

Calling Evil Good

Isaiah 5 depicts God's people as a once beautiful vineyard that became nothing more than wild vines that only produced undesirable fruit (Isaiah 5:1-7). They were characterized by greed and indulgence (Isaiah 5:8-17), and their values were perverted (Isaiah 5:18-25). In this last section, several "Woes" were pronounced upon the rebellious people, among which was, "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20). The perversion of values represented by this "Woe" is becoming more apparent in our culture. For example, in the recent NFL draft, an "openly gay" football player was drafted for the first time. The news media immediately jumped to praise ("call ... good") the NFL and the team that drafted him, yet anyone who speaks against homosexuality is called evil. The fact is that the Bible, the only true standard of good and evil, speaks against the practice of homosexuality. It was wrong under the patriarchal system (Genesis 13:13; 18:20; 19:4-10 cf. Jude 4), the Mosaic system (Leviticus 18:22; 20:13), and is still wrong under the Christian system (Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11). Though the world would have us to believe that "openly gay" is an acceptable lifestyle, we must not be deceived, for "There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12). The homosexual lifestyle is such a way. However, God still "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). Let us do what we can to teach the truth to those who have chosen the "openly gay" life. ❤️ *Brian*



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The End of Your Search for a Friendly Church . . .

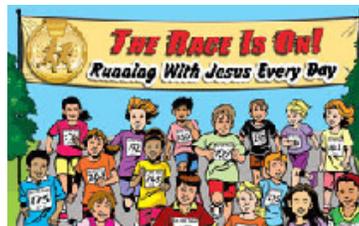
Sunday, June 8 We will have a Lads to Leaders "half day," beginning at 3:00 p.m. We will sign up for events and work on the year 'round activities. We will study Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians!

Saturday, June 21 Our monthly youth devotional and activity will be hosted by the Kenyons.

Special Thanks to the Padillas!



for a wonderful "lock-in" last Friday/Saturday. The youth group and adult chaperones had a wonderful time of games, fellowship, and encouragement from God's word. Can't wait for the next one!



VBS June 22-26

Chad Tagtow will be teaching our teenage classes and leading the VBS songs! Don't miss it!

- Lap 1: Train for Success** —"Put on God's Armor" (Eph. 6:10-19)
 Adult class teacher: Robert Williams (6th Street)
- Lap 2: Find Your Stride** —"Help Others" (Luke 10:25-37)
 Adult class teacher: Eric Dawkins (6th Street)
- Lap 3: Win a Medal** —"Seek Good Friends" (1 Samuel 18-20)
 Adult class teacher: Eric Dawkins (6th Street)
- Lap 4: Set a Record** —"Always Do Your Best" (Matthew 25:14-19)
 Adult class teacher: Bob Bauer (Orange Street)
- Lap 5: Endure to the Finish** —"Be Like Jesus" (Luke 2:40-52)
 Adult class teacher: Mike Elledge (Palm Harbor)

The South Florida Avenue MESSENGER

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SUNDAY SERVICES

Bible Study.....9:30a.m.
Worship.....10:30a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies Class.....10:00a.m.
Bible Study.....7:00p.m.

HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching

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Dub Hill.....Russia
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BROTHERHOOD MALAPROPISMS

Steven E. Yeatts

Malapropism: is a “ludicrous misuse of words, especially through confusion caused by resemblance in sound” (Webster’s New World Dictionary).

From time to time, we hear things from our brethren that are mentioned in all seriousness, but when they take the form of a malapropism they can bring a smile to our faces. For instance, I was talking with a brother in Christ one day who told me he did not understand why the denominational churches did not sing “Acapulco.” Of course, he meant *a cappella*, but Acapulco wouldn’t be a bad place to sing a cappella, would it?

On another occasion, this same brother said to me (following a sermon I had preached exposing the error of Premillennialism) that he also did not believe in the Battle of Armadillo (Armageddon). I succeeded (with some difficulty) from laughing out loud on that one because, after all, he was serious.

