

Happy Birthday!

Steven Hensley 5-18
Addison Young 5-18
Barbara Mabery 5-20
Mathis Anderson 5-21
Jeff McDaniel 5-22

Sunshine Baskets

Pantry Items Needed:

Enroll now in the free Bible Correspondence Course lessons. You will find it refreshing to delve into God's Word & you will find out some things that surprise you. Give Bill Coe your name & address to get started.

We have devices for those who are hard of hearing to help you during our worship services. If you are in need of one, please see Jeremy Broome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS...

*If you are interested in joining the sewing group as they are about to begin their next quilt, please see Tonya Strong for more information.

May 16-19: Gospel Meeting at Liberty church of Christ in Granville at 7pm with Larry Acuff speaking.

May 16-20: Gospel Meeting at Zion church of Christ with BJ Clark speaking.

May 21: Road Runners trip to Cumberland Mountain General Store and Rock-a-Billy diner in Clarkrange. We will be leaving at 10am. There is a sign-up sheet in the back. See Ronald for more information.

May 23: Honoring our graduates after morning services.

May 23: Out of School Bash fellowship after evening services.

June 6-10: VBS

June 6-10: Gospel Meeting at Willette church of Christ with Brant Stubblefield speaking.

July 18-23: JSCYC – If you would like a counselor application, please see Rellon. They must be turned in by May 30.

October 3-6: Gospel Meeting here with Jeff Archey speaking.

November 5-7: Fall Retreat

Elders:

John Mabery 268.0651
Carl Call 268.2040
Sjon Gentry 268.3273

Deacons:

Rellon Burris 319.5197
Jerry Young 268.2215
Ronald Strong 267.5480
Chris Mabery 310.3612

Ministers:

John Mabery 268.0651
Cell: 265.3835
Ronald Strong 267.5480

Bible Study Curriculum:

Titus Anderson 704.5360

Bible Correspondence:

Bill Coe 268.1777
Cell: 397.2159

To Be Saved, JESUS Said We MUST...

Believe Him (Jn.8:24; Heb.11:6)

Repent of our sins (Lk.13:3, 5)

Confess Christ (Rom.10:9-10)

Be immersed in water for remission of sins
(Mk.16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom.6:3-4)

Center Grove church of Christ

3857 Grundy Quarles Hwy.
Gainesboro, TN. 38562
931.858.7460 or 931.268.0651

Schedule of Services

Sunday: Bible Classes @ 9:00 a.m.
Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
Worship @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Classes @ 7:00 p.m.

Radio: "The Lord's Word" on WLIV 920 AM
10:10 a.m. Monday - Saturday
(We broadcast Thursday, Friday, and Saturday)

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Number 20

“Love Your Neighbor” is the New “Don’t Judge”

By: Jack Wilkie of Focus Press

It's been a while, but for some time not all that long ago, Matthew 7:1 may have been the most-discussed verse in the entire Bible. "Do not judge lest you be judged" was "America's new favorite Bible verse" as many people, some of whom barely knew who Abraham was, would pull out Jesus' words on judgment any time they were told they were in the wrong.

The verse was ripped completely out of context, but that didn't matter to those who used it that way. What mattered to them was that they had an easily remembered defense they felt could shut down anybody who opposed them. "The Bible says 'do not judge'" was the only phrase they needed to "win" a discussion and get people to do what they wanted – namely, to shut up and go away.

Over time, though, that verse got less and less use. I would venture to guess that it's because many who "didn't want to be judged" by hearing they were wrong have given up all pretense of caring what God says.

However, there's a new verse being weaponized in conversation today. That verse is known as the 2nd Great Commandment, tabbed as such by Jesus Himself in Matthew 22:39: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

"Love your neighbor as yourself" is a vital, beautiful command from God's Word. I have no intention of criticizing it or calling it unimportant. Just like "Do not judge," though, "Love your neighbor" has been given a whole new meaning. It, too, is being cast by some as little more than a rhetorical tool for taking the upper hand in conversation. ...continued inside

- “Love your neighbor as yourself... which means you have to support socialism or you don’t love people.”
- “Love your neighbor as yourself... which means you have to wear a mask at all times (and/or get the vaccine) or you don’t love people.”
- “Love your neighbor as yourself... which means you have to endorse women preaching or you don’t love people.”
- “Love your neighbor as yourself... which means you must support LGBT causes or you don’t love people.”
- “Love your neighbor as yourself... which means you have to endorse Critical Race Theory or you don’t love people.”

To sum up: “If you really were a loving Christian, you would act and think exactly the way I do.” Sorry, no. All of these are matters of opinion at best. They do not have God’s authority behind them, and therefore it’s wrong to pretend they do. One can hold the opinion that these are the best ways to love one’s neighbor. One can even advocate that doing these things is the way to carry out “love your neighbor as yourself.” But to imply or outright state that somebody is disobeying God because they don’t interpret the command the same way I do would be a sin.

