

Those To Serve

Sunday, January 26, 2025

A.M. Prayers

Opening: Gary Bridgman

Closing: Ray England

P.M. Prayers

Opening: Jim Bangs

Closing: Dwayne Millikin

Singing: Randy Harris

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

Singing: Bill Cline

Devotional: Gary Bridgman

Plan of Salvation

Hear

Mark 12:29; Romans 10:17; Acts 2:22

Believe

Hebrews 11:6

Repent

Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38

Confession

Matthew 10:32, 33

Baptism

Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21

The Record:

Attendance:

Sunday, January 19, 2025

AM 42 PM 29

[Average for the Year]

AM [43] PM [27]

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

33 *[Average for the Year]* [31]

Contribution:

Sunday, January 19, 2025

Actual \$ 2,167.00; Budget \$ 2,500.00

[Year-to-Date] \$ 6,591.00

[Average] \$ 2,197.00

[+/- Budget] \$ (333.00)

[YTD +/- Budget] \$ (909.00)

Elders

Randy Harris

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Johnny Knabe

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January 26, 2025

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Thoughts from Bill:

God's Commandment of Love

1 John 2:7-17

The term *love* is used many different ways. For example, we may say we love ice cream, or we love this weather; we may say we love a particular piece of clothing or a pair of shoes. You see *love* sometimes is lowered to a form of liking something. The *love* in our text is *agape* love, which is a decision to love despite the cost, circumstances, or the actions of the recipient of that love. In this lesson we want to focus on God's commandment of love found in our text.

We first want to consider the *commandment of love* found in 1 John 2:7-11. Verse 7 presents the law concerning love. It is not a new commandment but appears in Leviticus 19:18 and Matthew 22:39. This love deals with those whom we come in contact with. In verse 8, John gives a new

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Sermons for January 26, 2025

**A.M.—God's Commandment
of Love**

**P.M.—Hope: The Substance of
Things Hoped For**

Scripture: 1 John 2:7-17

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 AM

Sunday AM Worship: 10:00

Sunday PM Worship: 5:00

Wed. Bible Study: 6:00 PM

Website: www.southsidechurchofchrist.info

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commandment which could be a retelling of Christ's commands in John 14:15, 15:12. Verse 8 also speaks of darkness and light. The darkness represents sin, and as John alluded to in chapter one verses 5 and 6, God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we are in darkness [sin], we cannot have fellowship with God. Christians are to walk in the light (1 Jn. 1:7). Verses 9 through 11 talk about the love we are to have. Verse 9 points out that one cannot hate his brother and live in the light at the same time (see 1 Jn. 4:20). John in verse 10 points out that love of our brother is proof that we are not in darkness. Verse 11 says the person who does not love his brother is blind to the truth and does not know where he is going because darkness has blinded his eyes.

John in verses 12 through 14 focuses on *control of love*. He speaks about relationships and how love is to control those relationships. John in verse 12 writes to little children whose sins are forgiven. The phrase *little children* is a term of affection that John uses 18 times in this book in the NKJV. "Little children" could refer to Christians regardless of age who according to verse 14 have known the Father. Love needs to control us if we have our sins forgiven through Christ. In the first part of verse 13, John addresses "fathers." This term could be used for literal fathers or for those who are older in the faith who have known Christ literally from the beginning. Lastly, James addresses his remarks to "young men." These "young men" have been exposed to sin and have overcome the evil one (Psa. 119:9-11).

Finally, John speaks of a *condition of love* in verses 15 through 17. John places the condition of not loving the things of the world. The "world" is anything that separates man from God (Matt. 6:24; Rom. 12:2; James 1:27). If the love of the world is in us, then the love of the Father is not in us. In verse 16, John speaks of the love of the character of the world. Listen to the New Living Translation of this verse: "For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our

achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father but are from this world." Finally in verse 17, John gives the condition of change. The world and all of its loss passes away, but if we do God's will we will live forever.

Are you obeying God's commandment of love?

News and Notes

Those We Need to Remember in Prayer: **Patty Ball** has the flu. **Leota Allen and Sherry Rounds** have been sick for a couple of weeks. **Dwayne Millikin**'s cardioversion went well. **Glenda Mitchell** has cancer particles in her stomach. She is in pain. She will see a surgeon in Little Rock the first week of February and will see her oncologist that week, as well. **Victoria Covington** is doing better. **Chyler Frazier** is a young man in the ICU at Arkansas Children's Hospital. He is not doing well. Dwayne Millikin's friend **Bill Hall** had surgery on Tuesday for colon cancer.

Others We Need to Remember in Prayer: Bonita Bangs, Bill Coles, Donna Doyle (Marie Phillips' friend), Nancy Duncan, Joann Foushee (Chris Ball's mother), Gary Goodman, Ed Hager, Melvin Hudson, Jean Hurte (brain tumors), Bryan Keller (Parkinson's disease), Pat McGough, Nadine McNulty (hospice care), Eunice Mize, Noah Rogers, Jay Slayden (cancer), Pat Smith, and Steve Smith

Sympathy Extended: Marlo Brown, Frances Foster's niece, passed away on Wednesday. Marlo was the daughter of Frances' sister Sylvia Casada. The services will be Wednesday in Searcy.

Elders and Deacons Meeting: There will be an elders and deacons meeting next Sunday at 3:30 p.m. If you need to discuss anything with them, please let them know.

Food Truck: The Children's Home food truck will come tomorrow. If you have any items for the Children's Home, please have them here by this evening. We will need men to help carry the items to the foyer this evening.

Children's Home Shopping List: Toothpaste