

The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

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Number 1

THE NEED OF VIRTUE

Virtue is a difficult word to define, especially as it is translated from the Greek. It is translated "excellencies" and attributed to God in I Peter 2:9. It is called "virtue" and attributed to Christ in 2 Peter 1:3. It is a quality to be found in Christians (Phil. 4:8; 2 Peter 1:5). But what does it mean? Thayer says it is "any excellence of person (in body or mind)...an eminent endowment, property or quality." It denotes moral goodness or vigor. It suggests then, quality thought that produces quality character.

Pulpit Commentary in its comments on Phil. 4:8 says, "Virtue points to manliness of valor, but is to be taken as inclusive of every form of moral excellence. We are to have the excellence that comes from the true, the honorable, the just, the pure and the lovely." The same book comments on 2 Peter 1:5, "Virtue is manliness, the courage which enables Christians to behave themselves like men in the service of the captain of their salvation. In the midst of the assaults of temptations, we need the resolute determination to do what is right in the sight of God, a steadfast strength to always choose the good part. This is the virtue of the Christian warrior, and that which is acquired in the active work of faith, faith ever working, ever energetic, which strengthens the soul."

Albert Barnes further comments on 2 Peter 1:5, "Here he (Peter) has the Greek word, as referring to manliness, courage, vigor, energy; and the sense is, that he (Peter) wished them to evidence whatever firmness of courage might be necessary in the maintaining the principles of their religion, and enduring the trials to which faith was subjected. It requires great energy and boldness, for its very essence is firmness, manliness and independence."

So many today have faith, but lack the moral courage to act on that faith. They know the life they ought to live but let the magnetic power of sin draw them away. They ought to obey the gospel, but don't know if they can hold out. They know they ought to be faithful in attendance to the assemblies of the saints but lack the spiritual energy to get up and go and not be drawn by the course of lease resistance. They know the immoral climate of the world today is to be abstained from, but the courage to stand against the works of the flesh is absent. So all is lost.

Morris Norman

Bulletin Board



AM Lesson - Brian Messerli
PM Worship - First Sunday singing. Michael Robinson is directing.

Please keep the following members in mind who have difficulty being with us due to prolonged illness: **Dee Boyd and Doris Norman**.

NEWS AND NOTES: We continue to have several suffering from respiratory problems. Some of this is allergy related, some is just the result of viruses. Either way, it is uncomfortable to deal with. Pat Butler spent the better part of Wed. in the hospital with stroke like symptoms. Turned out not to be a stroke, for which we are very thankful. I think the problem was diagnosed as Bells Palsy. It should pass in a week or two. Continue to remember Anna, and Melva and Curby.

There are several gospel meetings in the area this month. They are posted on the bulletin board. Take a look at them, especially those close to us. **Our spring meeting here is March 17-20, Sunday thru Wednesday. Don Truex is to be with us. He's from Tampa, but used to preach at Southside in Pasadena.**

Welcome to Brian Messerli, who is to preach for us this morning. I had mentioned in last week's bulletin that he would be here last week. My mistake. We get to enjoy him today. He's from Florida, and is a friend of the Miles family.

Married "Love"

One of the major problems in marriages, even those that may be "good", is the problem of taking each other for granted. Here is a short list of things we may do to make a better relationship.

1. Continue the courtship after marriage. Remember each "courts" the other. It isn't a one way street.
2. Show appreciation for the many things each does.
3. Stop complaining so much. With some husbands nothing is ever right. With some wives nothing is ever enough.
4. Each should strive to be leaders in areas of strengths God has provided. Demonstrate courage and mutual support.
5. Take an interest in the home, not just the house.
6. Gain the right concept of marriage. Do not think of your partner as a slave to your whims. Each is a person with worth and dignity in the sight of God.
7. Learn about the emotional and psychological differences between men and women.
8. Make it clear to each other that they are essential to your happiness.
9. Do not act or speak harshly because you are tired, irritable or hungry.

Premise: The happiness of the home begins with the woman. The happiness of the woman begins with the man.

Assignments for today

Sunday, January 6, 2013

Morning Service

Announcements.....Dan Kimbrough
 Hymn Director.....Lee Williams
 Scripture Reading.....2 Cor. 5:14-21
 Scripture Reader.....Trent Miles
 Opening Prayer.....Johnny Martinez
 Closing Prayer.....Dan Kimbrough

Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Michael Robinson
 Opening Prayer.....Bob Ward
 Closing Prayer.....Dan Kimbrough

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Schedule of Services

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
 11:00 AM Bible study
 5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional
Minister and editor
 Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

The Reminder is published weekly by the church of Christ in Bellaire