Twisting a Bible verse to mean “You have to do exactly what I want you to” is a tactic that reeks of arrogance and selfishness. It is a worldly, ungodly tactic to emotionally manipulate a conversation and jockey for a perceived moral high ground to enact one’s will on others, and it’s downright shameful that some Christians would wield the same methods. Loving brethren, acting in good faith, allow for differences of opinion and seek to understand each other. They refuse to lean heavily on their brothers and sisters to force conformity.

The irony is that in forcing everyone to think and act in accordance with one’s personal opinion is directly opposed to loving your neighbor as yourself. The Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12), the 2nd Greatest Commandment put into action, makes us consider how we would like to be treated. None of us would like to be forced to comply with someone else’s opinions as a test of our walk with God. To do so is not to love one’s neighbor as one’s self. No, rather it is subjecting your neighbor to yourself.

Romans 14 gives us the framework for how we handle matters of opinion – even the one’s about which we feel really strongly. The principles given there are simple: don’t judge your brother for his opinion (14:3), don’t make your brother stumble (14:13), and, most importantly, pursue that which makes for peace and building each other up (14:19). Attempting to force brethren to hold our opinions violates all three of these.

The truth is, “Love your neighbor as yourself” is a difficult command. It means deferring to our neighbor (Romans 12:10, Philippians 2:3-4). It means training ourselves to see things from our neighbor’s perspective (Romans 14). It means loving each other even when it’s hard to like each other, especially when we disagree. If we’re using it as a weapon to grab an upper hand in an argument, we have missed the point entirely.

Area Hospitals & Rehabs:

CRMC: Sheila Smith

Sick at Home Asking for Prayers:

Bobby Jean Dennis, Sherry Arms

Our Condolences to the Family of:

Lois Maxwell

Area Rest Homes & Rehab. Centers:

Bethesada: Grace Sloan

Cedar Hill Senior Living: Jean Haney

Mabry: Lovena (Cricket) Wilson, Fred Heady, Ray Pippin

NHC: Paul Pippin, Connie Ballard

Hillsboro Rehab: Lovia Cowgill

Georgia Rehab: Buddy Flatt

**Those Battling Ongoing Health Issues-
Prayer List:**

Adele Birdwell, Ann Flatt, Anna Bell Stafford, Barbara Walker, Crystal Scott, Earl Carr dad of Marcia, Earl Crabtree, Glen Thomas, Haylee Mathis, Hillary Broome, Jeanie Thomas, Jo Helen Brown, Johnny Stafford, Lela Durham, Lewis Fox, Margie Dyer, Margie Goodwin, Mary Pearl Judd, Moydene Robinson, Olivia Deason, Pam Crespo, Raymond Haney, Rita Dodson, Sandy Haney, Ruby Finnel friend of Romelyn , Sherrie Merwine, Shirley Smith, Steve Hensley, Velma Hix, Wilean Heady her son Terry-Thomas & Geneva Brown, Zander Dixon

BATTLING CANCER

Anna Lee Burchett, Ben Young, Frances Luck, Kinner Hawkins, Lori Davenport, Maibelle Dyer, Mike Hamlet, Ruby Anderson, Rex Berry, Ricky Strong, Roslyn Stout sister of Ruby, Steve Higginbotham, Villary Campbell, Winnie Craighead

Privileged to Serve May 23, 2021

Ushers	Chris Fox
.....	Roy Young
Announcements	Ben Gentry
Song Leader	Titus Anderson
Scripture Reading	Tom Gothard
Speaker	John Mabery
Opening Prayer	Royce Jenkins
Closing Prayer	Jeremy Kirby
Oversee Lord’s Supper..	Jeremy Kirby
Prepare Trays	
Scripture Reading.....	Burton Young
Serve	Kevin Moss
.....	Bryce Conner
.....	Jim Young
.....	Dakota Burris
.....	Mark Collins
.....	Roy Flatt
Alternate to Serve	Roy Smallwood
.....	Jackson Conner
Dismiss Classes	Donnie Mayberry
Count Contribution	Chris Martin
.....	Rellon Burris
.....	Ronnie Martin
.....	Chick Ransom
Response Card	Jimmy Strong
PowerPoint.....	Mike Martin
Live Stream.....	Blake Maberry
Adult Bible Class.....	John Mabery

Sunday Evening May 23, 2021

Speaker	Jeremy Kirby
Scripture Reading	Chris Mabery
Song Leader	Jonathan Conner
Opening Prayer	Tim Mitchell
Closing Prayer	Jimmy Strong
PowerPoint.....	Titus Anderson

Wednesday Evening May 26, 2021

Song Leader	Roger Anderson
Devotional	Ronald Strong
Opening Prayer	Kevin Moss
Closing Prayer	Jeremy Kirby
Adult Bible Study.....	Ronald Strong
Powerpoint.....	Ben Gentry

Let Rellon Burris know if you can’t serve.
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