

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Clay Morris

Song Leader

Jack Calvert

Lord’s Supper

Bryan Garlock Rodney Ellis

Cole Meador

Prayers

Mark Davis Jon Barry

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements

Jack Calvert

Song Leader

Bryan Garlock

Prayers

Randy Ellis Bill Brittenham

Invitation

Clay Morris

more time studying and working in the kingdom and vineyard of our Master. Then we won’t have time to argue worldly things.

Remember the works of the flesh: *enmities, strife, jealousies, wraths, factions, divisions, parties* and the fruit of the Spirit: *love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control*. Gal. 5:19-25

Bill Brittenham

(And I include myself in this admonition)

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham

Mike Davis Clay Morris

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.

Worship10:15 A.M.

Monday (Zoom)

Bible Study7:00 P.M

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 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 ... Matthew10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

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



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Spiritual Gardening

Derek Anderson

One of the things that I love to do is garden vegetables. Over the years that I have been gardening, I have made just about every mistake you could imagine. I could write a book of what NOT to do. Have I planted without any kind of fertilizer? Yes. Planted a sun loving plant in the shade? Yep. Planted onions in hard clay? Shaking my head, yes. Planted perennial herbs right in the middle of an annual bed? Check. Planted vegetables too close to a tree? Uh huh. Planted during the wrong growing season? Looking down and nodding. And the list goes on.

As you can see, I have had my fair share of gardening misfortunes. Thankfully, I have at least learned that if I want to take a plant and get what I want from it, then I better consider the needs of the plant. The plant is not going to succeed and produce quality fruits or vegetables, if I do not provide it with what it needs.

There is a spiritual application to make here. We are compared to a plant and instructed to bear good fruits.

Romans 7:4 *“Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God.”*

John 15:7-8 *“If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”* Just like a plant has certain needs that must be met to provide fruit, we also have needs that must be met, if we are to show “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control” (**Galatians 5:22-23**).

We need light.

John 8:12 *“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world.*

FAMILY TALK

*Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins/sometimes shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Maxine Burnham, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan, Pete & Beth Rowland,** and **Francine Davis.***

Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

We need water.

John 3:5 *"Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."*

We need nutrients.

1 Peter 2:2 *"Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation."*

2 Timothy 3:16-17 *"All scripture is breathed out by God, and is profitable or teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."*

Before a plant gets to maturity, it must survive windy days, cold snaps, pounding rain, and times of drought and heat. For us, we will face times of discouragement, sin, disease, loss, and persecution. But God promises to be with us and help us grow stronger during these times.

James 1:2-4 *"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds. For you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."*

During the growth process, there are a lot of important lessons for us to learn. We learn to value the importance of tending to our garden, so the cares and weeds of this world do not take over. We humbly rely on God and his care and provision to protect us from the elements of life. We learn patience, as growth is often a slow process and does not happen as quickly as we would like. We learn trust as we look to God to establish us and to use us for His purpose. We learn to experience setbacks, but we know that we are not defined by them. We learn to give God the glory, because positive change is never the result of our efforts alone. We learn how sweet it is to bear the fruits of the spirit! May each of us be encouraged to seek growth that comes from the Lord so we may bear much fruit!

Lettuce do good, squash the bad, and turnip to where we need to be.

Psalms 1:1-3 *"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."*

YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLOGIZE FOR....

Doing your best
Being true to the Lord
Telling the truth
Acknowledging your sins
Living a pure life
Thinking before speaking
Thinking before acting
Being honest in business
Forgiving your enemies
Being courteous and kind

Hearing before judging
Harboring only pure thoughts
Helping a fallen brother
Sympathizing with the afflicted

Do You Know Which Way Is Up?

Joe Slater

"That poor fellow doesn't know which way is up!" By that we mean he's confused, misinformed, or maybe not the brightest bulb in the chandelier.

When it comes to spiritual matters, seek above all else to know which way is up! And once you know, follow that way.

You must select between two ways. Hear the word of the Lord: "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it" (Matthew 7:13-14).

A vast majority travel the broad way leading down to destruction. Why? Because it's easy! I grew up with dirt roads, many of them narrow. Moving farm implements from one field to another presented serious problems. I didn't like narrow roads then, and like them even less now. Give me a wide, paved highway any day!

Most feel the same about how they live. No restrictions, plenty of company – sounds great, doesn't it? (Until you consider the destination, that is!)

What about the way that leads upward to life in Heaven? Not only is it difficult, but even the entrance (gate) is narrow. If you pass through that gate, it will be on purpose. You won't travel the difficult way by coincidence. You must be content to be in

the minority, for those on the difficult way are not many, but few. But oh, the destination: Life!

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). If you know Jesus, you know which way is up. Follow Jesus!

What To Do If You Disagree

I recently read an article of the same title from another congregation where the author was talking about disagreeing with something preached or taught in a class. His suggestions were:

- Make sure you properly understood.
- Give the benefit of the doubt.
- Go to the teacher directly and calmly discuss the difference.
- Search the scriptures for the correct answer.

But when I first read the title, I thought of non-scriptural disagreements between brethren. It seems in our society that whenever anyone affirms anything, someone is going to disagree. We have become a most disagreeable people.

Even brethren have been caught up in a multitude of worldly disagreements which lead to mistrust, gossip, slander and even hatred. As James says in **Jas 3:10**: "out of the same mouth cometh forth blessing and cursing. My brethren, **these things ought not so to be.**" If Jesus rebuked the apostles for arguing about earthly things, I can't even imagine what He would say to us. (Mark 9:33-34)

If we cannot disagree with our brethren about earthly things in a peaceful loving manner, we best keep our mouths shut. Better yet, let us spend