

## SUNDAY MORNING

**Announcements**  
Mike Davis

**Song Leader**  
Hayden Ellis

**Lord's Supper**  
Preston Ellis      Bill Rinehart  
Pete Rowland      Jerry Schnelle

**Prayers**  
Mike Davis      Jon Barry

## SUNDAY EVENING

**Announcements**  
Mike Davis

**Song Leader**  
Daniel Allgor

**Lord's Supper**  
Bill Rinehart      Preston Ellis

**Prayers**  
Preston Ellis      Cole Meador

## WEDNESDAY

**Announcements**  
Daniel Allgor

**Song Leader**  
Jack Calvert

**Prayers**  
Preston Ellis      Jerry Schnelle

**Invitation**  
Jon Barry

## ABOUT US

**Elders**  
Jack Calvert      Rodney Ellis

**Deacons**  
Jon Barry      Bill Brittenham  
Mike Davis      Clay Morris

**Evangelist**  
Bryan Garlock

## SERVICE TIMES

**Sunday**  
Bible Study .....9:30 A.M.  
Worship .....10:15 A.M.  
Worship .....6:00 P.M.

**Wednesday**  
Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

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## 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  
2301 Franklin Drive ■ Texarkana, AR 71854 ■ (870) 772-0746



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Issue 45

## Protecting Your Heart From Sin

Hunter Byrd

In the world in which we live, sin is broadcast on every platform imaginable. In the age of ever-growing technology, sin is more accessible than ever before. Since we are exposed to sin so regularly in our daily lives, it is easy to fall into the trap that is hardening our hearts to sin. We do this in various ways. Anywhere from listening to an explicit song, to watching a popular TV show that is filled with sinful messages can lead to your heart being hardened to sin. Once you tolerate even the tiniest amount of sin, your heart quickly becomes calloused and you become unaffected by sin. Here are a few steps you can take to actively protect your heart from sin.

### Know What Tempts You

Every Christian struggles with different temptations. (James 1.14-15) It is important for you to identify what temptations you struggle with the most; that way you can prevent future sin from

happening. (1 Cor. 10.13) The only way to know what sin is, is through God's word. (Heb. 5.14) It is vital for each of us to read and understand the scriptures as they are God's direct revelation to man.

### Remove Yourself From Sinful Situations

A method that can be used to prevent sin is physically removing yourself from a situation where sin or the potential for sin is present. (Gen. 39.6-12; 2 Tim. 2.22) For example, if you are in a conversation with some friends who are using foul language or making inappropriate jokes, simply don't engage in the conversation. (Eph. 4.29; 5.4) Perhaps you attend a family party or work function where you notice alcohol is being consumed. In situations like these, peer pressure is high. A method that can be used is just leave the event. Don't give yourself the opportunity for sin to happen. (Eph. 4.27; Rom. 13.12-14) It

## FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Willie Margaret Mobley, Bob Buls, Bonnie Allgor, Lahron McJunkins, Maxine Burnham, and Francine Davis.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

**W. H. McFerrin** is in St. Michael Rehab, Room 138.

**Gerald Eaton** is awaiting final tests but has been told that he has a form of leukemia. Please pray for Gerald and Elizabeth that his prognosis is good.

**Mark Davis** had surgery on his hand.

**Bryan** is in a Gospel Meeting in Georgia this week. **Bill Brittenham** and **Clay Morris** will be preaching Sunday while **Bryan** is gone.

Remember to check the Bulletin Board in the foyer for **Gospel Meetings** in the area.

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can be difficult as things of this nature are so common, but just being around sin like this cannot only numb us to it (Rom. 1.18; Eph. 4.19), but there is temptation to join them in their sins. (Rom. 1.8-19; 1 Peter 4.2-4) Even if we are not directly participating, we cannot be enablers to sin or approve of sin in anyway. (Rom. 1.32) In the same manner, though, don't be afraid to speak out. (Eph. 5.11) Situations like these are excellent teaching points for those who might be unfamiliar with God's word.

