

LENEXA EDIFIER

"and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32)

October 9, 2022

GOSPEL MEETING

October 16-19

With speaker Jordan Shouse

Bible answers to tough questions

Sunday 9:30 AM

Faith and Doubt

Sunday 10:20 AM

How Can I Know the Bible is God's Word's?

Sunday 5 PM

How Can I Know Which Church is Right?

Monday 7 PM

How Can I Find the Balance Between Law and Love?

Tuesday 7 PM

How Can I Know God is Good?

Wednesday 7 PM

How Can I Know There's Hope for Me?

Please accept our sincere invitation to attend this series of lessons and hear the word of God offered as the answer to the problems of life.

What Are You Looking For?

Frank Himmel

Many people are looking for a "new church home". Perhaps they have recently moved to a different community. Perhaps they feel a desire to make religion a part of their lives, either for the first time or a renewal of earlier interest. Having children sometimes prompts parents to seek spiritual training for their family. Often, people are looking for a new church because they are dissatisfied with their old one. Whatever the motive, people are looking for a new church, but what kind of church? What are they looking for? What are you looking for?

- Some are looking for a traditional church, just like the one they left behind or the one they grew up in.
- Some are looking for an innovative church, one completely different from anything they have ever experienced.
- Some are looking for a convenient church, one which is located nearby that will minimize their travel time.
- Some are looking for a friendly church, one that will quickly welcome them make them feel special.
- Some are looking for a large church, where they can get lost in the crowd.

- Some are looking for a small church, where they can get to know everyone well, or in some cases where they can be more prominent and exert more influence.
- Some are looking for an exciting church, one with emotionally stirring assemblies.
- Some are looking for an entertaining church, where the music is like a concert and the preacher is part comedian.
- Some are looking for a tolerant church, where no one will rebuke them if they (or a family member) live a sinful lifestyle.
- Some are looking for a providing church, one with all kinds of programs and services such as day care, schools, recreational outings, exercise classes, etc.
- Some are looking for an elite church, where they will be able to make a name for themselves or make some good business contacts by mixing with the upper class.
- ***Something's missing here isn't it? What we ought to be seeking is a truthful church, one that follows the New Testament pattern, upholds God's revealed truth (1 Tim 3:15) and keeps the emphasis where He put it; on man's spiritual needs. What we are looking for in a church says a lot about us. Honestly, are we trying to please God or ourselves?***

Life: The Great Non-Negotiable

by Steve Patton

One of the most moving and inspirational books I ever read was written by a football coach. It wasn't about football. Coach Gene Stallings, a successful and now retired NFL and college Coach, wrote the book (Another Season) about his son, John Mark Stallings. John Mark had Downs Syndrome. Tests indicated to them before his birth that he might be severely handicapped. The doctors urged them to abort. They chose not to take that course. The book is about how John Mark transformed the lives of his parents and siblings and just about everyone else who got to know him. It is a story of how a family came to view a handicapped child as the greatest blessing they ever received. The book changed my view of and appreciation for handicapped

children. Their lives are of infinite value – to man and God.

The sad thing is there are many in our society that believe all would be better off if children like John Mark were never born. And these days, pre-natal testing allows doctors, insurance companies, and prospective parents to determine which babies in the womb will be so-called “normal and healthy,” and which will be born with handicaps. Which is why more and more of them identified with handicaps, like Downs Syndrome, are being aborted. A society with a warped value system makes judgment calls based on social and economic factors and not on the value of a soul. The result is the use of modern technology to eliminate the “imperfect” – those who will be financial and social burdens.

This isn't a new idea. This practice even has a name – Eugenics. It involves the evaluation of people based on the value to society and deciding who to eliminate for the good of the race. It was an idea even advocated in this country in the last century by such well known people as Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes and early birth control and abortion advocate Margaret Sanger. Its ultimate expression in modern times was carried out in Nazi Germany by Adolf Hitler. Most do not realize that Hitler was eliminating mentally and physically handicapped people long before he started killing Jews. But he was doing it for the good of the Master Race. Onward and upward to a better world!

An American today can choose to eliminate any baby in the womb through abortion. They do not have to give a reason. When a society allows such choice to exist it does not take long for people with a soulless value system to choose only the perfect ones to live. How sad they will never know the joy of a Downs Syndrome child. I believe every Downs Syndrome child I have ever known was among the happiest and most loving people I ever knew. And their parents loved them with all their hearts. Yes, they were a tremendous challenge for the family but they were also a blessing. In God's eyes every person is of infinite value. Each has a soul that comes from God. As Christians we must never forget that. We are “his offspring” and must respect each and every life. Anything less leads to a heartless and cruel society. Value life. Yours may eventually depend on it.

~via University church of Christ; Tampa, Florida.

Are You Jesus?

A few years ago a group of salesmen went to a regional sales convention in Chicago. They had assured their wives that they would be home in plenty of time for Friday night's dinner. In their rush to catch the plane home and with tickets and briefcases, one of these salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table which held a display of apples. Apples flew everywhere. Without stopping or looking back, they all managed to reach the plane in time for their nearly-missed boarding...

ALL BUT ONE!!! He paused, took a deep breath, got in touch with his feelings and experienced a twinge of compassion for the girl whose apple stand was upended.

He told his buddies to go on without him, waved goodbye, told one of them to call his wife when they arrived at their home destination and explain his taking a later flight. Then he returned to the terminal where the apples were all over the terminal floor.

