

THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

March 29, 2011

BEHAVIOR . . . Make It Becoming

Mike King

It is not an uncommon thing for a parent to tell their child to “behave yourself.” This implies that there is an acceptable behavior that has been taught. A “becoming behavior” is that which compliments an individual, increasing value or appearance. One compliments the dress of another by saying, “You look nice in blue, blue is very ‘becoming’ to you!” Our manner of life is to be lived in such a way as “*becometh* (compliments) *the gospel*” (Phil. 1:27).

How we behave as Christians does make a difference. The Bible is not silent on this matter: “*walk worthy of the vocation*” (Eph. 4:1); “*walk not as other Gentiles walk*” (Eph. 4:17-20); “*that ye may be blameless*” (Phil. 2:15); “*Let no man despise your youth*” (I Tim. 4:12); and “*having your conversation honest (beautiful or pleasing)...*” (1 Pet. 2:11-12). When one feels as if he/she can live as desired and it is no one else’s business, they mistake what life in Christ is. We are no longer our own, but have been bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:19-20). Consider the following behaviors:

Good manners – This is not directly revealed by the Lord, but the lack of manners will cause us to have a negative influence. Jesus addressed the lack of manners as being a lack of honor and respect (Lk. 7:44-46). Simon the Pharisee failed in common manners by which he showed his bad attitude of heart. We have limitations, but there is no excuse for not being polite!

Careful and appropriate speech – Pure, suitable and appropriate speech is a must. Paul forbade suggestive, vulgar and gutter speech as not becoming holiness (Eph. 5:3-4). Speech being fruits of the heart indicates the measure of holiness a person possesses.

Good works – There is no thought of earning salvation entertained in the Bible, but loving deeds toward others in the form of “good works” make life easier, smoother, happier with God is ultimately praised. The Holy Spirit instructed that good works should be a way of life for Christians (Eph. 2:10; 1 Pet. 2:12, 15).

Manner of dress – Modesty and appropriateness is “becoming” to the child of God (1 Tim. 2:9-10). Dress is a form of behavior and must be seriously considered. Now that the summer months are upon us, this area behavior demands and deserves more attention than usual. Be mindful of the perception that is left in the minds of others, especially in the mind of the opposite sex to avoid fueling thoughts or passions that would be totally inappropriate if acted upon physically. A Christian is to embrace the pure whether being visualized toward others or leaving a visual impression on others. Advice that I have always given to my three daughters as they were passing through these difficult years was, “Remember who you are and to whom you belong; your behavior can then be determined accordingly.”

A life within limits – Paul told his listeners on Mar’s Hill that God had “*determined the bounds of their habitation.*” The Word of God sets parameters of love, compassion, kindness, forgiveness and gentleness as appropriate (Titus 2:1-2).

Side Tracked By A Caboose

Growing up as a military family, we moved a lot. Something that always was a mystery to me was the kind of houses we lived in. When we were in New Braunfels, TX we lived in the best house on the block. When we moved to California, we lived in the best house on the block. And then in Hawaii we lived on the Windward side of Oahu and, yes, we lived in the best house on the block. When we moved to Georgia, my parents had the best house on the block. One day after I had left home and married I was visiting with my daddy's mother and we got to talking about my daddy and when he was a young man. My daddy grew up in the depression with a single mother. My grandmother worked for the railroad, the Santa Fe, as a telegrapher. Times were tough. The fact that she even had a job spoke volumes of the kind of work ethic she had. The railroad had a little spur right off the rail yard and my grandmother's boss stripped out an old caboose to make a small apartment for her and my daddy. As we talked I came to realize that my daddy was ashamed of living in that caboose even though it was a good, solid, and safe place to live and the cost was minimal. My daddy never thought he could have friends in his home because, unlike his friends, he lived down at the railroad yard in a caboose.

