

MESSINGER

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MARCH 5, 2017

What's God Got To Do With It?

At first glance, this question seems harsh, disrespectful, and downright offensive. Who would dare make such a bold and crass statement against God? Certainly not any of us who love God and have devoted our lives to Him! Right? Actually, the reality is that even we, as Christians, may be guilty of this attitude from time to time. Though we may never give a voice to it, in the quiet privacy of our hearts, we might often give little or no consideration to God and His will as we make the decisions and choices that shape our lives. We are often tempted to relegate God to a small, well-defined portion of our lives and live the larger portion of our days separate and apart from His guidance. Many well-meaning Christians go about the daily activities and routines of their daily lives, even making important choices and decisions that impact them both physically and spiritually, while rarely asking the question, "What does God desire for my life?" or "What does God desire for His church?" By these actions, we are, in essence, asking the question, "What's God got to do with it?"

So, what is the answer to the question? What's God got to do with it? Well, the answer is very simply: EVERYTHING! God has everything to do with everything concerning our lives. As Paul says in introducing God to the Athenians: *"for in Him we live and move and have our being"* (Acts 17:28). There is no moment, no breath, no detail of our lives that God is not responsible for and intently interested in. God desires to be and deserves to be a part of every decision, every choice, and every aspect of our lives. His love for us is never-ending and His will for our lives is perfect. The responsibility is ours to give ourselves to that will and to fulfill, through our faithfulness and obedience, all that God has planned and prepared for us. But in order to accomplish that, we must allow God to truly have our lives – not just a portion of them but ALL of them. Only then can we become all that God has called us to be.

One final thought: we must remember that the giving of our lives to God is not a burdensome or debilitating decision. It doesn't hinder us from living a good life but, rather, enables us to live the best life possible. Giving our lives to God allows us to have peace instead of worry, joy instead of sorrow, hope instead of fear. So, don't bemoan the fact that God *has* to have your life. Instead, rejoice that your life belongs to God!

Rusty

To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



Chase Park Church of Christ

Ministers

Rusty Hills Pulpit
Nathan Adams..... Outreach
John Denney Education
Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

Elders

John Denney
Curtis Hill
Sam Kachelman
Dennis Lawson
Greg Parker
Barry Todd

Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza Chalco, Mexico
Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico
Slava Savkovsky Ukraine
Barton Kizer..... Peru
Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

Lamications—*Andrew Lamica*

What a wonderful time the teens and I had this past weekend at Challenge Youth Conference in Gatlinburg! I am thankful for each teenager and adult chaperone that took time out of their schedule to spend an entire weekend focusing on spiritual things!

The theme for this year's CYC was "Sold Out For Jesus." Each of the lessons we were blessed to hear revolved around this theme. In the evenings, back at the cabin we considered what being "sold out" for Jesus should look like in our daily lives. The idea of being "sold out" is the decision to commit every aspect of our lives to the will of God. We want to avoid the trap of compartmentalized Christianity.

Compartmentalized Christianity is a real danger due in large part to the type of lives we lead. We are a busy people. If we are not careful, being a

Christian can become something we do rather than who we are.

As part of CYC, the organizers put out some devotional type material for consideration and I want to share some of it with you here in my article over the next few weeks. Larry Davenport, the founder of CYC, put out "10 Reasons Why You Should Be Sold Out For Jesus." I am going to share those with you alongside my own thoughts.

First reason we will consider as to why we should be sold out for Jesus is He is the Son of God. Jesus can do things man cannot do. Consider the recording of Jesus calming the storm in Mark 4. The disciples that were on that boat were experienced fishermen yet they found themselves unable to do anything to combat the power of the storm that had come upon them. They were so helpless in fact that when they woke up Jesus they asked,

"Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" (Mark 4:38). You know the rest of the story, Jesus, with three simple words, turned a tumultuous storm on the sea into a calm sea of glass. Jesus can do things that man cannot do.

Of the options we have to "sell-out" to, is there a better option than selling out to the Son of God? Everything we can see, touch, taste, smell, feel, or hear is perishing and will not last forever. The things of this world are not a good investment when it comes to being sold out! Won't you make the decision today and every day for the rest of your life to sell out to the Son of God, Jesus Christ?

Mark's Journey From Gethsemane—*Nathan Adams*

John Mark is a person who saw many things regarding Jesus from a young age. It is believed that the young man from Gethsemane that escaped naked was Mark speaking about himself (Mark 14:51-52). It is believed that his home may have been the house where the upper room was located and that he left in his night clothing to follow Jesus and the disciples as they went to Gethsemane. In the book of Acts, we clearly see that the home of John Mark was very prominent in the early church as the saints were gathered there to pray for Peter after his imprisonment (Acts 12:12-17). John Mark's family was clearly wealthy and prominent in the Jerusalem church. It is remarkable that from this family we have at least three people listed in the Bible by name — His mother Mary, John Mark himself, and Barnabas (Mark's cousin (Colossians 4:10)).

