

## PRAYERS & ENCOURAGEMENT

Those who are sick or need our prayers — Pat Espy, Linda Reagan, Bud Mixon, Richard Branum, Margaret Blake, Phillip Stevens, Joe Turner

Continue to remember in your prayers those who are unable to attend worship services regularly: *Billie Sue Atkins, Freda Dunn, Romona Stokes, and Marjorie Barringer.*

Please pray for those who have forsaken the Lord that they may be reconciled to God.

## READING THE OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS IN ONE YEAR

*Monday - Jonah; Matt 11*

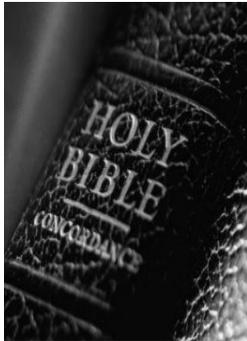
*Tuesday - 2 Kgs 13-14; 2 Chr 25; Ps 53; Matt 12*

*Wednesday - Amos 1-3; Matt 13*

*Thursday - Amos 4-6; Psalm 55; Matt 14*

*Friday - Amos 7-9; Matt 15*

*Week #31  
July 29 – Aug. 3*



**VISITORS** - We would like to get to know you better, and ask that you stay a while after services. We encourage you to visit our website at <http://www.parkhillchurchofchrist.com> where you will find sermons, articles, and daily bible studies to encourage you in your daily walk with God.

**QUESTIONS?** *We Welcome the opportunity to study God's word with you any time.*

*All sermons are recorded on CD & DVD -  
If you would like a copy, please ask one of the men.*

### **ELDERS**

Carl Dolan.....479.414.1972 ~ Ron Roberts .....479.452.0347 ~ Joe Turner....479.459.6023.

### **DEACONS**

Wayne Carson...479.648.1087 ~ Luke Dolan.....479.357.9547 ~ Joe Dugas .....479.629.4046 ~ David Meek.....479.459.0820

### **PREACHER**

Bryan Loughmiller.....479.434.3939

July 22, 2018

# THINK ON THESE THINGS

*Welcome to the Park Hill Church of Christ*

3536 GRINNELL AVENUE FORT SMITH, AR 72908 479.782.2415

*It is our desire to worship God in spirit and in truth, and to glorify Him in all we do.*

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING  
Bible Study.....9:30 am  
Worship.....10:15 am

SUNDAY EVENING  
Worship..... 5:00pm

WEDNESDAY EVENING  
Bible Study.....7:00pm

## *Why A Good Name Means So Much*



*A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,  
Loving favor rather than silver and gold.  
(Proverbs 22:1)*

choice.

PEOPLE WHO HAVE ACQUIRED WISDOM UNDERSTAND THAT IT'S IMPORTANT TO BUILD A GOOD NAME. If we could have riches or a good name, but not both, a good name would be the better

At the very least, having a good name requires honesty, fairness, and complete integrity. And we aren't talking about "image" here. A good name means having these qualities, not pretending to have them. As Edward R. Murrow, the great World War II broadcaster, said, "To be persuasive, we must be believable. To be believable, we must be credible. To be credible, we must be truthful."

But having a good name also requires taking precautions against the appearance of wrongdoing. There is an old Chinese proverb that says, "Avoid suspicion. When you're walking through your neighbor's melon patch, don't tie your shoe." It takes not only a wise person to see the sense in that; it takes a person who cares more about his

name than about his rights.

But speaking of rights, having a good name also means yielding our rights for the sake of things like love and mercy, and even courtesy and neighborliness. The person who insists on “doing his own thing,” regardless of how it impinges on others, is not going to have much credibility, even if he’s doing what is right from a technical standpoint. Paul wrote, “Do not let what is right for you become a matter of reproach” (Romans 14:16 TCNT).

But why does a good name matter so much? The answer is simple. If we are Christians, we bear the name of our Lord. In the eyes of the world, His reputation stands or falls with our own. To quote Paul once more, we are to “adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things” (Titus 2:10). So the issue here is *evangelism*, and the question is whether our reputation is helping or hurting the gospel. “What other people think of me is becoming less and less important; what they think of Jesus because of me is critical” (Cliff Richards). *So Jesus Christ is why a good name matters so much.*

That said, it’s also true that a reputation for integrity is a valuable thing for us to have personally. In fact, it’s worth a good deal more than the trinkets most people spend their time acquiring.

“A good name keeps its brightness even in dark days” (Latin Proverb).

Gary Henry – WordPoints.com

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## *What Good Is God’s Friendship*

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*“Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ” (Philippians 3:8).*

COULD WE POSSIBLY PUT A PRICE TAG ON GOD’S FRIENDSHIP? Even among all the good things that are available to us, is there anything that a wise person wouldn’t give up in order to have God? The privilege of knowing God through Christ so far surpasses the value of everything else that Paul said he would gladly “count all things loss” in order to have this one thing.

God’s friendship is good not because it “pays” us to be His friend, but simply because of God Himself. Whatever blessings may flow from God (and there are many in-

deed), these are only secondary benefits or by-products of our friendship with Him. If such things ever take center stage and become our primary motivation, they cease to be good things and become idols. Nothing must be allowed to take the place of God in our hearts, not even God’s own gifts to us. To have God alone is to have wealth untold, and to be without Him is the very definition of poverty.

But although God’s friendship surpasses the worth of anything else in existence, we not only fail to value it as we should, but there are times when we go so far as to trade it away. Faced with a choice between God’s friendship and that of our worldly peers, we often seek the favor of our peers by doing things that greatly damage our relationship with God. Maybe we suppose that we can have it both ways, or maybe we’re just being thoughtless. But in any case, we’re being quite foolish when we try to maintain equal measures of God’s friendship and the friendship of the world. James put it bluntly: “Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God” (James 4:4).

“Thus says the Lord: ‘Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,’ says the Lord” (Jeremiah 9:23,24).

“We regard falling from God’s friendship as the only thing dreadful and we consider becoming God’s friend the only thing worthy of honor and desire” (Gregory of Nyssa).

Gary Henry – WordPoints.com

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## *Brief Thought*

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Would you say amen to this bible verse? *“Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours.” Lk. 4:7* Sounds pretty great, doesn’t it?

This was posted on social media recently and 97% of the respondents replied with an amen, hallelujah or a resounding YES! The person responsible for the post was testing to see if people were actually paying attention or if they were willing to ignore the context surrounding this verse.

This is just another example of how we can misuse scripture. Why is context important? Because these are the words of Satan as he tempts Jesus in the wilderness.

Read your Bible! Pay attention to the context. Grow in your faith!

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