

Inside this Issue

Be Thou An Example Of The Believers	
Ben Vick, Jr.	1
Christian's Use of Leisure Time	
Rod Rutherford.....	1
Quite An Accident	
Terry Hightower.....	2
Child's Play - Children's Activity Page.....	3
Christian Toolbox.....	4
BIQ - Test Your Bible	
Intelligence Quotient.....	4

**What Must I Do
To Be Saved?****Hear God's Word**

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"
(Romans 10:17)

**Believe That Jesus
is the Christ**

"I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins"
(John 8:24)

Repent of your Sins

"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent"
(Acts 17:30)

Confess Christ Before Men

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation"
(Romans 10:10)

**Be Baptized For the
Remission of your Sins**

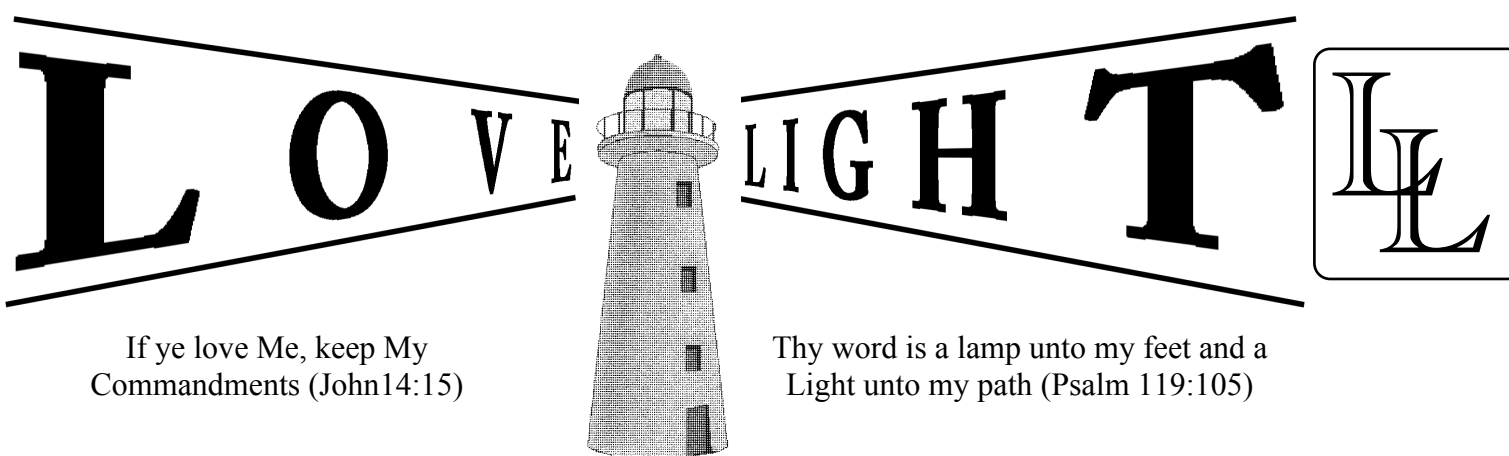
"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (I Peter 3:21)

Opportunities for Growth

Sunday A.M. Bible Study 9:00
Sunday A.M. Worship 10:00
Sunday P.M. Worship 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30

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If ye love Me, keep My
Commandments (John 14:15)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a
Light unto my path (Psalm 119:105)

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Number Three

**Be Thou An
Example of
the Believers**

By Ben Vick, Jr.

An unusual, but wonderful, relationship existed between the young preacher Timothy and the apostle Paul. He wrote to the Philippian brethren, "But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state. For I have no man like-minded, who will naturally care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's. But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel" (Phil. 2:19-22.). It is very unusual for a young man and an old man to be like minded and to be the dearest of friends. Yet, their common faith in Christ led to their uncommon friendship. People of different backgrounds and different ages can be of

one mind in Christ. It was so with Paul and Timothy.