Mark had a great "pedigree" in the early church. He had seen those powerful events in the garden. He may have seen with his own eyes the Savior hanging on the cross. He and his mother may have been with those women and "acquaintances" that stood at a distance watching the Lord die on the cross (Luke 23:49). He was most likely at the gathering of the 120 people, possibly in that same upper room, when Judas was replaced by Matthias (Acts 1:13-26). It is probable that he was there on the day of Pentecost when Peter preached. He heard Jesus' voice, knew the apostles, and witnessed the greatest events in history.

Yet, with all that history and background, he failed to keep going during the First Missionary Journey. He turned back and went home (Acts 13:13). This failure was readily remembered by Paul in his opposition to Mark's participation in the Second Missionary Journey. In fact, Paul's opposition was so great that it divided Paul and Barnabas in the effort (Acts 15:36-41).

After the separation of Paul and Barnabas, we do not hear anything about Mark until Colossians 4:10 when Paul mentions him by telling the church to receive him. Mark had been a part of the church from the beginning and had failed. However, thanks to Barnabas, the great encourager, he had found his way back to the work of the kingdom. Even the man who had vehemently opposed him now recommended him to the church at Colossae. Paul would take his changed attitude another step in 2 Timothy 4:10-11 when he gave Timothy (who was about to give up like Mark did) a choice between giving up, like Demas, or being useful, like Mark.

Mark is like some who grow up in the church, but fail to remain devoted even though they have been blessed to experience the kingdom for many years and from a young age. However, through Christian encouragement and a renewal of devotion, such people can be useful to the kingdom again, like Mark. The choice is yours today and your past accomplishments do not matter. Will you be useful like Mark or give up in your service like Demas?

News Of Interest

Sick

Regency Rehab

Don Cox

Home: Jim Dalton and Glenn Carmack

Birth Announcement

Chad and Bonnie Landman are the parents of a boy, born Tuesday, February 28, weighing 7 lbs., 14 ozs. The proud grandparents are **Mac and Sheila Landman**. The proud aunt is **Lindsay Jones**.

Sympathy

We express sympathy to **Ann Hopkins**, daughters Lynn Ann and Jill, and the four grandchildren due to the death of husband, father, and grandfather, respectively, Jerry Hopkins.

To **Todd Harmon** in the recent death of his father and step-mother.

Sympathy (continued)

To **John and Connie Rowden** (former members at Memorial Parkway) in the recent death of their grandson.

To **Cathy Peacock** in the recent death of her father, Eugene Renfroe.

Baptism

Dylan Suddarth was baptized into Christ Saturday night, February 25, while at CYC. We rejoice with him and his family and welcome him to our Chase Park family. Dylan is the son of our Terrell and Gayla Suddarth.

Pantry Items

Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, toilet tissue.

Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Paul King**

Song Leader: **Rick Rosenblum**

Hospital Visitation

Team #1 (**Atchley**), please pick up your assignments following evening worship.

Financial Peace Class

Tomorrow, 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Super Seniors

Wednesday, March 8. No lunch.

Quarterly Meal

Wednesday, March 8, 5:00 p.m. Menu: enchiladas, sides, desserts.

Reminder

Time changes Sunday, March 12. It's time to set your clock time up one hour.

Thank You

"Thank you so much for helping me get well. Your prayers, visits and gifts all played a part in my recovery from pneumonia. I'm so thankful to be a part of the loving caring family of God that you are. God bless you always. I love you."