He was glad he did. The 16-year-old girl was totally blind! She was softly crying, tears running down her cheeks in frustration, and at the same time helplessly groping for her spilled produce as the crowd swirled about her; no one stopping and no one to care for her plight.

The salesman knelt on the floor with her, gathered up the apples, put them back on the table and helped organize her display. As he did this, he noticed that many of them had become battered and bruised; these he set aside in another basket.

When he had finished, he pulled out his wallet and said to the girl, "Here, please take this \$50 for the damage we did. Are you okay?" She nodded through her tears. He continued on with, "I hope we didn't spoil your day too badly."

As the salesman started to walk away, the bewildered blind girl called out to him, "Mister...." He paused and turned to look back into those blind eyes. She continued, "Are you Jesus?"

He stopped in mid-stride and he wondered. He gently went back and said, "No, I am nothing like Jesus - He is good, kind, caring, loving, and would never have bumped into your display in the first place.

"The girl gently nodded: "I only asked because I prayed for Jesus to help me gather the apples. He sent you to help me, Thank you for hearing Jesus, Mister."

Then slowly he made his way to catch the later flight with that question burning and bouncing about in his soul: "Are you Jesus?"

Do people mistake you for Jesus?

That's our destiny, is it not? To be so much like Jesus that people cannot tell the difference as we live and interact with a world that is blind to His love, life and grace.

If we claim to know Him, we should live, walk and act as He would. Knowing Him is more than simply quoting scripture and going to church. It's actually living the Word as life unfolds day to day,

You are the apple of His eyes even though you, too, have been bruised by a fall. He stopped what He was doing and picked up you and me on a hill called Calvary and paid in full for our damaged fruit.

Author unknown

JESUS SAID

And he said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second like unto it is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments the whole law hangeth and the prophets."

(Matthew 22:37–40)

The apostle Paul tells us in **Philippians 2:3** to *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;"*. He then tells us in **Verse 5** this is having the same attitude as Jesus Christ.

When we connect the teaching of both Christ and the apostle Paul, we must conclude we are being taught that loving God with all our heart involves loving our neighbor as ourselves. I am hopeful we can see from the articles in this bulletin, there is both difficulty and reward in accomplishing this command.

There are many reasons why mankind does not love the Lord with all his heart and soul. The primary reason is the self sacrifice that is necessary to obey the commands of God. Those commands are designed to change our conduct by changing our hearts. But

change is difficult because I have desires I wish to satisfy in my everyday life and serving God can get in the way of those. Remember this passage? *Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."* **(Matthew 16:24–25)** It demands I sacrifice my personal choices to serve His.

As we can see from the articles above, the same demand is placed upon us if indeed we will love our neighbor as ourselves. If we are to regard others as more important than ourselves, we again will need to make sacrifices to ensure care for their bodies or souls as the need may be.

Jesus died to save their soul just as surely as he did for yours or mine. Let us never forget anyone who needs help. And let us never forget the person without being cleansed by the blood of Christ is more severely handicapped than any physical handicap can be for that handicap will lead them to perdition as a result of the wrath of God **(Romans 2:5-11)**.

Jim Stauffer

• ***"We offer either in home studies in person or by way of Correspondence Courses.***

• ***Call me, Jim Stauffer at 913-620-0563, Evangelist at the Lenexa church of Christ***

• ***We believe in worshiping and serving the Lord as He has instructed in His word.***

When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them and healed their sick.
(Matthew 14:14).

And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, "I feel compassion for the people, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way."" **(Matthew 15:32)**

Psa. 1:1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, Nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers: 2 But his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water, That bringeth forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also doth not wither; And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. 4 The wicked are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous; But the way of the wicked shall perish.

HOURS OF WORSHIP

Sunday A.M. 9:30 Bible Study
Sunday A.M. 10:20 Assembled Worship
Sunday P.M. 5:00 Assembled Worship
Wednesday P.M. 7:00 Bible Study and Worship

Visitors welcome

We conduct in home Bible Studies

We offer Correspondence Courses

OUR ADDRESS IS:

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Check out the following websites:

facebook.com/LenexaChurchofChrist

lenexachurchofchrist.org

Evangelist and Editor: Jim Stauffer

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Ron Peck
Jim Stauffer

Deacons:

Bill Miller
Troy Armstrong

NEWS AND NOTES:
PLEASE REMEMBER: ALMA BAUMGARTNER, DENESE GORING, BROOKLYN BOYER, TRACY RICHARDSON, PAT GAINES, MATT BASSFORD, DAVID, JOANNE BECKLEY, MARK WALKER, STEVE WIMP, ERNESTINE BYERS, NICK COOPER, RUTH ANN SIMCOSKY, KEN KLING, AND PAT MCLLOUD. JAN PATRICK IS IN SHAWNEE PARC

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS:
1,2,3 JOHN - BILL MILLER
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS:
EXODUS TO SINAI - JIM STAUFFER
SUNDAY SERMON: **THE GOOD MAN AND ETERNITY**

GOSPEL MEETINGS THIS WEEK IN THE AREA:
NASHUA CHURCH OF CHRIST

What Must I Do To Be Saved?
Hear the gospel - Romans 10:17
Believe in Jesus Christ - Hebrews 11:6
Repent of sins - Acts 17:30
Confess Christ as Lord - Romans 10:9,10
Be Baptized for remission of sins - Acts 2:38
Be Faithful unto death - Revelation 2:10