

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Jon Barry

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Jack Calvert Mark Davis
Jackie Jamison Pete Rowland

Prayers

Jerry Schnelle Clay Morris

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Jon Barry

Song Leader

Cory Easley

Lord's Supper

Randy Ellis Mike Davis

Prayers

Rodney Ellis Daniel Allgor

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Joey Avance

Song Leader

Rick Boswell

Prayers

Mark Davis Gerald Eaton

Invitation

Bill Brittenham

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Dave Massey

Evangelist

Rick Boswell
(574) 302-1827

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.
Worship6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

WWW.TXKCHURCH.COM

GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Acts 8:35-30

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16;
1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

Think On These Things

Franklin Drive Church of Christ

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Issue 21

Seeing The Potential In Others

Doy Moyer

How do we see ourselves? What do we think we can do or accomplish? How much do we think we can get done? How do we see others? Do we tend to see the potential in people and in what they can accomplish, or do we see only failures in the present and not much else being done?

Now how does God see us? How does He see our abilities? How much does He know that we can accomplish? How should this affect the way that we see our own potential?

These are very different thoughts. In answer to the first, there are two extremes. Some, in their pride, think they can do more than what they really can. They have an overinflated ego and think too highly of themselves. "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind

regard one another as more important than yourselves" (Phil. 2:3).

On the other hand, there are those who think so badly of themselves that they don't believe they can accomplish anything worthwhile. These might wallow in self-deprecation and self-pity, which then leads to further depression. Someone in this state will have a difficult time accomplishing much of anything, and needs help and encouragement to get back up and keep going. This is one reason we need each other as brothers and sisters.

The fact is that both extremes are quite dangerous and will cause a person's spiritual life to fizzle out and die.

How we see ourselves is one

FAMILY TALK

LG Clemmons, Max Thomas and Dennis & Sandy Burnham are all recovering from various ailments and injuries. Please be mindful of them in your thoughts and prayers.

Rodney Ellis had to go to the hospital a couple weeks ago to have fluid drained. He was having difficulty breathing. He is home now and doing better.

Tyna Armstrong's mother, **Sadie Wolf** passed away this past Thursday. She was 93 and a member of the Saratoga Church of Christ. She was laid to rest Saturday. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family.

Pat Freeman has asked for her prayers for her granddaughter **Emily** and her newborn child. There are some medical complications that need our prayers.

Gerald Bogan has been sick recently and continues to recuperate.

Get It In The Bulletin:

If you anyone has news concerning our church family, please contact **Rick** so he can put it in our weekly bulletin.

Heb. 11:16 But now they desire a better, that is, heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

Front Page Article (concl.)

matter, but to ask how God sees us is to ask something entirely different. As in anything else, what we should ideally do is try to see ourselves more as God sees us rather than as other people see us (cf. 1 Cor. 4:3). We know that God does not see as man sees, and He is often more gracious than what people might be whose judgments are merely outward (cf. John 7:24). God doesn't look at the mere appearance of someone, but sees the heart (1 Sam. 16:7).

Still, that may be difficult to register for us who cannot know the hearts of others. We must strive to look at others in the best possible light. Love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things (1 Cor. 13:7). We should always try to give the benefit of the doubt if there really is a question.

Let's consider further the question: how do we view others in terms of their potential? We all know people who never realized their full potential (and that likely includes all of us to one degree or another). When we consider the character and actions of a person, how often are we stuck in what we see right now without considering what that person might be able to become?

Perhaps this was one reason why the adage is so often true: "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and among his own relatives and in his

own household" (Mark 6:4).

Parents are typically optimistic enough about their own children to think in terms of what their children can one day be or accomplish. This is for good reason. We want to know that our training is going to mean something, and we usually know our children well enough to know that they have the abilities to accomplish more than what they can as little children. Yet even within a family (as with Jesus), we may have a hard time moving past the way we used to think of someone.

Consider Gideon. When the Midianites oppressed Israel, Gideon doesn't first give us the impression of a mighty warrior. Yet, when the angel of the Lord spoke, before Gideon fought a battle, we see what God thought of him: "The Lord is with you, O valiant warrior" (Judges 6:12).

Consider Paul. The apostle Paul (Saul) was an enemy of the cross, a persecutor of Christians. Yet, when Jesus looked at Saul, He saw him for what he could be, not just for what he presently was. Jesus said, "He is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before Gentiles and Kings..." (Acts 9:15). Do we think Saul thought of himself this way at this point?

What is our potential in God's eyes?

Are we looking for perfection, as if

we've already reached our potential? Perfection and potential are not the same. While perfection is a goal (cf. Matt 5:48), we must see our potential in reaching for that goal (Phil. 3:12).

God gives our potential to us, and He also sets the standard of perfection toward which we reach. Potential, therefore, is vital, but it is not good enough to be satisfied with mere potential; otherwise, we will become complacent and comforted in what we lack. When we see our brothers and sisters, do we see great potential? Let's join together in stretching that potential today, for, through Christ, we will one day reach the goal.

Phil. 2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind esteem others better than himself.

Heb. 11:39-40 And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.