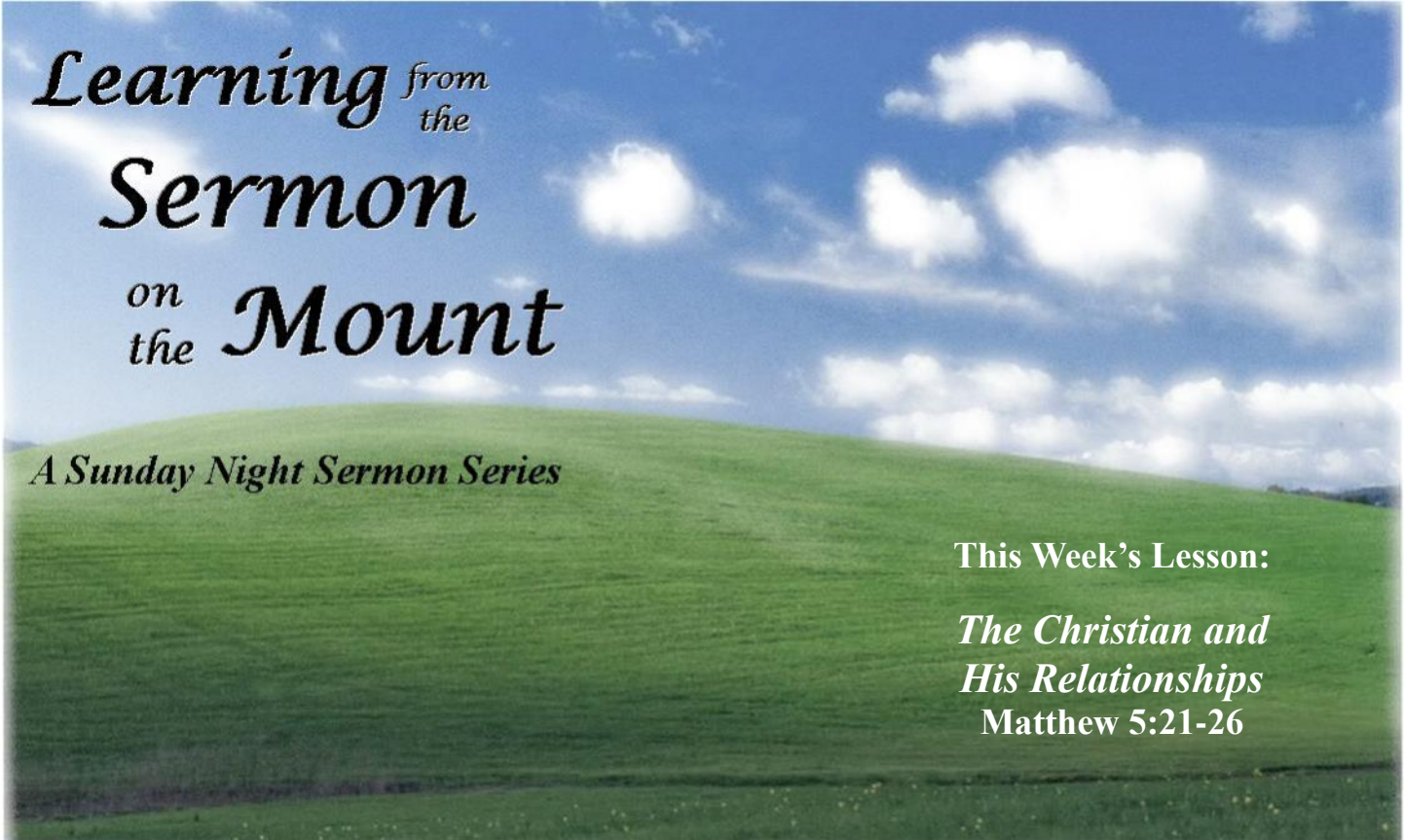
Juanee Tanner

"Because you give so much. So many prayers, so many cards, so much food, and so many visits... We are truly blessed to be part of Chase Park, a working Lord's church. Thank you for all the blessings you have given us during this difficult time."

Diane and Don Cox

Library Information

Our library now has a copy of Richard Oden's book, *MY FULL LIFE CIRCLE, SQUARED*. Most of us know Richard who grew up attending Memorial Parkway. Richard has written an inspirational memoir of his experiences growing up in foster homes, being adopted at age twelve, marrying his high school sweetheart, Brittany Parker, daughter of Greg and Joan Parker, then becoming a foster parent to three children. Richard wrote most of his book while he was deployed in Afghanistan with the Air Force. While he was there, Brittany gave birth to their firstborn biological child and they later adopted their three foster children which completed the circle.



Learning from the Sermon on the Mount

A Sunday Night Sermon Series

This Week's Lesson:

*The Christian and
His Relationships*
Matthew 5:21-26

Statistics

Sunday, February 26, 2017

AM Worship	317
Month Average	358
Bible Class	257
PM Worship	NC
Wed., Mar. 1 Bible Classes	232
Regency Ret. Worship	NC
Offering	\$18,841.68
Budget	\$18,000
Average '17	\$17,724
Under Budget for year	-\$2,489
Building Fund	\$190.00

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Services

Sunday

Worship..... 9:00 a.m.
Bible Class 10:15 a.m.
Worship..... 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Super Seniors 10:00 a.m.
Bible Class 6:30 p.m.

Web Site Home Bible Studies

**<http://bible.us/e/Hdj>
(Lesson 1 Link)
The Bible—God's Holy Word**