Perhaps one of the more famous malapropisms is one that makes mention of the “only forgotten” Son of God (John 3:16). Of course, the interpolation of “forgotten” for “begotten” is totally unintended and the ones who said it would be mortified if it were pointed out to them that they had indeed committed this unintended spiritual faux pas. I recently heard the “only forgotten” malapropism in a public prayer.

The most recent brotherhood malapropism I heard was by some faithful New Testament Christians regarding some of their brethren who have gone beyond the boundaries of the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9-11). Instead of referring to such brethren with the common moniker of being “liberal,” these faithful Christians referred to them as “liberated.” In fact, the opposite would be true—only those who stay true to the word of Christ and follow the truth are truly “liberated.” Jesus said, *“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”* (John 8:31-32).

Sometimes it’s good to take a look at the lighter side of life and appreciate humor where it can be found (Proverbs 17:22).

Three Guiding Principles

By Brian R. Kenyon

No matter what stage we are in life, we still need guidance. This is true physically and, more importantly, it is true spiritually. There are many places in the Bible to which we could turn to find principles of spiritual guidance, but for the purpose of this study, let us examine three guiding principles that Paul outlined in Colossians 3:15-17. Prior to giving these three principles, Paul told the Colossians that they must be spiritually minded (Col. 3:1-4); that they must "put to death" some things (Col. 3:5-7); that they must "take off" some things (Col. 3:8-11); and that they must "put on" some things (Col. 3:12-14). Then, having done that, Paul enumerated three principles by which they were to be guided. These same principles are for us as well.

Let God's Peace Rule

For the first guiding principle, Paul wrote, "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful" (Col. 3:15, NKJ). Notice the word "let." There is no exact corresponding word in the original language, but it is translated as part of the imperative verb. In English, however, "let" shows that we have a choice in the matter. God's peace is available, but whether or not it rules in our heart is up to us! This "peace of God," of course, can only come from Christ (Jn. 14:27; 16:33), who, through His blood, will put us in a right relationship with God (Eph. 2:14-22), when we obey His will and are thus added to His church (Acts 2:38-41, 47). The word translated "Let...rule" is from a Greek word that means to "act as judge or umpire." In the first century world, the duty of an umpire at the games was to direct, arbitrate, and decide the contest. Thus, it is as if Paul is saying, "Let the peace of God decide as umpire in your hearts"! Are we truly at peace with God? Do we allow this peace to govern our lives and stay at peace with God?

Let Christ's Word Dwell

For the second guiding principle, Paul wrote, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Col. 3:16). Again, the word "let" has the same connotation as the previous verse. The word "dwell" means to "abide in," "live in," or "remain." Thus, the word of God is to make its home in our hearts. In order for the word of God to do this, we must know it, understand it, and allow it to mold our thinking and guide our lives! Singing is one way that we allow the word of God to "dwell in" us (cf. Eph. 5:19). "Psalms" primarily refers to the Book of Psalms (Lk. 20:42; 24:44; Acts 1:20; 13:33; 1 Cor. 14:26; Eph. 5:19), which was the hymnal of God's people in the Old Testament as well as in the early church. "Hymns" basically refer to songs of praise and adoration to deity. The noun occurs again only in Ephesians 5:19, but the verb occurs elsewhere, translated "when they had sung a hymn" (Mt. 26:30; Mk. 14:26), "singing hymns" (Acts 16:25), and "I will sing praise" (Heb. 2:12). "Spiritual songs" are songs with spiritual meanings (Eph. 5:19). The "teaching and admonishing one another" indicates an assembly. The point, however, is that we must be guided by God's word, and for it to guide us, we must put it in our heart, and singing is one way we put God's word in our hearts, and it is one way we keep it there! Does the word of God dwell in us? Are we "teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs"?