The apostle Paul wrote to the young preacher Timothy, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (I Tim. 4:12). He penned these inspired words out of love for Timothy and the cause of Christ. He had no ulterior or impure motives for instructing Timothy along these lines.

Let no man despise thy youth. There was the tendency then, as there may be now, for some to think little of one because he was young. The aged were respected; the young, despised. It is almost the reverse in American society today. Whether young or old one should not give reason for others to despise him. Elders are to be blameless which means above reproach (I Tim. 3:2). Preachers are to be above reproach (I Tim. 6:14). Zacharias and Elisabeth were righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and

ordinances of the Lord blameless (Luke 1:6). Every Christian should so conduct himself or herself as to be above reproach (II Peter 3:14).

J. W. McGarvey said on this verse,

There is a great demand among churches for young preachers with many, because it requires less money to support them. But very often the young preacher finds that he is despised on account of his youth. It shows itself chiefly when the young man proposes some changes or improvements in the church which the older men and women have not been accustomed to, and they turn upon him and say, "Why you are a young man just out of college, and do you presume to teach us?" Or the young preacher finds it necessary in discharging his duty toward God to rebuke some of the abuses that ought to have been rebuked before; then they despise his youth. The young people, when he urges upon

Continued on page Two

**The Christian's
Use Of Leisure
Time**

by Rod Rutherford

We who belong to Christ are stewards (I Cor 4:1-2). A steward is one who has been entrusted with the possessions of another and is responsible to give an account of his stewardship. We are stewards of our bodies, time, talents, material goods, etc. Of all the blessings entrusted to us by the Lord, time is perhaps the most precious one of all for without it, the others are meaningless. Time is the substance out of which life is made.

American Christians today enjoy more leisure time than ever before. With 40

hour work weeks, many public holidays, and ever longer vacations, as well as the possibility of early retirement in many jobs, coupled with longer life spans and better health than in the past, we are blessed with a great deal of leisure time that few people in history have had.

A national craze for leisure time activities exists. Recreation is a multi-billion dollar per year business. Multiplied millions are spent for recreational vehicles, motorcycles, boats, camping gear, sports equipment, cameras, etc. Christians apparently are no different from other Americans. They have the same amount of leisure time and seem to spend it in the same way as their non-Christian neighbors. It is good to have leisure time.

Indeed, it is essential to have some time for rest and recreation if we are to maintain healthy bodies and minds and be able to function productively in society.

Our Creator recognized man's need for regular release from necessary toil. To His people under the law, He gave the seventh day as a day of rest and worship. "Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: Everyone that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work on the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death" (Exodus 31:14,15).

Continued on page Three

"Quite An Accident"

The atheist says, "There is no God. All wonders around us are accidental. No mighty hand made the thousand-billion stars. They made themselves. The earth spins itself to keep the oceans from falling off. Infants teach themselves to cry when they are hungry or hurt. Faith is the crutch for the ignorant, the opium of the masses." Has he examined the evidence? Whose faith is based on fact? Which makes more sense?

□ How does the sugar thermostat in the pancreas know the proper blood sugar level to keep us from falling off into a coma and dying?

□ How does the human heart beat for years without faltering? It rests between beats! It pumps 800 million times in a normal life span, pushing enough blood to fill a string of tank cars that would stretch from New York to Boston.

□ The pattern of a person's fingerprints never changes and no two person's are identical. What was "evolution's" purpose in keeping these?

□ Kidneys filter poison from the blood, and leave those components which are useful. How does the kidney know one from another?

□ A brain weighs less than three pounds but directs all thoughts, feelings, and actions. Each cell "dials" messages to other cells in billions of different combinations. A cubic half inch of brain cells contains a lifetime of memories.

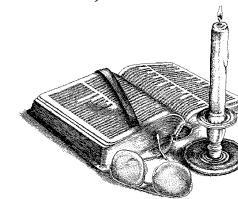
□ Who gave the human tongue flexibility to form words, and a brain to understand them but denied it to the brute animals?

