

IDOL WORSHIP

When we speak of idolatry or read the word in the Bible, many people think, “Oh that’s not possible these days, we don’t worship images.”

However, sometimes we are tempted to actually worship good things instead of evil. You remember in the desert, the nation of Israel complained about everything from the manna, to lack of water and God sent serpents that bit many and caused death. God instructed Moses to hold up the bronze serpent on a pole, and all those who looked would be healed. Jesus would compare that incident to him being lifted up on the cross for our salvation. You know what happened to that bronze serpent? The Israelites would make an idol of it and gave in a name.

In II Kings we are told King Hezekiah removed places of idol worship and broke into pieces the bronze serpent. They had burned incense to it, hundreds of years after the incident in the desert! They turned an item of deliverance into a thing of evil.

This can happen to us today when we take the good in our life and basically make it an item of worship. We can make idols in subtle ways. Our children, our hobbies, our house, car, sports, ...all these things can become idols when we let them grip our hearts so hard, they take our mind off what matters- our relationship with God. There is nothing wrong with these things and material items we possess, but they become idols when they possess us.

The Lord said, “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and these things will be added unto you.” Jesus is to take top priority with us. The Bible says where your treasure is, your heart will be also. It means where you spend your time and money, that is where your true thoughts and interests will be in life.

Do we harbor a personal shrine in our life that is consuming most of our energy and investment? Can we truly say we have crushed all the idols in our life? Is Jesus Christ and His work number one in your heart? In the heart of your family?



The Greeter

FALL
2019



RESTORATION...

Most Christians agree on the fundamentals of our Faith. We believe there is such a thing as Absolute Truth, God is real, the Bible is the inspired Word of God, Jesus is God’s son. Jesus Christ is our Savior and He is coming again.

Those churches that are attempting to follow the pattern of the New Testament and restore the principles of the early church strive to identify values based on the bedrock of the fundamentals.

A Christian church believes that individuals can affirm differing opinions on non-essential matters, but maintain unity of doctrine, especially those having to do with personal salvation. Humans have free will and Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. The book of Acts and early church history shows that those who heard the gospel facts of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus to redeem them from sin, made the confession of faith in Jesus, repented of their sins and were baptized into Christ. This must be our response today also to receive forgiveness, the gift of the Holy Spirit and be a part of the body of Christ.

The Bible teaches that Christians are the people of God and a kingdom of priests and can ask for forgiveness through prayer on their own. Scripture shows us that the local congregation is the only visible manifestation of the Church. Churches were instructed to select elders who would shepherd the flock and deacons to serve. These qualifications are written by the apostle Paul and these leaders had authority only at the local congregation level.

We must believe that the primary task of the church is world evangelism. Jesus called us to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature, make disciples of every nation. The church must not forget their field is the entire world. We are saved to do the work of Christ in this world through loving service to all.

Division in Christianity is an evil that hinders the Gospel and fails the prayer and wish of Jesus that the followers all be One. Whatever unites people to Christ unites us to each other.

A Restoration motto has been ---In essentials, unity, in non-essentials liberty and in all things, love. We must work to restore the doctrine, practices and power of those early followers of Jesus Christ, before denominationalism entered the picture. May we commit ourselves to reflect the early values of New Testament Christianity and as Christians only move forward to reach the world UNITED for the cause of Christ and His kingdom.

SUGAR GROVE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
3841 Stepstone Road
Owingsville, KY 40360

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Worship and Communion..... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Family Night.....6:00 p.m.

SUGAR GROVE

"Centered in Christ Focused on the World" Restoring New Testament Christianity
Its Principles, Practice, and Power
Francis M. Nash, Minister 212 Huff St., Grayson, KY 41143,
606-474-6895, 606-922-2812
wfmex@hotmail.com

Web: sugargrovechristianchurch.org - For sermons and information
For pictures & updates, join us on Facebook - Sign Up for One Call Now

New Humanity...

When we have been transformed by the power of God, we need to see life differently. Scholars have offered some guidelines. Our view of life must change.

Choose your words carefully to be helpful and encouraging;* *Be proactive in your responsibilities toward your relationships; *Refuse to focus on surface matters, prefer to deal with root causes;** *MAKE INTEGRITY THE KEY WORDS OF INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS; **Refuse the temptation to always want to get even;* **Relinquish your will to God in prayer, so that He can help you stop worrying;* *Measure success by the behind-the-scenes giving away of your life to God's glory, not by the accumulations of either human praise or material things; ***Release the past and allow God to set you free through prayer, praise, peace and poise;** *DEVELOP A CONFESSIONAL SPIRIT AS THE WAY OUT OF THE DARK CORRIDORS OF BLAME; **Focus upon allowing God to change you, rather than wasting emotional energy looking at others;* **Treat others with the same unselfish consideration you would appreciate.*

ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK....

Acts 20:7 says "on the first day of the week, when they came together to Break Bread, Paul preached unto them."

What should be the Central Focus of our Worship service as Christians? According to early church history, it was the Lord's supper as they met each week. The Christians of Acts chapter 2 were said to have continued steadfastly in Apostles teaching, Fellowship, Breaking of Bread and Prayer.

What has happened throughout much of the Protestant world is relegating the Communion service to a "whenever we announce it" rather than the important reason for coming together on the first day of the week. There is no logical reason for serving the Lord's supper, once a month or every quarter when the precedent was set early in Christianity regarding the sacredness of this invitation to the table.

The remembrance of what Christ did for us is represented in the loaf and cup, as he explained to apostles about the New Covenant in that upper room. While the Bible barely mentions singing and then only as an encouragement to others, not necessarily in a worship service, today's services tend to make the music the center of the Sunday service. There is a beauty in worshipping God with music as they did in the Old Testament but in the Christian world, Christ must be the center.

This is why church attendance is important, not because we will miss a concert and a sermon, but because we have a divine appointment around the table with our Lord and Savior. The early Christians saw the importance of gathering together and we should make it a priority above other activities. We must stand fast on the two ordinances of the Church- baptism and the Lord's supper.

OCTOBER is our traditional Mission Emphasis Month. We will set our goals for 2020. Our theme is Following Jesus... which means we are Fishers of men and fellow workers...Matt 4:19, I Peter 2:21, Luke 9:23 We take up his Cross, His purpose of taking the saving Gospel to the world.

We were fortunate to have the Jaime Castro family with us and report on the work of Mexico Christian University in Queretaro. In addition, we heard from other mission work we support -Myron Williams and TCM Europe Intl, and Marc and Tina Gebhard with Pioneer Bible Translators in Guinea, Africa.

SUGAR GROVE NEWSLINES...

GOLF- Our Annual Dicky Stull Memorial Scramble raised \$3000 dollars for the fund and this year the committee handed out \$2,000 in scholarships to Bath and Montgomery athletes attending college.



Grandparents Day saw our annual breakfast go well, and at the service, the Junior Worship youth gave all the grandparents a special tribute.

Jesus the Light of the World was our theme this year at Vacation Bible School with a Lighthouse the centerpiece. The week ended with a Big Bang... Super concert with our band and tremendous Fireworks display, thanks to Alton and Stacy Stull.



FALL FESTIVAL..TRUNK OR TREAT AND CHILI SUPPER. AN ANNUAL NIGHT OF GREAT FELLOWSHIP ,
OCTOBER 27, 5 PM.



Sympathy Expressed

As Sugar Grove lost a dear saint and worker, Dora Payne.