Well, let's fast forward several years. My daddy is now married, in the service, with two kids, and he decides to buy a house. Yep you guessed it, he was going to have a house, that his kids would be proud to bring their friends home. Bingo! Question answered. Case you forgot the question was: Why did we always live in the best house on the block? Answer, because it hurt his feelings so bad when he was a youngster it became unbelievably important to him to have a nice home.

Now I don't know if that has any meaning to you, but to me it certainly speaks to some things that can happen to us when we get our priorities out of whack. Of course it was a noble act my grandmother's boss did for her and my daddy. But a young man doesn't look that far sometimes. The lesson for me is this: I don't need to judge anybody by their clothes, their wealth, their home or their occupation to figure out what they have. What is important is that we serve others and live noble lives while we are doing it. It matters little in the scheme of things what you have in the way of this world's goods. It is the inside look of a man that is important. What is his word worth? Is he faithful to ideals and principles? Does he serve God with a pure heart and clean hands? More than anything else we need to realize that things we do without when we are younger can become unbelievably important to us as we grow older. So we need to be sure we put our hope and dreams in the right course early.

The lesson is to recognize that things will never be enough to satisfy us. There will always be an itch for something new. I am absolutely satisfied that my daddy spent a lot of years regretting that caboose, when in reality he had the best of life: a place where he was loved in a unique situation. How many people do you know that got to live in a caboose? If he were alive, I'd remind him that my grandmother loved only one person more than she loved me and that person was my daddy. For that reason alone that caboose was a blessing because that's where love lived.

Ken Upchurch

Via ~Tanzania 2000 by Kensington Woods Church of Church

YOUTH NEWS

- Our young folks did a great job at the Junior Bible Bowl this past Saturday. *Dillon, Audrey, Madison, Cooper, Olivia, Jenna, Clay, Luke, Jodie and David* didn't miss a question and *Dillon, Audrey, Madison, Olivia, Clay, Jodie and David* said their memory work. We are VERY PROUD of their accomplishments!
- The Senior Bible Bowl will be held here at New Albany, April 3rd.
- West Main Church of Christ will host a Christian Leadership Training Day for 7th-12th grade guys and girls Saturday, April 9th from 9:00-2:00

PRAYER LIST

Willie Jackson, mother of *Bobby Marques*, is not doing well.

Bobby White, will have a stress test on Thursday.

House Family, please pray for *Tom House* and his family in the tragic death of his parents over the weekend.

Tim & Emily Lavender, will travel to Rwanda to adopt a child. *Emily* is the sister of *Andy Brown*, our summer youth intern.



Continual Prayer

Bob Clement, David Harendt, Ed Walker, Joey Black, Brian Camp, Maxine McCarley, Hugh Collins, Shane Crofts, Bill King, Terry Young

Shut-Ins

Lessie Bryant, Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Belle Cross, Pauline Smith, Raymond & Amy Vest

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Corrine Hall, Anna Davis & Mattie Golden

Military List:

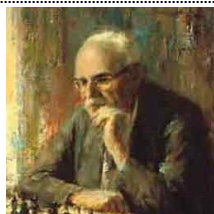
David Wilhite, Barry Wilhite, Jimmie Stutts, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Ham, Raegan Cole

SENIOR BIBLE BOWL

Please keep in mind that we will be hosting the Senior Bible Bowl Sunday, April 3rd. If you can help provide canned drinks and desserts it would be appreciated.

SAGE ADVICE

We don't change God's message...
His message changes us.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 03.....Shelley Adams

April 08.....Rebecca Dewberry

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April 02.....Paul & Maria Ormon

April 07.....Randy & Christy Wall

IT'S A GIRL



Congratulations to *Jason* and *Lea Anne McMillen* in the birth of their daughter *Lea Isabella*. She was born Wednesday, March 23rd and weighed 6lbs 2oz. Welcoming her are big sister *Tara* and proud grandparents *Olen* and *Teresa Clark*.