□ Who showed a womb how to keep splitting a tiny ovum until a baby had the proper number of fingers, eyes, and ears in the right places--and then come into the world when it is strong enough to live?

Certainly God exists! We are evidence of it. "For every house is builded by some man, but he that built all things is God" (Hebrews 3:4). Let us join David in exclaiming to God, "I will praise thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works: and that my soul knoweth right well" (Psalm 139:14).

Paul told the Athenians about the "unknown God" (Acts 17:25) in whom "we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28). Our secular society is forgetting that it is God who gives all the blessings we enjoy (James 1:17). May we magnify His name--the true God of heaven and earth.

"Know ye that the Lord is God, it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves" (Psalm 100:3). ☩



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Be Thou An Example...Continued from page One
them the importance of propriety and sobriety, say, "Why you are no older than we are. If it were some older preacher we would listen to him." And thus, in various ways, the young preacher finds himself despised on account of his youth.

(Chapel Talks, p. 77.)

But be thou an example of the believers. The New King James Version says "to the believers." The American Standard of 1901 says "to them that believe." Robertson's word studies says, "to them that believe." Preachers, admit it or not, are in a fishbowl, being observed by all. This verse teaches that they are to be an example to the church, though the lesson applies even if applied to the world. Adam Clarke made a fine comment on this expression:

[Be thou an example of the believers] It is natural for the flock to follow the shepherd; if he goes wrong, they will go wrong also.

"Himself a wanderer from the narrow way, His silly sheep, no wonder if they stray."

Though, according to the just judgment of God, they who die in their sins have their blood on their own head; yet, if they have either gone into sin or continued in it through the watchman's fault, their blood will God require at his hand. How many have endeavoured to excuse their transgressions by alleging, in vindication of their conduct, "Our minister does so, and he is more wise and learned than

we." What an awful account must such have to give to the Head of the church when he appears!

[From Adam Clarke's Commentary, Electronic Database. Copyright (c) 1996 by BibleSoft]

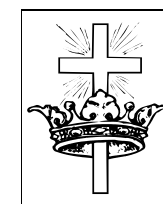
A preacher (or anyone else for that matter) should be careful about his example in six areas: word (speech), conversation (manner of life), charity (love), spirit (attitude), faith and purity. Paul told Titus, "This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men" (Titus 3:8.). The word "careful" means "to exercise thought." In the American Standard the marginal note on "maintain good works" says, "profess honest occupations." Preachers, elders, and all other Christians must do honest or honorable work. When I was growing up, my mother told me that I should not be ashamed to do any honorable work - digging ditches, sweeping floors, etc. I have done some dirty work, as the cleaning of toilet bowls and washing dirty uniforms; but never have I stooped to do dishonorable work. I had Bible class teachers who encouraged me to choose an occupation that would help me to go to heaven (Matt. 6:33).

Christians must not do some jobs. Certain jobs are not honorable or honest. Some may need to take on a second job to provide a little "extra" for the household, but if the only job one can get is dishonorable it would be better to starve! Solomon said, "Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right" (Prov. 16:8.).

Christians should not sell lottery tickets, alcohol, or pornographic material and such like. Those who do so are facilitating, or aiding evil; they become unequally yoked together with unbelievers. One may have to go to a grocery store where such is sold in order to buy groceries, but he is not guilty of wrong unless he participates in the wrong by buying that which is wrong. There is a world of difference between one's buying groceries at a grocery store where alcohol is sold and one's selling the liquor or pornographic material to someone. The former does not facilitate wickedness; the latter does. There are some jobs a Christian cannot do without compromising the truth and hurting his influence.

