

View

February 18, 2007

This Week's Agenda

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM: Singing, Prayer, Lord's Supper, Sermon: David Posey

5 PM – Singing, Lord's Supper, Sermon

Classes Offered This Week

Today at 5:30

Auditorium: Outlining Your Bible

Room 11-12: Revelation – Seven Churches of Asia

Tuesday at 7 PM

John's Gospel: Next Class – February 27th

Wednesday

10:00 AM – OT History - 10 AM at the building.

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

Auditorium – Galatians

Room 11-12: The First Century Church

News & Prayer Concerns

"First of all, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men..."

Prayer Concerns

Sharon Jones has had a series of setbacks which put her in the hospital for several days. She is doing better, but still undergoing the rigorous process of dialysis three times a week. She will need a ride to and from her treatments on Monday and Wednesday. Let's pray hard that a suitable kidney donor will be found for her very soon. She's been such a great example of faith and courage.

Carl Hanson continues to struggle in his recovery from heart surgery – keep he and Arlene in your prayers.

Others to include in your petitions to our Father: Ken Dickey (Steve's older brother), Herman Ward, Kathy Wilson, Sharon Jones, Frances Kaler and Beverly Henderson (Pamela Ludlow's mother); those who are expecting: Julie Agee, Aimee Cain, Candee Dickey, and Amber Karlsson; men serving in foreign fields: Steven Sabath (Arletta's son), Brandon Folkert (the Terrys' nephew) and Danny Boyer.

Group Meetings

We will be starting a new round of group meetings soon, with a new topic to discuss. We'll keep you informed.

Death of John Burns

A nephew and cousin to the Hamiltons, John Burns, died tragically in an auto accident this past week in Colorado. The funeral is tomorrow. Please pray for the family.

Vacation Bible School

We have set the date for this year's VBS: June 25-29. Please make your plans accordingly.

Out of Town

Several of our members are out of town today, including the Terrys, the Ladds, Sharron Wade, Heather Rico, Sarah Cain and Nita Sellgren and several others.

Classes

Our Tuesday night class will not meet this week, but will resume next week at the home of Magnus and Amber at 7 PM. Anyone is welcome to attend.

The Ladies Class meets this week at Michelle Sanderson's home, 7:30 PM. The subject is "Prayer."

Our Wednesday morning class on OT History is about to conclude. We have covered 54 Lessons and many have been at nearly every class. I appreciate the consistency and commitment. We'll probably begin another subject soon, so if you feel you would like to attend, give me some ideas of what you would like to study.

Gospel Meeting

Mark your calendar for October 8th to 10th (yes, that's a Monday to a Wednesday) for a meeting with Ed Harrell. He will be speaking on getting back to the Bible – learning to think "inside the box" before we go "outside the box." It is a very interesting and important series that you will not want to miss.

dp



**Read your Bible
each day, and
spread the word!**

Driving our Young People Crazy

I know that young people are sometimes unwise and do foolish things. I know because, believe it or not, I was a young man once. I know they are impulsive at times, and don't have the experience to make good decisions every time. That's why there are several warnings in scripture about the pitfalls of putting a young person in a position of leadership. For example, Paul says in 1 Tim. 3:6 that an elder is not to be a "novice" (or a "new convert") because he may become conceited and "fall into the condemnation of the devil" (the devil was the king of the conceited crowd). Some young people think they know better than older people – that they have discovered something new (they haven't) and that they have a better perspective (usually not true). Some day, like me, they'll probably admit it.

Having said all that, though, I imagine that some of the things we older people do must drive the young people nuts. This was brought home to me recently while meeting with Christians on two occasions, in two different venues. In both cases, the crowd was large. During the singing, when the word "stand" appeared in the song, some older Christians felt compelled, in the middle of the song, to literally stand up, even though the song leader had not asked them to, nor indicated that they should.

You guessed it; one of the songs was "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"; the other was, "I Stand in Awe." In both cases, I stood up because I thought I missed a gesture from the song leader and, after all, everyone else stood up. In the second case, while standing, I noticed several young people keeping their seats. Now, maybe they were being rebellious, but I don't think so. In neither case was there any reason whatsoever to stand up. It was instigated by a few older folks, including some preachers, and others followed suit, not wanting to be different.

OK, we all know that "stand up, stand up for Jesus" has nothing to do with *posture*, right? We all know we can "stand up for Jesus" while sitting in our seats or, for that matter, lying on our death beds, right? And we can stand in awe of God without getting on our feet – in fact, we'd better, right? The funny thing is, since the song leader didn't tell us to stand up during "Stand Up, Stand

Up for Jesus" – and it's hard to remember a time when we were not told to stand while singing that song – it made me think about the very point made above: that standing up for Jesus is something we should do at all times. But that good thought was shattered by those who stood up in the middle of song, drawing attention away from the words and Jesus and onto themselves (which I'm sure was not their intention).

This kind of thing must drive our young people crazy. Unless I'm missing something, it was motivated by pure tradition, nothing more. Not only that, it was a

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hostile takeover from the song leader by certain people in the audience who think they know better. It was a statement that "this is the way we always do this, so we're going to do it our way."