SPRING GOSPEL MEETING

Our Spring Gospel Meeting has been set for Sun. April 17th-Wed. April 20th. *Jim Chamblee* of Savannah, TN will be the guest speaker. Please mark these dates on your calendar and begin inviting your neighbors and friends.

AREA EVENTS

- There will be a **Ladies Day @ the Ashland Church of Christ** Sat. April 2nd, from 9:00am-12:00pm. Guest speakers will be: *Carol Harris* and *Crystal Byrd*.
- **The Church of Christ @ Hwy 15** in Pontotoc invite you to their Ladies' Day 2011 on Sat. April 9th from 9am-1pm. Guest speaker will be *Teddy Copeland*.
- **Hwy 178 Ladies Day** is set for April 16th beginning at 8:30am. Theme: "Rise Above It All." Keynote speaker : *Lawanda Wallace*

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....	112
Sunday A.M	140
Sunday P.M	120
Wednesday	88
Contribution	\$4,283.25
Budget	\$3,455.70

TO SERVE

Scripture.....	Dillon Clayton
A.M. Prayer.....	Greg Harrison
Closing Prayer...	Richard Jennings
P.M. Prayer.....	Greg Clayton
Closing.....	Shane Crotts
Wed.4/6.....	Harold Crowe
Wed. 4/6.....	Bill DePriest
Usher & Lock.....	Harold Russell
Greeter.....	L & N Weaver



PANTRY ITEM:

Cake Mix

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....	9:30
Morning Worship	10:30
Evening Worship	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

ELDERS

Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson.....	534-3491

DEACONS

Bill Botts.....	316-2422
Greg Clayton.....	252-9762
Roger Clayton.....	534-5240
Andy Clemmer.....	816-5887
Harold Russell.....	534-4648
Randy Wall.....	316-9255

MINISTER

Mike King.....	507-0625
Home.....	534-6872
Office.....	534-4649

MONTH: APRIL 2011

SOUND ROOM	Andy Clemmer	ANNOUNCEMENTS	Randy Wall
LEAD		USHER	Justin Dewberry
<i>SUN AM:</i>	Ray Kennedy		
<i>SUN PM:</i>	Richard Jennings	PREPARE	
<i>WED:</i>	Dalton Beard	COMMUNION	Maria Ormon
LORD'S			
<i>N Head:</i>	Harold Russell	<i>S Head:</i>	Bill Botts
<i>N Help I:</i>	Olen Clark	<i>S Help I:</i>	Mark Jennings
<i>N Help II:</i>	Dan Cobb	<i>S Help II:</i>	Dean Dillard
SUNDAY		SCRIPTURE	
PRAYERS A.M.	Opening	Closing	READING
<i>1ST</i>	Greg Harrison	Richard Jennings	Dillon Clayton
<i>2ND</i>	Richard Adams	Matt Jennings	Ruston Adams
<i>3RD</i>	Dalton Beard	Bill Lyon	Steve Todd
<i>4TH</i>	Roger Clayton	Ronnie Griggs	Phillip Young
<i>5TH</i>			
SUNDAY			USHER &
PRAYERS PM	Opening	Closing	LOCK
<i>1ST</i>	Greg Clayton	Shane Crotts	Harold Russell
<i>2ND</i>	Jerry Gibson	J.L. Eaton	Randy Wall
<i>3RD</i>	Paul Ormon	Bobby Marques	Bill Botts
<i>4TH</i>	Ray Kennedy	Brad Pounders	Greg Clayton
<i>5TH</i>			
WED PRAYERS	Opening	Closing	GREETERS
<i>1ST</i>	Harold Crowe	Bill DePriest	L & N Weaver
<i>2ND</i>	Dan Drummond	Lonnie Weaver	G & K Clayton
<i>3RD</i>	Jason Jennings	Gary Turner	B & A Pounders
<i>4TH</i>	Troy Robertson	Phil Young	T & N Robertson
<i>5TH</i>			

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