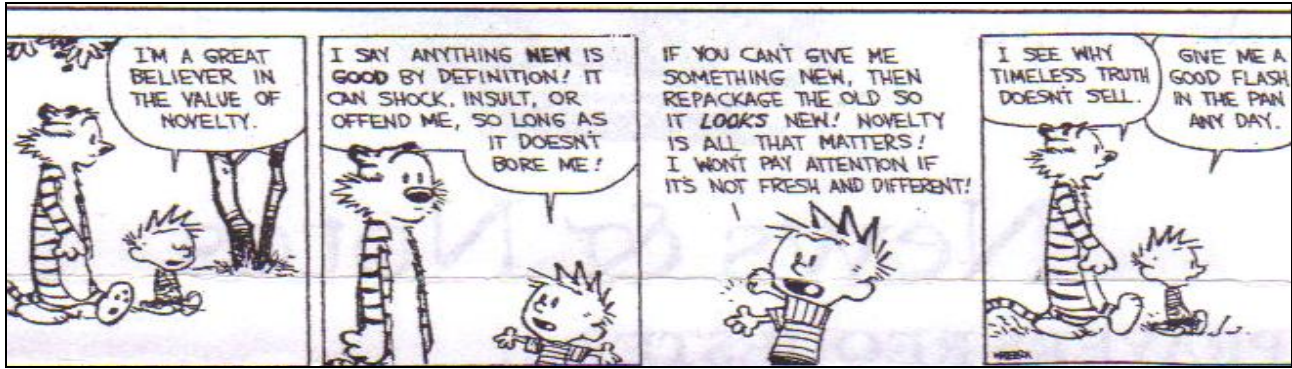
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ELDERS: Dan Austin, Roben Hamilton **DEACON:** Matt Wells **MINISTER:** Dan Austin

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where the Bible is the source of faith, where Jesus is Lord, where Christianity is a way of life!

Timeless Truth? Old Paths?



I shudder to think about the number of times I have heard individuals cite boredom as the cause for them no longer maintaining a vibrant walk with God. In their quest to break free from boredom, they have opted to embrace that which is new, innovative and in all honesty, anything other than the old paths. A quote made by Bertrand Russell is quite an eye opener with respect to boredom. "Boredom is a vital consideration for the moralist, since at least half the sins of mankind are caused by the fear of it." Consider the attitude seen in **Jeremiah 6:16**. "*Thus says the Lord, Stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; and you shall find rest for your souls. But they said, we will not walk in it.*" The Scripture goes on to point out they even went so far as to say, "We will not listen". To put it in today's vernacular with respect to embracing the old paths, "not so much."

In the cartoon above, Calvin longs for novelty. But what is so striking to me is found in the last capsule of the cartoon strip, where he says, "give me a good flash in the pan any day." In Leviticus the tenth chapter one can read the account of Nadab and Abihu and their desire for something novel. They offered up "strange fire" in their respective fire pans, and experienced a real flash in the pan. "*And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord.*" (**Lev. 10:2**) Seeing this, Moses chimed in by noting, "*It is what the Lord spoke, saying, By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, and before all people I will be honored.*" (ibid, v 3) In fact throughout the Scriptures it is abundantly clear that God does not want us embracing the notion of change for the sake of change. Is the message of the Gospel broken, or has it lost its power? Well then "if it ain't broke, why fix it?" When it did come time for a change, God was aware of it and implemented the change (see **Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8-10**). The author goes to great lengths to explain that which God has put in place is "better" (see **Hebrews 1:1-4**) and argues that one cannot improve on perfection. Which is exactly what we have in the new covenant, or as James stated, "*the perfect law, the law of liberty.*" (**James 1:25**)

"In order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord." (**Eph. 3:10-11**) Let us not allow boredom or the quest for novelty to put us in a position wherein we think our wisdom supersedes that of God. Let us simply be of a mind that accepts the tried and true (**John 17:17**). Old Paths.