I hope that we are teaching our young people to think soberly and act wisely but also encouraging them to think for themselves. We want them to really *think* through their decisions, not just act or react as robots, programmed by "the way we've always done it." I really believe the Bible is a thinking man's book and it is less important to memorize its words than to internalize its concepts and principles. If mature adults, who should know better, are captured by tradition, what should we expect from our young people?

David Posey

Reading for Sermon of February 25th
Genesis 22

“Able to teach”

The qualification that a man must be “able to teach” if he would be an elder is one of those qualifications about which men have argued and will continue to argue.

Some feel that a man must be able to get up in front of a group and expound on the scriptures (in other words, he must be able to preach). Others disagree, believing the passage teaches that a man must be able to teach at least one-on-one, but that it does not require an ability to speak before larger groups. Which is it?

In 1 Tim. 3:2, Paul says simply that a man must be “able to teach.” There is no indication there of whether the teaching is before a larger group or a smaller group. It just says “able to teach.” The man who would be an elder must have ability to communicate God’s truth to others, in some form; but the form of that instruction is not specified. Therefore, it would be going beyond 1 Tim. 3:2 to impose a requirement of public speaking ability on a man who is otherwise qualified. Many good men are not comfortable teaching in a larger crowd, though they excel at teaching in smaller groups or one-on-one.

In Titus, the qualification is worded differently, and it gives us some insight into what God wants an elder to be able to do. Titus 1:9 reads: “holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict” (NASB). The ESV version says “instruct in sound doctrine” instead of “exhort.” The Greek word, *parakaleo*, is translated by various terms in the New Testament: “exhort,” “beseech,” “begging” and, often, even, the word “comfort,” as a verb.

The word “exhort” has been primarily associated with what preachers do and that leads some to the conclusion that an elder should be able to proclaim the gospel publicly, like a preacher. But that reads too much into the Greek word. Twice, in the book of Hebrews, every person in the church is commanded to *parakaleo* (“exhort”) every other person in the church. Like many of the qualifications for elders, it is something all are supposed to do.

The man who would be an elder must be able to urge individuals toward “sound doctrine” and be able to recognize when sound doctrine is being compromised by other teaching. He must have the ability to confront

those who teach falsehood. One thing for sure, he cannot be a “shrinking violet” and still hope to be an elder.

When we combine the qualifications in 1 Timothy and Titus that touch on this ability to teach, we can safely say this about a man who is qualified to be an elder: (a) He has a solid grip on the gospel message and “sound doctrine” and is able to teach it to others. If he can do it publicly, that’s fine, but it is not required. (b) He must be able and willing to rebuke (reprove) “those who contradict” sound doctrine, because there are many in the world who are “empty talkers” and “deceivers” (Titus 1:10).

There are many quiet, humble men who are well-qualified to be elders because their grip on the word of God is solid and their willingness to face down those who would falsify it is sure. They will give no quarter to those who would turn grace into licentiousness or otherwise defame the name of Christ. We need men like that.

David Posey

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Services

Sunday Morning Assembly
9:30AM
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

Calendar for the Folsom Point church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 The Lord's Day Young Peoples' Class	5	6	7 7:30 PM Bible Classes	8	9	10
11 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	12	13 7 PM In-Home Bible Study	14 OT History Class: 10 AM 7:30 PM Bible Classes	15	16	17
18 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	19	20	21 OT History Class: 10AM 7:30 PM Bible Classes	22	23	24
25 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	26	27 7 PM In-Home Bible Study	28 OT History Class: 10AM 7:30 PM Bible Classes			

Mark Your Calendar

June 25-29, Vacation Bible School

October 8-10, 2007 - Meeting with Ed Harrell

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 and encourage those activities that provide an opportunity to be built up in the faith and provide an opportunity for you to be a more involved and active member of the body at Folsom Point.

ABOUT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST AT FOLSOM

We are a church of Christ patterned after the New Testament example of local churches. We believe in the authoritative word of God and will provide you with a Bible answer for everything we do in our doctrine and practice. We exalt Jesus Christ and seek to glorify Him, not ourselves (Ephesians 3:21). Therefore, our efforts are directed toward promoting commitment to Christ, not to any man or institution (I Corinthians 2:5).

Our assemblies are simple. We sing without use of an instrument (see Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; we will be happy to show you why we use no instrument, if you desire further study on this issue). We pray (I Timothy 2:1), partake of the Lord's Supper each first day of the week (I Corinthians 11:23-29; Acts 20:7) and teach from God's word. All preaching comes from the Bible.

The financial support of this congregation comes entirely from the free-will offerings of its members made on the first day of the week (I Corinthians 16:1-2; II Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:6-7). We never solicit funds from non-members. Contributions are used for the spiritual growth of this church and for the support of a few men in other areas, such as the Philippines, who are preaching the gospel. We do not use money collected here for social programs or the support of any human institution. We believe the church itself can do all the work God has given it to do. And we aim to do *only* the work God has given it to do – teach the gospel, build up the members, and help needy Christians. All other "good work" is the responsibility of individual Christians (Titus 2:11-14; James 1:27; Galatians 6:9-10).

We offer personal Bible studies at your convenience. We are here to help you with your spiritual needs: please favor us with a request for a Bible study or correspondence course that you can complete at your pace.