

view

May 22, 2005

This Week's Agenda

May 22, 2005

The Lord's Day

8:30AM & 10:15AM

Sermon: David Posey

5pm Sermon: David Posey

5:30pm: Classes for all ages from 18 months and up

Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Sunday - Randy Clark, James
- Room 6: Bible Essentials - Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: Young Adults, Marriage- David Posey

Wednesday

7:30 PM - Classes for all ages 18 months and up.

Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Dennis Reagan, Current Issues
- Room 6: Bible Essentials - Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: Young Adults, Marriage - David Posey

News and Prayer Needs

New Addition

Joseph David Deschler was born last Saturday night. He weighed in at 9 lbs., 6 oz. He was in the hospital for a few days this past week, mainly for jaundice, but is doing OK now, at last report.

Prayer Concerns

Wes Shamblin's grandparents are not faring well; please keep them and Wes in your prayers. Larry Thompson, Sharon Bridge's brother, has skin cancer.

Continue your prayers for: Tim Dickey; Anna, the little girl in the middle of an adoption crisis; apparently, her grandmother won custody so she will not be going into the home of the young Christian couple who had tried to adopt her. This is not good news.

Continue your prayers for Dewey Marrs, who is much better; Richard Harvey; Sharon Jones and the Woolpert family; Carly Cain; Kathy Wilson (Parkinson's disease) and Hank (sleep apnea); Jamie Cole, Kristen Sanderson's sister; Jason Songer (friend of Justin Ivie). Those who are fighting cancer: Justin Ivie's dad (cancer and other undetermined health issues); Dave Fulton's mother, Monica (Monroe, WA); Tom Royston; Ken McClelland; Margaret Everett; Cheryl Wilson; Laurie Ann Reagan; Oliver Sasse.

Continue prayers for all the new children born recently and for the remaining expectant moms: Melissa Fields,



Bible Reading This Week

Sunday - I Samuel 20-22; Proverbs 27:15-27

Monday - I Samuel 23-25; Proverbs 28:1-14

Tuesday - I Samuel 26-28; Proverbs 28:15-28

Wednesday - I Samuel 29-31; Proverbs 29:1-14

Thursday - Philippians; Proverbs 29:15-27

Friday - II Samuel 1-3; Proverbs 30

Saturday - II Samuel 4-7; Proverbs 31

Michelle Caisse, Janelle Thorp, Amber Karlsson and (new addition to the list!), Carly Posey.

Christians Serving in Iraq

Jeremy Allen, Philip Cain, Steve Reis, Titus Cain, Philip Cain. Keep these good men in your prayers each day.

Other Classes & Meetings

The young mom's class meets again on June 2nd. Please see Christie Posey or Angie Cain for information.

The Ladies Workshop will meet again soon. Please see Denise Westphal for details.

See "A Note from the Elders" on the next page for additional information about upcoming classes and plans.

Congregation Singing

May 29th at 4 PM. Please see Steve Thompson for details.

The View contains news and articles of interest to the members of the Folsom Point church of Christ. Announcing an activity or event does not necessarily imply that we financially sponsor the event or that the elders specifically endorse every component of that event, since it may not fall under the direct oversight of the elders. The church's work and the elders' oversight is limited by Scripture. We will not announce events that are primarily social in nature. However, we do want to publicize those activities that provide an opportunity for you to be a more involved and active member of the body.

Editor

Examples Worth Following

Have you been as amazed as I have been about how the members of the Folsom Point church have responded to the needs of not only the members of this congregation, but also for friends and family members around the country. There are so many wonderful examples of the outpouring of love and I want to spend some time examining what the scriptures say about it.

In the Bible the apostle Paul speaks of being a good example to others when he says, “Don’t let anyone look down on you because

you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.” 1 Tim 4:12

Such a scripture should cause one to wonder, who is an example or role model of Christianity to the Folsom Point congregation?

Let’s consider actual applications of this teaching within the youth of our congregation. Over a month ago Tim Dickey suffered a horrible life threatening boating accident that hospitalized him for several weeks. Tim’s immediate highly skilled medical attention played a major role in saving his life, but his mental and emotional healing had a lot to do with the prayerful vigilance of his youthful peers from the church. They prayed together, sang hymns together, and read scriptures together in an effort to aid Tim’s emotional and physiological wellbeing. What a wonderful example these wonderful young Christians are to the whole congregation. It didn’t go unnoticed.

Again, the apostle Paul also said, “We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.” Heb 6:12

Let’s again consider examples and role models of Christianity to the Folsom Point congregation?

Since this passage is in reference to those who have arrived safely in heaven, we will consider the examples they left us. Let’s remember our dear Gladys Wells and my father-in-law, E.V. Smith. Many of us remem-

“They show us what is most important in their life simply by doing what most of us take for granted when we jump in the car and walk into the building free of the foibles and discomforts of life. It doesn’t go unnoticed.”

ber these godly people before they matured into senior citizens, but as we focus on their autumn years, they brought many of us to the spiritual knowledge and wisdom that they gained on their journey. As they worshipped with us with stooped frames and worn Bibles, they continued to display their daily Bible study habits and imparted their Bible knowledge all the way to the end. It didn’t go unnoticed.

Although I will point out just one more example to consider, there is just not enough space in this newsletter to mention the myriad other instances of mentoring that goes on in this congregation. In 1 Thess 1:5-7, the Apostle Paul said, “You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.”

We have a number of members in our congregation that suffer from health related issues that occasionally interrupt their attendance, but despite their particular health situation you will usually see them at services. Reflect on the following medical hardships and sufferings of some of our members: kidney dialy-

sis while awaiting a transplant; suffering from Lupus disease; reoccurring bouts with Multiple Sclerosis; afflictions from Parkinson's disease; severe respiratory issues; relentless failing vision and hearing problems; painful cancerous issues; hardship with dementia; and going through the discomfort and pain of rheumatoid arthritis.