Do Everything in the Lord's Name

For the third guiding principle, Paul wrote, "And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him" (Col. 3:17). "In the name of" means "by the authority of" (cf. Mt. 4:10; Eph. 5:20). Unfortunately, many religionists today, take it to mean "dedicated to the Lord," as if we can do whatever we want so long as we dedicate it to the Lord. Who are we, though, to determine what God wants? Many think that what they are doing is "in the name of the Lord," when in reality, it is not (Mt. 7:22-23). The only way we can know we are doing everything "in the name of the Lord" is to do His revealed will for us (1 Jn. 2:3-6). Are we guided by obedience to God? If not, why not?

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

Prayer List

Our Members: TaLeah Anderson, Bernetta Green, Jacqueline Dopwell, Sam Bolding, Duane Nelson, Bill Burton, JoAnn Hoback, Margaret Coone & Sharon Washington.

Relatives: Wayne Hendrix, Gary Thrower, Danny Stephens & Lewis Tillis.

Shut In Members: Ann Howard, Virginia Plumlee & Louise Starks.

Others: Vera Jackson, Chris Billingsly (Friend of Sharon Egolf), Mariza Johnson, Marilyn Eick, Frank Wood, Christina Fuessner, Bonnie Hendricks & Kathy Peel.

Upcoming Events

June 1st: - "Fellowship in Service" after our evening worship service.

June 7th: - Ladies Seminar at the Carolina Ave. Church of Christ in Avon Park. The topic will be "Am I my sister's keeper." For more information, a flyer is posted on the bulletin board.

June 21st: - The Men's Breakfast will be held at Orange Street in Auburndale at 8:00 am.

Visitors

Alexa Barrett & Scarlett, Ron Cox, Kristen Barfield, Junior Barnett, Linda Pennington, Mrs. Agnes Daeschlein.

Baptism.

Brandi Gant made the decision to obey the Lord's command, and was baptized into Christ last Sunday, May 18th. We all rejoice with her and pray God's richest blessings on her.

Graduates

If you have a student who will be graduating, please provide us with their name, a photograph, the school they are graduating from, and their plans for their future education.

Hither, Thither & Yon

Kenny & Reba French are still traveling. Ron & Judy Ford will be in North Carolina for about a month. Bob McAnally will be away for a couple weeks.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

	May	
Jeremy Padilla	Table	Charles Paulin
David Anderson	Assist	Frank Hamby
	June	
Stacey Paulin	Table	Bobby Sheumaker
Jimmy Sweeney	Assist	David Williams

Sunday, May 25, 2014
9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Antonio Martin
Prayer..... Jimmy Sweeney

10:30 A.M.

Announcements..... Bobby Sheumaker
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer Kyle Williams
Closing Prayer Kyle Bingle

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader Stacey Paulin
Opening Prayer Frank Hamby
Closing Prayer Jeff Bingle
Greeters The Sweeney Family
Att. Cards..... Quadarius Askew & Paul Sweeney
Open & Close Building..... Jim Turner

Wed. May 28, 2014

Song Leader Casey Paulin
Opening Prayer Tucker Sweeney
Closing Prayer Fred Strickland

Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call Chuck Wyatt so he can get a replacement - 859-5231

June 1, 2014
9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Casey Paulin
Prayer..... Tyler Anderson

10:30 A.M.

Announcements..... Jason Hendrix
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer Charles Paulin
Closing Prayer Kyle Williams

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader Kyle Williams
Opening Prayer Tucker Sweeney
Closing Prayer Jim Turner
Greeters The Anderson Family
Att. Cards..... Paul Sweeney & Ian Enamorado
Open & Close Building..... Tim Croson

Wed. June 4, 2014

Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer Casey Paulin
Closing Prayer David Williams

~ HOW WE ARE GIVING ~

Apr. 27	\$3,926.00
May 04	\$4,733.60
May 11.....	\$4,010.36
May 18	\$4,219.01
Contribution Average	\$4,454.36
2014 Weekly Budget	\$4,256.38

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"Need For Unity"

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