If someone were to come through the checkout line to buy liquor, lottery tickets or pornographic material, could a "Christian," working as a cashier, ring up his sale and not rebuke him (Eph. 5:11) and try to set up a Bible study with the customer? Isaac, for one morsel of meat, sold his birthright (Heb. 12:16). An individual dims his view of Christ, stunts his spiritual appetite, cuts off his communication to God, brings reproach on the Lord's precious body, and does not set a good example before the believers or unbelievers when he or she goes into partnership with the devil by stooping to do dishonorable work. Think on these things. ☩

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No. 25 April 20, 2003



WORD MATCH

Person

Relationship

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-------|
| 1. John the baptizer | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Ruth | _____ | _____ |
| 3. John | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Peter | _____ | _____ |
| 5. James | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Mary | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Elimelech's | _____ | _____ |
| 8. James | _____ | _____ |
| 9. Naomi | _____ | _____ |

Child's Play Page 3

Match the Person
with their Relative

<u>Person</u>	<u>Relationship</u>
Jesus	Brother
Andrew	Mother
Zebedee	Cousin
James	Husband
Jesus	Brother
Ruth	Father
Naomi	Daughter-In-Law
Boaz	Wife
Jesus	Brother

Leslie Padgett

Leisure Time...Continued from page One

Our Lord Himself during His earthly sojourn found it necessary to have some leisure time for Himself and His disciples. After the apostles had returned from a mission to the people of Israel, He said unto them, "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while" (Mk 6:31). The text goes on to state that "there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat." If our Lord realized that need of rest from His crucial work, we certainly should see our need for rest from our daily tasks. It has been said that if one does not heed the Lord's words to "come ye apart" for rest, he may find himself "coming apart" physically and mentally.

Proper rest and relaxation will guarantee a better quality of work when on the job and a longer, more fruitful working life as well. It will also enhance our service to the Lord.

Since we are stewards of our time and must one day give an account for how we have used it, it behooves us to give serious thought as to how we spend our leisure time. Following are some suggested guidelines.

FIRST, a Christian should never let his leisure time activities interfere with his service to God. Church services should never be missed when traveling or on vacation (Heb. 10:25). One never takes a vacation from being a Christian. Too, one should never become so involved with hobbies and other leisure time activities that he has no time left to work in the kingdom.

SECOND, a Christian will be careful to see that the cost of his recreation does not take up an undue proportion of his finances. One should not become so indebted for recreational equipment that he has no money left to give to the Lord.

THIRD, the recreation a Christian engages in must be examined closely to be sure it is in keeping with the principles of God's Word. Modern dancing, mixed swimming, visiting clubs and bars, etc., would certainly be out of place for Christians (I Cor 15:33; I Thess. 5:22; I Pet 2:11).

FOURTH, one's recreation should involve his whole family as much as possible. Families, in today's crowded, fast pace of living, do not spend enough time together. A vacation shared together can be a time to

strengthen family ties, to enjoy one another's company, and to build a treasury of priceless memories of happy occasions spent with loved ones.

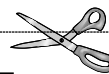
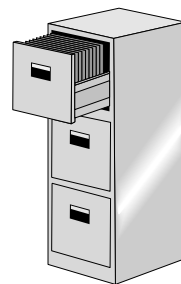
FINALLY, leisure time can be used to work for the Lord. With more leisure time available, there is more time for the study of God's Word, for meditation, and for prayer. There is more time to visit the sick, teach the lost, and encourage various church related activities by one's attendance. One can use some of his vacation time to work for the Lord in door-knocking campaigns at home and in the mission fields. Some faithful Christians have used the leisure time and financial security of their retirement years to serve as full-time elders or preachers for small, struggling churches and as missionaries overseas.