These nameless wonderful people are only a sampling of some of the more severe medical conditions within the Folsom Point church family, but there are also many others who suffer with their own mental, physical and emotional issues. What is their example to us? They attend every time they can to get filled with God's word and to be encouraged by their church family. They show us what is most important in their life simply by doing what most of us take for granted when we jump in the car and walk into the building free of the foibles and discomforts of life. It doesn't go unnoticed.

Who is your example? Is it the Lord Jesus Christ, the Apostle Paul, other faithful Christians, the young people of the congregation, or the senior members of the church? Whoever it is, you cannot escape being an example to others yourself. Will you be one of the many "Examples Worth Following"...

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Strong Desire

If there lurks in most modern minds the notion that to desire our own good and earnestly so hope for the enjoyment of it is a bad thing, I submit that this notion has crept in from Kant and the Stoics and is no part of the Christian faith. Indeed, if we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires, not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.

C. S. Lewis, *The Weight of Glory*, 1941

Preachers spend so much time railing against works of the flesh that we forget a salutary truth: that when one's desire for a good thing is strong enough, the desire for the corresponding bad thing all but evaporates.

So, a deep love for one's wife makes adultery against her unthinkable, just as adoration of a child makes abuse impossible. Similarly, love of one's work makes tardiness rare just as love of learning propels one cheerily to the books.

Likewise, a deeper desire for heaven does more to clarify one's purpose in life and purify one's soul than all the pulpit pounding a forceful minister could muster over a lifetime.

Teach the flock to love the Shepherd, and, more often than not, they'll be content to stay in the sheepfold. Indeed, they'll desire nothing else.

Teach about heaven to chip away at the fool's gold that coats the lusts of hell. And while you're demanding that your children do the good, teach them the great benefits of a clear conscious and a pure life and they'll come to *prefer* the good.

Let us learn to be full-hearted creatures, with our minds and hearts full of the riches of what lies just ahead, so that we can leave the half-hearted world behind.

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Published by
The church of Christ
900 E. Natoma
PO Box 492
Folsom, CA 95630
916/608-4866

Elders

Randy Clark: 916/984-4788
Dan Hamilton: 916/984-9617
Kenneth Marrs: 916/851-9158
David Posey: 530/676-9514

Deacons

Brent Agee: 916/786-0436
Forrest Brown: 530/295-9230
David Byrd: 916/985-6564
Michael Caisse: 530/672-2902
Steve Dickey: 916/983-1071
Rich Ladd: 916/774-9048
David Main: 916/363-9580
Terry Raposa: 916/782-1140
Dane Scott: 916/631-7221
Russ Tarrant: 530/672-1748
Steve Thompson: 916/983-4170
Doug Wells: 530/672-1877

Evangelist/Editor

David Posey: 530/676-9514
david@folsomchurch.com

Services

Sunday Morning Assembly
8:30AM & 10:15AM
Sunday Evening: 5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study
7:30 PM
Classes for all ages.
Private classes arranged at your convenience.

For more information,
visit our web site at:

www.folsomchurch.com

On the Value of Reading Scripture

My father died when I was four. I grew up never knowing much about him. My mother had remarried a wonderful man who adopted me and loved me. I didn't have a burning desire to find out who my birth father was until a few years ago. My wife, Karin, and I decided to go back to Minnesota to visit the place of my heritage. Maybe to find Dad.

I'll never forget the experience. Karin and I stayed with my father's older brother, Sam. As you can guess, it didn't take long for Uncle Sam to ask me if I wanted to see photos of Dad, as well as some letters he had written. I quickly agreed.

The three of us climbed up into his attic where all the stuff was stored in an old trunk. My uncle pulled the light on with a string. We sat on boxes in that musty attic, passing around fading photos, reading letters aloud, and listening to Uncle Sam tell story after story.

That's how I "met" my father. In that attic, I got a complete picture of the kind of man Dad was, and what he did for me. I saw myself in a different light too, because I discovered that we shared many physical features and personality traits. For the first time I knew what it meant to say, "I am my father's son."

On your search for God, think about my journey to that attic in Minnesota. The Bible is like an old trunk, full of pictures and letters from God (your heavenly Father) to you, someone He loves very much.

Author Unknown



The Bible is Complete!

Charles Haddon Spurgeon, 1834-92, is perhaps the most famous Baptist preacher of all time. For many years he labored with the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, England, where he refused to allow instrumental music, believing it to be sinful. Despite some serious differences in his theological views, his writings still contain much that is profitable. This excerpt, for example, speaks to the completeness of God's revelation as we have it in the Bible. He makes a compelling argument.

The canon of revelation is closed; there is no more to be added; God does not give a fresh revelation, but He rivets the old one. When it has been forgotten, and laid in the dusty chamber of our memory, He fetches it out and cleans the picture, but does not paint a new one. There are no new doctrines, but the old ones are often revived. It is not, I say, by any new revelation that the Spirit comforts. He does so by telling us old things over again; He brings a fresh lamp to manifest the treasures hidden in Scripture; He unlocks the strong chest in which the truth has long lain, and He points to secret chambers filled with untold riches; but He coins no more, for enough is done.

Believer! There is enough in the Bible for thee to live upon forever. If thou shouldst outnumber the years of Methuselah, there would be no need for a fresh revelation; if thou shouldst live till Christ should come upon the earth, there would be no necessity for the addition of a single word; if thou should go down as deep as David said he did, into the belly of hell, still there would be enough in the Bible to comfort thee without a supplementary sentence.