

View

March 18, 2007

This Week's Agenda

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM: Singing, Prayer, Lord's Supper, Sermon: David Posey
5 PM – Singing, **Prayer**, Lord's Supper, Sermon, Classes

Classes Offered This Week

Today at 5:30

Auditorium: Outlining Your Bible
Room 11-12: Revelation – The Seven Churches of Asia

Tuesday at 7 PM

John's Gospel: Tuesday, Karlsson's home, 7 PM

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 is doing better, but she still needs some assistance and our prayers.

Keep others in your prayers: Ben Woodside (death of grandmother); Hank and Kathy Wilson; Carl & Arlene Hanson.

Continue to pray for those who are expecting: Candee Dickey, Amber Karlsson, Sarah Cain and Nicole Grinnell.

Also, as we rejoice with these, pray for the couples who would like to have children, but have not been able.

Also, continue prayers for our men in uniform, including: 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.

Vacation Bible School

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

Out of Town

I have not been made aware of any out of town.

Classes

The John class will resume on March 20th.

The OT History class will resume on March 21st here at the building (10 AM).

Gospel Meetings

Reminder: Mark your calendar for October 8-10, 2007 for a meeting with Ed Harrell. We have also booked gospel meetings with Bob Owen for 2008, Paul Earnhart for 2009 and Dee Bowman for 2011.

Adult classes next quarter

The classes for next quarter are set. Here's the lineup:

Sunday PM - Auditorium: Judges (Grant Mulligan)

Sunday PM - Room 11-12: Evangelism Workshop (Dennis Wade)

Wednesday PM - Auditorium: Minor Prophets (Jeff Warshaw)

Wednesday PM - Room 11-12: The Book of Revelation (David Posey)

dp

Daily Bible Reading Plan Available

Read your Bible each day. You can acquire the 5-day per week reading plan by visiting our website at www.folsomchurch.com.



Read your Bible each day, and spread the word!

Isa 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Preparing Our Hearts

Steve Bockmiller

In the year 458 B.C, a scribe named Ezra led the second group of Israelite exiles from Babylon back to Jerusalem. From this expedition, we can appraise Ezra's spiritual demeanor. Ezra 7:10—For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel. Ezra understood how he fit into God's plan and he executed God's plan with diligence. Every element in the preceding verse represents a key element in the life of a Christian.

Ezra prepared his heart. To prepare your heart is to make yourself ready for a purpose. Ezra purposed in his heart to serve God diligently. The heart is the essence of the man. Proverbs 27:19 says that a man's heart reveals the man. Ezra's heart revealed that he prepared to seek, he prepared to do, and he prepared to teach God's law. What do our hearts reveal about us? Are we preparing to serve God or are we preparing to serve our own selfish interests?

Ezra sought the law of the Lord. Seeking describes a diligent search prompted by the hope of finding something of great value. We know that Ezra was a scribe; it was the job of a scribe to seek and to understand God's law in order to teach and to communicate that law to others. You cannot hope to find that for which you do not seek. What are we seeking? This world has much to offer by way of advancing and promoting our own interests; all such advancements require an expenditure of energy. It is fair to say that we spend too much time and too much energy seeking our own selfish interests. Prov. 8:17—I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me. It is an awesome thought to know that we can seek God and be able to find him. How sad the judgment day will be for those who failed to open the Bible and seek his statutes.

Ezra practiced the law of the Lord.

Not only did Ezra prepare in his heart to seek the law of the Lord, he practiced the law of the Lord. Ezra applied his knowledge and turned it into wisdom. Why is it that Christians struggle with the application of knowledge? I think it is because we fail to prepare our hearts and we fail to seek the law of the Lord. Those who prepare their hearts to seek God's law obviously see the value therein. They cherish what they find in the law; conviction compels them concerning the necessity of obedience to the law. In Nehemiah chapter 8, Ezra reads the law to the Israelites and it causes them to mourn and to weep because they realize what great wrongs they had committed against the Lord. This realization had an effect on their lives. When we seek the law of the Lord, we need to take action and we need to apply it to our lives. This process is the key to the success of any Christian. Matt 7:21 says that those who do make it to heaven will be the ones who did the will of God while on Earth.

Ezra taught the law of the Lord.

Finally, we read that Ezra taught the statutes and the ordinances of the law to Israel. We are told in Mark 16:15 to preach the gospel to every creature. Paul told Timothy in 2 Tim 2:2 to take the things he had heard from him and commit them to faithful men who would then be able to teach others. We have an urgent message that needs to be shared and yet we hold that message inside. I think that this results from failing to follow in the steps of Ezra.

If we do not prepare our hearts to serve God, we will not seek Him. If we do not seek His words, then we will fail to practice them; if we fail to practice God's word in our own lives, then we will fail to teach God's word to others. This process of influence is a natural flow; Satan will try to hinder any and all spiritual growth. We need to try to be more like Ezra. We need to prepare ourselves to seek, to practice, and to teach God's word.

