

Those To Serve

Sunday, February 9, 2025

A.M. Prayers

Opening: Jim Bangs

Closing: Dwayne Millikin

P.M. Prayers

Opening: Bobby Smithee

Closing: Ray England

Singing: Randy Harris

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Singing: Bobby Smithee

Devotional: Bill Cline

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, February 2, 2025

AM 52 PM 37

[Average for the Year]

AM [46] PM [30]

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

36 *[Average for the Year]* [32]

Contribution:

Sunday, February 2, 2025

Actual \$ 2,627.00; Budget \$ 2,500.00

[Year-to-Date] \$ 11,266.00

[Average] \$ 2,253.20

[+/- Budget] \$ 127.00

[YTD +/- Budget] \$ (1,234.00)

Sermons for February 9, 2025

A.M.—The Importance of Love

P.M.—Hope the Substance of Things Hoped For (2)

Scripture: 1 John 3:11-24

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

Elders

Randy Harris

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Johnny Knabe

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February 9, 2025

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Thoughts from Bill:

The Importance of Love

1 John 3:11-24

Love could be called the “acid test” of Christianity. Love offers undeniable proof that one is a Christian. Love is important as pointed out by a writer named C.M. Pentz who said: Love changes man’s: (1) heart, (2) home, (3) habits. Love causes man to have: (1) Christian actions, (2) Christian ambitions, (3) Christian attitudes, (4) Christian affections.

John in verses 11-18 of our text speaks of the *principles of love*. He first offers the command of love when he says in verse 11 that the *message from the beginning was to love one another*. However, he focuses his attention on Cain’s murder of Abel in verse 12. Cain is said to have been of the “wicked one” and to have killed Abel because Abel’s works were righteous, and Cain’s were evil. John offers another

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principle when he reminds Christians again *that the world will hate* them and that this is proof they have passed from death to life (vs. 13-14). Verse 15 says: "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him." Another principle of love is found in verse 16 when John writes that *Christ died for us, and we ought to be willing to lay down our lives for our brethren*. The last principle in this passage is found in verses 17 and 18 where John speaks of the principle of *love in action*. Verse 17 offers a scenario where someone in need comes, and we tell them we love them but do not take care of their needs because our heart is closed to them. In verse 18, John gives this command: "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth."

John, in verses 19-22, draws our minds to the *power of love*. He speaks of the *proof of love* in verse 19 as he says that helping others is evidence that we are of the truth. The *power of love* is expressed in verse 20 when John says: "For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things." Are there times in your life that you have struggled with whether or not to help someone and didn't? Perhaps this is what John is alluding to in this verse as he reminds us that God doesn't look at one instance in our lives but at our whole life in general. Our heart may condemn us for the one instance mentioned, but God knows about all the other times we may have helped one another because He is greater. The power of love is also seen in the *peace offered* because we know we have done what we could and can have confidence before God. Lastly, the power of love is seen in the *promise* offered in verse 22: "And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight." While we may not understand how this completely works, we have a goal to do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

Lastly, we turn our attention to *the practice of love* (v. 23-24).

Verse 23 gives us a *command* to believe on the name of Jesus and to love one another as He gave us a commandment. Again this is *agape* love or a decision-based love. Secondly, the practice of love is also seen in verse 24 where the *evidence of love is seen*. John writes: "Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us."

Again, love is one of the most important aspects of and gives meaning to what being a Christian is all about.

News and Notes

Those We Need to Remember in Prayer: **Glenda Mitchell** will have a CT scan done on Tuesday. Her doctors will consult with each other to see what treatment needs to be done.

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

Visitation Meeting: There will be a visitation meeting today after the evening service.

Nursing Home Service: The service at Mountain Meadows will be next Sunday at 4:00 p.m., as long as the sickness level is not too high. We will know more closer to time.

Children's Home Shopping List: Cookies

Directory Photos: We will be taking new directory photos the weekends of February 15-16 and February 22-23. Most time slots are on the Saturdays of those weekends. There are only a few slots on those Sundays. There are sign-up sheets in the foyer. Please write your/your family's name on a sign-up sheet by a time that works for you. The date for which you are signing up to have your picture taken will be at the top of the sign-up sheet. If you have any questions, please see LaKrista Knabe or Hannah Cupp.