

March 13, 2022

The View

“Sirs, we wish to see Jesus.” — John 12:21

Welcome Visitors

Our goal at the Folsom church of Christ is to do everything according to God’s word, including respecting its silence.

We are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church; we have no earthly “headquarters.”

“The six elders oversee this church and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily for the benefit of our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don’t understand something, please do not hesitate to ask the preacher or one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not correspond to God’s word. We are here to serve; please help us do that.

**Please fill out a visitor’s card and put it in the collection plate located near the entrance.
We do not solicit donations from visitors. See page 4 for more information.**

Schedule

The Lord’s Day

9:30 AM Bible Classes

Auditorium: A Study of Paul’s Second & Third Journeys

Room 15/16: Raising Faithful Kids

Room 12: Young Adults Class

10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today: Scott Gardner

Title: “I Am Not Ashamed”

Livestream at 10:30 <https://tinyurl.com/5f2cbm3y>

Bible Class @ 2:00 PM in room 12 on Judges

Bible Class @ 5 PM — A Study of Prayer in the Psalms (Auditorium)

Young Peoples’ Class, 5 PM @ David & Christie Posey’s home

Middle school class: monthly (contact Dan Stegall at 818-209-9810)

There are several on-going Bible classes in the homes of members. Check with David Posey or one of the other elders if you would like to join one of those classes.

Wednesday 7 PM @ Building

Bible classes for all ages

Auditorium: A Study of Paul’s Second & Third Journeys

Room 15/16: Raising Faithful Kids

Room 12: Young Adults Class

Mark Your Calendar!

Boot Camp: April 29 — May 1

Theme: What a Friend!!

More information to come.

2022 Folsom Bible Boot Camp

What a Friend!!

April 29-May 1, 2022



Thinking about Jesus...

- He is our Lord — which means there are commands to be obeyed.
- He is our Master — he teaches us to make us better disciples.
- He is our Savior — to deliver us from our sins.
- He is our King — he has absolute rule in our lives.

Those are all imposing titles — and we can add other titles to them. But there is another characteristic of Jesus that we sometimes forget: **Jesus is our friend.** That “title” has a special ring to it, doesn’t it? It is the most personal of all of Jesus’ many characteristics.

We talk often about loving Jesus but not often about liking Jesus. A “friend” is a person you know, you like and you trust. The word “friendship” conjures up images of people who are important in our lives. When we say, “he/she is my friend,” we’re not talking about the social media “friends” we have in the 100s. We’re talking about someone who resides in a special place in our heart.

Our youth meeting, which we call “Boot Camp,” is resuming after a two year hiatus due to Covid. When we began this in 2013, we named it “Boot Camp” because we decided to deal with some basic principles. We have covered the following in the seven years prior to this one: “The Gospel,” “The Cross,” “The Resurrection,” “Heaven & Hell,” “The Joy of Not Fitting In,” “Make me a Servant” and (in 2019) “Master, Mission, Mate.”

This year our topic is “What a Friend!” We will discuss how Jesus is a friend to us and how his friendship is a model for our friendships. We’ll have more information as we get closer to April 29th. We’ll also have some registration information for you very soon.

DAVID POSEY

In every pew, there is a broken heart

BY MARK W. WHITE

[This is an article from our preacher friend in Texas, Mark White. He's a talented writer and always hits the nail right on the head. I read this article and said to myself, "I wish I had written that"; it clearly expresses my view on preaching and he said it better than I can. Sometimes we preachers preach as if everyone in the audience is a 30-60 year old solid, well-studied Bible student in their prime, without a problem in the world. But that's not true. Look at the people in the pews—there are children, the aged, widowed, perhaps even abused—and many others whose lives are not perfect. I needed this reminder. — David Posey]

A TENNESSEE PREACHER FROM MY YOUTH OFTEN SPOKE THE WORDS I HAVE USED FOR THE TITLE IN THIS ARTICLE. Every time I stand before an audience to preach I try to think of that statement. It reminds me to speak with compassion, persuasion, and with the intent to edify, rather than discourage.

All Christians are "ministers." A minister serves the needs of others. Our brothers in Christ publicly minister in the Word (Acts 6:4).

Mixed-gender assemblies require male preachers and teachers of the Word. But we must not be too narrow in focus as to what constitutes "ministry." Some think only of preachers when they think of ministers, but the New Testament uses the term to describe servants, whether male or female. In addition to public preaching, there is also the "*ministry of reconciliation*" (2 Cor. 5:18) which involves bringing people back to God. This may be done by men who publicly preach the Gospel, but it can also be done privately by both women and men, as they seek to encourage others toward a good relationship with God.

Each church I've ever been a member of had its share of grieving, lonely, despairing, seeking, and troubled people. Every congregation is touched by death and contains widowed people who have become shadows of themselves because of the loss of their "better half." There are parents who have lost children to the Devil. There are children who have lost their parents to the world. These conditions exist everywhere and bring great pain and suffering to the people in the pews.

"Each church I've ever been a member of had its share of grieving, lonely, despairing, seeking, and troubled people. Every congregation is touched by death and contains widowed people who have become shadows of themselves because of the loss of their 'better half.' There are parents who have lost children to the Devil. There are children who have lost their parents to the world."

Scripture admonishes us to "*weep with those who weep*" (Rom. 12:15). A simple phone call, a text message, a card in the mailbox containing reminders that we acknowledge the loss someone has sustained is a part of the ministry of encouragement. Such consolations can make a difference in some hurting person's life. Our contact should continue for months after the loss. There is something consoling when a loved one's name is mentioned as time moves along. It is an effortless but very caring thing for us to keep doing.

Every church also has its share of emotionally damaged people. Although most of us are not licensed counselors, we do not have to be in order to put our arms around each other and show that we love those who hurt. We must "*bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ*" (Gal. 6:2). The law of Christ is that we simply "*love one another*" (Jn. 13:34). Every congregation has its members with overwhelming family problems. There are financial hardships, debilitating long-term illnesses, or chronic pain which some are shouldering each long day and through even longer nights. These broken hearts are

real and they are waiting for someone to reach out and acknowledge the reality of their pain. The spirit of Romans 15:1 applies here. "*We then who are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.*"

When we think of the ministry of encouragement, we cannot help but think of a man named Joses, whom the apostles renamed, "*Barnabas*"—meaning "*the Son of Encouragement*" (Acts 4:36). He saw a need and gave money to alleviate it. He also vouched for Saul of Tarsus when brethren were fearful of accepting him (Acts 9:26-27). He took a young John Mark under his wing, refusing to cast him aside due to past mistakes (Acts 15:37-39). Those of us who want to minister encouragement to those in need of it should call to mind his example.

The Hebrews writer gives us all a ministry to perform in our local church. "*And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works*" (Heb. 10:24). The ministry of encouragement and reconciliation will spur us on to do greater things. It causes us to desire and imitate such service and love for our brethren.