Time is precious! American Christians have been blessed by an abundance of time free from the necessary labors of earning a living. Let us use this time wisely to refresh our bodies and spirits and to bring glory to our Creator.✠

Name: _____
Address: _____

- Will Good People of all Churches be Saved?
- Doing Things Exactly Right
- What is the Church of Christ?
- Creation verses Evolution
- You Can Be a Christian Without Ever Joining A Denomination
- The Population of Hell - (Audio Cassette - Charles Leonard)
- Influence of the Holy Spirit - (Audio Cassette - Tom Bright)
- The church of Christ is Unique because of its Worship - (Audio Cassette - Jeff Archey)
- Other Topic(s) _____

From The Filing Cabinet



I Met The Strangest Man

He said he believes in the Bible as the Word of God, but he never reads it.

He said the church would be more effective in its ministries if more of its members were really dedicated, but he isn't.

He said he feels that church assemblies are times for edification and praise, but he never attends.

He said the younger generation needs stronger spiritual values, but he doesn't show them in his life.

He said he believes that God hears and answers prayers, but he does not pray.

He said he knows the Lord is coming again, but he lives as though the Lord will never come. A Strange Man, INDEED!





What Is An Example?

- ⌘ **A lesson in giving** - *For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you (John 13:15)*
- ⌘ **A model for excellence** - *Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity (1 Tim. 4:12).*
- ⌘ **Admonition for spiritual work** - *Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief (Hebrews 4:11).*
- ⌘ **A warning to the wicked** - *Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire (Jude 1:7).*
- ⌘ **A pathway to eternal life** - *For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps (1 Peter 2:21).*

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SIMPLY FILL OUT THE SHEET BELOW AND MAIL IT TO THE WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

FILL IN THE BLANK(S) WITH THE CORRECT WORD(S):

- ⌘ ...And the Lord added to the _____ daily such as should be saved (Acts 2:47).
- ⌘ For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the _____ : and he is the saviour of the body (Ephes. 5:23).
- ⌘ Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called _____ first in Antioch (Acts 11:25-26).

Do You Just Belong?

*Are you an active member,
 The kind that would be missed?
 Or are you just contented
 That your name is on the list?*

*Do you attend the meetings
 And mingle with the flock?
 Or do you stay away
 To criticize and knock?*

*Do you take an active part
 To help the work along?
 Or are you satisfied
 To only just belong?*

*Think this over, my dear friends:
 I know you won't go wrong.
 Are you an active member,
 Or do you just belong?*

~Borrowed~

Gospel Meeting

September 14 - 17

Public invited

Sunday Morning Class:
Isaiah's Portrait of Christ

Sunday Morning Worship:
The Love of God

Sunday Evening Worship:
The Establishment of the Church

Monday Evening Service:
The Conversion of Saul of Tarsus

Tuesday Evening Service:
The Sermon on the Mount

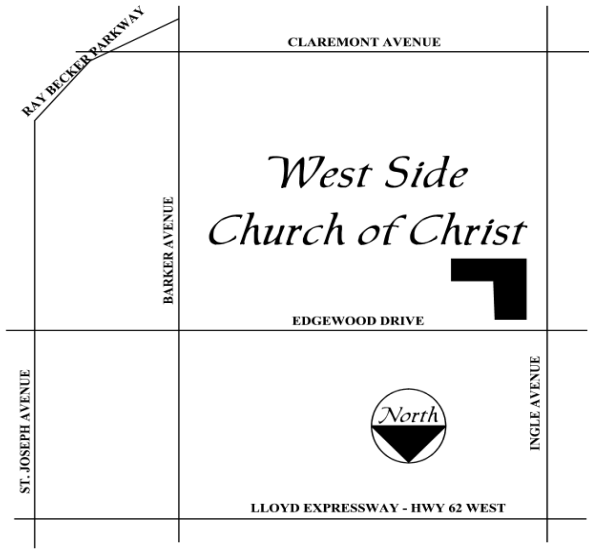
Wednesday Evening Service:
Living Soberly, Righteously, and Godly

Sunday Morning
 at 9:00 and 10:00
 Evenings at 7:00



Ben Vick, Jr.

Let Us Help You Find
 "The Way" (John 14:6)



West Side Church of Christ