



NSD

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2008

- BIBLE STUDY**..... 10 a.m.
“Press On to Maturity”
- MORNING WORSHIP**..... 11 a.m.
“A Model Church”
Ron Adams
- EVENING SERVICE**..... 6 p.m.
“Success and Prosperity in the New Year”
Dan Austin
- WEDNESDAY MEETING**..... 7 p.m.
“Moment of Decision”

News & Notes

Sunday Evening Service

Beginning today *Dan Austin* will be the speaker on Sunday evenings.

The annual **congregational meeting** has been rescheduled for Sunday, January 20, 2008, at the conclusion of the morning service. At that time the elders will give a review of last year, the current status, and plans for this year; and the matter of Robyn Hamilton being considered to become one of the elders.

Following the study of “**Press On to Maturity**” will be a textual study of “**Luke-Acts.**”

We have been informed the **audio-visual equipment** has arrived and will be installed soon.

Three Most Important Words

The three most important words in real estate are “location, location, location.” Where the property is located is critical. A beautiful dwelling in a crime-infested area has little appeal or value, while a modest house in a quiet and secure neighborhood is very appealing and has great value.

Likewise, the three most important words in Christianity are “*application, application, application.*” Knowledge of God’s Word is imperative, but without application it is of little value. Unless one applies the morals and principles taught in the Scriptures, one is a Christian in name only. Knowledge is not an end in itself, but a means to an end.

In Luke 19:30-37, the account of the “Good Samaritan” illustrates this very principle. Jesus’ parting words to the listeners who understood His message were “... go and do ...”

The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things; and the God of peace shall be with you.
Philippians 4:9

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and acts upon them, may be compared to a wise man, who built his house upon the rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded upon the rock.”
Matthew 7:24-25

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

VIRTUE OR VICE?

...in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge; and in your knowledge, self-control ...

2 Peter 1:5-6

Where is the line between virtue and vice? [Vice: A degrading practice or habit; a serious moral failing.] It's sometimes difficult to determine when a virtue has turned into a vice. However, every virtue must be seasoned with temperance or it may become a vice.

The following list is given to illustrate where the line is crossed. Christians should be:

self-reliant	<i>but not self-centered</i>
energetic	<i>but not self seeking</i>
firm	<i>but not dogmatic</i>
steadfast	<i>but not stubborn</i>
tactful	<i>but not timid</i>
serious	<i>but not sullen</i>
loyal	<i>but not sectarian</i>
stable	<i>but not immovable</i>
gentle	<i>but not hypersensitive</i>
tenderhearted	<i>but not touchy</i>
conscientious	<i>but not a perfectionist</i>
disciplined	<i>but not cloned</i>
meek	<i>but not spineless</i>
humorous	<i>but not a buffoon</i>
concerned	<i>but not a busybody</i>
holy	<i>but not "holier-than-thou"</i>
discerning	<i>but not hypercritical</i>

We need to cultivate virtues, and be careful not to let them degenerate into vices.

– Ron Adams

NOTE: THIS STORY WAS SHARED IN BIBLE CLASS RECENTLY. SOME ASKED FOR A PRINTED COPY.

PLEASING EVERYONE

There is an old Spanish parable about a man, a boy and a donkey. They were all three walking down a dusty road on a hot summer day. They overheard some passer-by say, "Look at those foolish people walking when they could be riding." So they both climbed on the donkey.

They had ridden only a short distance when another passer-by exclaimed, "Look at that poor donkey carrying those two people. Aren't they heartless?" Whereupon the son climbed down from the donkey and walked beside the father on the donkey. Then some said, "Look at that inconsiderate man making that poor little boy walk while he rides." Upon hearing this the father and boy exchanged places and still they had not satisfied the fellow man who said, "Look at that young man riding and that poor old man walking in the heat of the day."

So the boy climbed down. They tied the feet of the donkey to a pole and proceeded to carry the donkey. Everyone exclaimed, "Look at those foolish people." The lesson is obvious, isn't it?

We spend a lot of time worrying about people being pleased about us. We are continually perplexed because we can never please everybody. *Don't try!*

We should strive to please God and do unto others as we would have them do unto us and not worry about someone thinking us foolish. There is a lesson here for all of us. We will be happier if we learn it.

– Selected

Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy. But to me it is a very small thing that I may be examined by you, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but

the one who examines me is the Lord. Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

1 Corinthians 4:1-5