## Be Spiritually Minded

Perhaps one of the easiest and most important ways to protect yourself from sin is to be truly spiritually-minded. (Col. 3.1-17) If your complete focus is on God and His word, then you will already despise sin.

It comes down to this: If we do the Father's will, we will be able to protect our hearts from sin (Psalm 119.11), and be a light to the world around us. (Phil. 2.15)

## Worrying

Joseph Barry

Worrying sets us off on this journey called stupidity. I say it's stupid because when we worry, we don't trust what God said. In Matthew 6:25-34, Jesus tells us to rely on God and let Him deal with your problems, such as dealing with clothes, food, or a place to live. God will provide those things. Just focus on your spiritual life. Now, keep in mind that God still wants us to work for our food and clothes. He doesn't want us to just sit back and expect God to just drop the clothes in our lap. In 2<sup>nd</sup> Thess. 3:10, Paul said that if a man won't work, neither shall he eat. I'll admit, I tend to worry a lot. Like I said before, worrying isn't smart. It's a bad place to be and it shakes your faith – sometimes tremendously. A few ways to overcome worrying is to pray. Pray *every* time you start worrying. It calms you down and lets you think clearly. Another thing to do is to talk to someone about the problem. That, as with praying, will show you how small and insignificant the problem is. Personally, I would talk to a Christian about the problem, but it's up to you. Something else that will help is to just pull away from the problem. Go for a walk and clear your

head. Admire God's creation and remember who's got your back.

## Praise Him, Praise Him

M. Moore

Seek Him Sunday — Spending time in His Word, meditating on it, and tucking it into our hearts is crucial so we have the tools we need to stand firm against Satan. II Kings 12:1-4; Psa. 27:4; Acts 2:42; Prov. 1:1-7; Psa. 34:4

**Magnify Him Monday** — We have so much to praise God for even in the midst of the most challenging storms. Psa. 119:164; Rev. 5:12-13; Psa. 138:1-2; Psa. 86:12; Luke 1:46-55

**Talk About Him Tuesday** — Share the good news of our Father's love and mercy. Acts 5:42; Psa. 9:1; I John 1: 1-3 Jonah 3: 1-3 Luke 4:43

**Worship Him Wednesday** — What a joy it must be to God when we take the time to worship Him. Psa. 98:1; Isa. 12:5-6; Psa. 1:8; Psa. 147:1; Psa. 101:1

**Thank Him Thursday** — Don't forget to thank God for our many blessings, even the smallest of things. Rom. 1:21; Psa. 136; Dan. 6:10; Rom. 1:8; Col. 3:15 -17

**Walk in Faith Friday** — When we walk in faith, God does way more than we can ask or imagine. Gen. 5:24; Luke 17:5-6; Rom. 1:17; John 20:27-31; Eph. 2:8

**Serve Him Saturday** — Have a heart that is open to shining God's light so everyone we meet can see Him. Eph. 2:10; Titus 8:11-14; Deut. 10:12; Luke 16:13; Psa. 62:11-12

## Things to Ponder

Joseph Gironals

Jesus an occasional guest in your home or daily member of your family? *I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.* Galatians 2:20

- What we live for determines what we see in life and gives clear focus to our inner vision. *Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'* Matthew 22:37
- Perfection is more a process of striving than a state to be attained, so one's perfection is in attitudes constantly changing or ever more perfectly reflect the mind of God. ... because it is written, *"Be holy, for I am holy.* I Peter 1:16
- Be content with slow progress. Human beings are like plants. They grow in stages and those stages cannot be accelerated. In due time plants bear their fruit and with human beings it is much the same. In the proper time and at the proper pace we grow into what God intends us to become. We grow, gradually, imperceptibly, under the subtle guidance of God's own spirit. *Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love.* II Peter 1:5-7