Pulling Together - One At A Time

Dee Bowman, Bubba Garner

Talent is diverse. Everybody has some—some more of one kind, some more of another—but everybody has some. Furthermore, there are some things to which we are all related simply because we all have the ability to do them. We have listed several. The list is certainly not exhaustive and there are many things you might include that we haven't, but these are things every member, with a little effort, can do.

1. Get the family together—All it takes is a few minutes and the investment is certainly worth the expenditure. Get together. Your family is a rich blessing. Get together. Neglect your family and you'll one day be sorry you didn't get together. Read together. Pray together. Sing together. Make it a habit.

2. Make that call! Call and say "thank you" to your children's Bible class teacher. Call a shut-in, or a person on the sick list. Call and let someone know you've been missing them. Call and ask someone for a Bible study. Call the building and let someone know you'll be gone Sunday. Call the Elders and express your appreciation for their care and concern. Call a teenager and tell them how much you enjoy seeing them grow up in the Lord. Call upon the Lord.

3. Plan personal progress. Little is accomplished without a plan; not much is gained without a goal. Every person knows his own whereabouts spiritually and it's up to each one to make sure that he is "always abounding in the work of the Lord." Plan a time to study. Plan a time to pray. Plan a time to meditate on the higher things. Plan a time for conversations about the Lord. Plan to grow and you will.

4. Talk it up. Talk to someone about Jesus. Talk to someone today about attending services. Talk to someone about faith. Talk to someone about where they're headed and why. Talk to someone about where the world is headed. Talk to someone about their

neglect of spiritual matters. Talk to someone you've been meaning to talk to.

5. Be there. Be there when it's time to worship. Be there when someone cares. Be there when you don't have time. Be there when it's hard. Be there when it's not popular. Be there when things unravel in someone's life. Be there when there is joy to be shared. Be there because you know He's there.

6. Don't wait. It's not time to relax, not time to rest—don't wait, do it now. Tomorrow never comes, so don't wait. Don't let excuses rob you of your energy and enthusiasm—don't wait. Don't wait to be asked. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Don't wait until it's nearly over. Don't wait to say "I love you" or "I care," or "let me help" or "lean on me." "Procrastination is a wait problem."

7. Decide. It won't ever get done if you don't decide to do it.

Each of us can do what he can with what he has where he is. It's just a matter of deciding.

Praying Like Jesus

Bubba Garner

The Lord tells us through the Apostle Peter that Jesus left us a pattern that we might "follow in His steps" (1 Pet. 2:21). On another occasion, Paul said, "be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ" (1 Cor. 11:1). We sing a song entitled "O, to Be Like Thee" and another with a verse that says, "He the great example is and pattern for me." In every facet of our life, we are to pattern our attitude, our disposition, our conduct after that of our Savior. Can we not learn something about how He treated His enemies, about how He handled stress, and especially about how He prayed?

Jesus prayed often. He did not restrict this activity to the dinner table or for when He pillowed His head, Jesus sought heavenly counsel throughout each day for strength, comfort, and companionship. We live in the information age where beepers, cellular phones, and E-mail accounts help us stay in constant

communication with our employers, clients, family members, and baby sitters. But the avenue of prayer surpasses all of these with regard to accessibility and convenience; it has no set-up fee, no monthly charges, no connection fee, and no busy signals. Are you using it?

Jesus prayed long. He did not utter a couple of trite phrases or clichés to satisfy his conscience, He set aside time during His day to meditate and devote Himself to prayer. "And it was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God" (Luke 6:12). Jesus was busy, too. Everywhere He turned, people were bringing Him the sick, the lame, and the blind so He could heal them. He had disciples to teach, sermons to preach, and cities to reach, but He never let His hectic schedule interfere with His duty of prayer. How long has it been?

1Pe 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

Jesus prayed for others. He had a lot of requests to make on His own behalf—He was surrounded by men whose every thought was on putting him to death, and He was tempted in all points as we are. Yet, even in the midst of the garden when He knew His life was to be taken the next day, he prayed for His apostles and for all believers. It is no coincidence that our brother Henson has responded so favorably to the extensive, delicate surgery to remove his cancer; it is because so many have fervently and earnestly prayed that the Lord would watch over His beloved servant. Have you thanked Him?

Jesus was devoted to private prayer. He prayed often, He prayed long, and He prayed for others. He was the Son of God—what's your excuse?

Preachers we support

John Scholtz - South Africa, Zimbabwe
Robert Nichols - Japan
Barney Mejia - Nicaragua
Dale Pennock - Vermont
Gary Stouffer - Vista, CA
Jim Lee - Englewood, Ohio
Jeff Carr - Mandeville, LA
Armando C. Pastor - Sto. Domingo & Dumabel
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James Amangan - Bangued
Quirino Tien - Cuyayan Valley
Rosilito F. Nardo in Koronadal City.
Johnny Buguis in General Santos City.

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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 PM In-Home Bible Study	7 7:30 PM Bible Classes	8	9	10
11 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	12	13	14 7:30 PM Bible Classes	15	16	17
18 The Lord's Day Assembly 9:30 AM & 5 PM	19	20 7 PM In-Home Bible Study	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	29	30	31

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 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 congregations 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.