

**Calendar:**

**Sat April 3rd 8:00am - Work party at the building.**

**Sun April 4th - The new quarter begins**

## Competition for the Mind

In **Ephesians 4:26-27**, Paul commanded, "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: neither give place to the devil." This passage is variously translated. Phillips renders it, "Don't give the devil that sort of foothold."

Goodspeed's translation says, "You must not give the devil a chance." The Twentieth Century New Testament gives it, "And give no opportunity to the Devil." The thought in all of these is the same: mainly, don't give the Devil residency in your mind.

Someone has said, "You can't keep the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from nesting in your hair." In the same way, you can't keep the Devil from making periodic trips through your mind, but you don't have to give him a place to stay.

In this age, there is a constant bombardment of the mind by the Devil. He is seeking a place to stay. And one of the ways he does it is by advertising. Our society is addicted to it. Its influence in our lives is astounding.

This competition for the mind is relentless and indefatigable. Just as the means is subtle and effective. Secularism is disguised as success; materialism wears the mask of excellence; free love is passed off as freedom of human expression. The result is indifference toward God.

Those who give over to this cunningly devised

plan will find it hard to leave. Once they enter this world of "let me do it my way," they quickly become so mired that only the strongest will can divorce them from their predicament. The appetite for such loose activities cannot be satisfied and calls for an ever-deepening, always increasing evil just to top the last "satisfaction" they enjoyed.

Such careless subscription to the devil's ploys results in disaster. The giving of oneself to a life without restraint results in a cluttered, undisciplined mind, one difficult to penetrate and often without much feeling for others. Such thinking dampens the spirit of purpose, causes its adherent to be tentative in his plans, temporary in his judgment. It restrains the inclination to grow—intellectually, spiritually, or any other way.

It is short-sighted, foolish to listen to promises of the sort we see everywhere displayed by our adversary. Three things stand out to me as necessary to guard against the Devil's efforts to capture the mind:

**1. Make sure your focus is right.** Where are you looking? In what direction are you heading? Like Paul, we must "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (**Philippians 3:14**). The Hebrew writer said of Jesus, ". . . who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross . . ." (**Hebrews 12:2**). We need to set before us the hope of heaven.

### The church of Christ

meeting at 900 E. Natoma  
PO Box 492  
Folsom, CA 95630  
916/608-4866

### Elders

Forrest Brown: 530/295-9230  
Randy Clark: 916/939-5066  
Rich Ladd: 916/774-9048  
David Posey: 530/676-9514  
Terry Raposa: 916/782-1140  
Dennis Reagan: 916/797-5539

### Deacons

Brent Agee: 916/786-0436  
Bryan Byrd: 916/351-9320  
David Byrd: 916/985-6564  
Barrett Cain: 916/351-0774  
Michael Caisse: 530/672-2902  
Jeff Clark: 916/985-8689  
John Daniels: 916/985-3090  
Jerry Deschler: 916/285-9115  
Steve Dickey: 916/983-1071  
Eric Fields: 916/817-6495  
David Main: 650/292-5417  
Dane Scott: 916/631-7221  
Russ Tarrant: 530/672-1748  
Steve Thompson: 916/983-4170  
Jeff Warshaw: 916/933-9399  
Brett Zugnoni: 916/817-6435

### Evangelist/Editor

David Posey: 530/676-9514  
dpaulposey@mac.com

### Service Times

Sunday Morning Assembly  
9:30 AM  
Sunday Evening: 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Bible Study  
7:30 PM

Classes for all ages.

Private classes arranged at your convenience.

[www.folsomchurch.com](http://www.folsomchurch.com)

**2. Develop a determination toward self--regulation in your life.** Paul said it was necessary. "But I keep under," (buffet – ASV) my body and bring it into subjection: that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway" (**1 Corinthians 9:26-27**). The life that is not managed properly vacillates, is tentative, not fixed on course.

**3. Return to a regular association with truth.** It is just so that we are influenced by our companions. When you tolerate associations with the

Devil, you are just apt to be like him. But when you are in constant contact with the truth, it will be the pervading influence in your life.

There is a battle raging—a serious, eternal-life threatening battle. We can lose it if we are not careful. The mind is the battleground. Choose your associations carefully and well.

**Dee Boman**

## Adult Classes, Spring 2010

Auditorium

Sunday Evenings — “Why We Do What We Do”

Date	Topic
4-4	Introduction to Series: A Commitment to Christ is a Commitment to Truth
4-11	A Commitment to Authority
4-18	A Commitment to Organization: Elders, Deacons, Saints
4-25	A Commitment to Edification: Children’s Classes
5-2	A Commitment to Worship: Attendance
5-9	A Commitment to Worship: Teaching & Preaching
5-16	A Commitment to Giving
5-23	A Commitment to Salvation: Baptism
5-30	A Commitment to Benevolence
6-6	A Commitment to Worship: Singing
6-13	A Commitment to Worship: Prayer
6-20	Review
6-27	Quarterly Singing