THE GREETER
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ACTION-ACTION

In the 7th chapter of Matthew, Jesus spoke these words... "not every one that says Lord Lord shall enter the kingdom of heaven but he that DOES the will of my father who is in heaven."

The Word of God teaches nothing more clearly that God has done His part by His grace sending His Son for our redemption. However we must respond to that with the conditions, he says.... Act.Do.Obey. Many modern preachers disparage the idea of man actually doing something of his free will. This they claim takes away from God's omnipotence and His grace and insist that man cannot and must not "do anything" on his own to be saved. The very principle Jesus emphasized to enter the kingdom, they belittle. Only Believe is the true doctrine, many teach. Many agree and accept it. But it is contradictory, because then the same people tell others they must Pray, or Repeat a prayer. Is that not Doing something?

But Jesus is telling us as do Peter, Paul and all the other writers of inspired Scripture that repentance and obedience are a part of our faith. We can't just assent to Jesus as Lord, but we must do as He says---the will of His father. We must change our life.

To ignore Jesus in this one aspect is to ignore Him completely and accept only what suits us as convenient. Jesus' parable of the wise man who built upon the rock is a good example of the wisdom we need to heed the words of Jesus and act upon them.

The difference is hearing and believing and those who hear, believe and then act. There are many nouns associated with the Gospel- redemption, salvation, eternal life, master, Spirit, heaven. But remember there are also verbs including- changing, doing, going, teaching, baptizing, serving, bearing fruit, encouraging.

Of course, our actions are not the means of our salvation, but they are simply the result of heeding what the Bible tells us that we show our faith in receiving God's grace--- we show it by good works. The Scripture tell us- Let us love not just in words, but in deeds and truth. Seek always to love God and our neighbor as ourselves.

THE HEART of CHRISTIAN WITNESS IS LOVE.... WAYS YOU CAN LOVE

Listen without interrupting (Prov 18) Speak without accusing (James 1:19)
Give without sparing (Prov 21:26) Pray without ceasing (Col 1:9)
Answer without arguing (Prov 17:1) Enjoy without complaint (Phil 2:14)
Trust without wavering (I Cor 13:7) Forgive without punishing (Col 3:13)
Promise without forgetting (Prov 13:12) Encourage without halting (I Thess 5:1)

Bitterness imprisons life, Love releases it. Bitterness paralyzes life, Love empowers it. Bitterness sickens it, Love heals it. Bitterness blinds life, Love anoints its eyes.

AT THE GROVE....We continue our 11 am services at the church and live on Facebook..Keep up also with news and pictures on SGCC Facebook

October i s our traditional Mission Emphasis Month. Dr. Terry Allcorn , president of Kentucky Christian University, will be our guest speaker Oct 4th. Our theme is "Proclaiming and Training." This is what Jesus called us to do-preach and teach others who in turn will make other disciples. We anticipate being able to keep our budget the same for 2021 even though we have been through almost a year with half in attendance and the rest unable to attend. We appreciate those who have kept up their giving. We recently gave $1,000 extra to Int'l Disaster and Emergency Services for Hurricane Laura relief. Our Workers for Mexico work continues to grow and special gifts enabled us to send food and other relief to those suffering there during the pandemic. We certainly look forward to when we can all be together and continue Sunday School , Activities and working together to build Christ's church. Stay Strong!

The Bible speaks a lot about being "godly" as Christians. We know we can never achieve a perfect godly character. Paul writes in I Tim. 4:7 to "train yourself to be godly." Some ways to work toward this goal are as follows:: Believe in something bigger than ourselves taking our focus off our self and more on God's purposes. Strive to bring out the best in others. We must treat others the way we want to be treated. Allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives and use the talent and resources God has entrusted in us. We should look at being a "bridge-builder." Be the person who is always ready to encourage, do the job well and help with solutions. That also means we should try to avoid grumbling and complaining and learn patience. Let us work at bringing two great virtues together- Love and Courage, for they are the ingredients to a satisfying and righteous life. Let us be Faithful, learn to bounce back. We will all stumble (remember Peter) but failure is not falling down, it is when we don't jump back up and start again. Let the words and life of Jesus Christ truly mean something to us, to shine through rejecting the world's standards and do that which pleases Christ. Train ourselves to be content. Paul also told Timothy that "godliness with contentment is great gain." And finally, let us obey the Great Commission to make disciples, baptizing them and teaching them to observe all things commanded.

The more you give, the more you get, The more your laugh, the less you fret.
The more you do unselfishly, the more you live abundantly.
The more of everything you share, the more you'll always have to spare.
The more you love, the more your find, that life is good and friends are kind.
For only what we give away, enriches us from day to day.

Christians are called to be good citizens. The General Election is coming and we urge everyone to vote. Remember we are not just choosing a President, but the Senators and Representatives who actually make the laws for our state and nation. All the campaign rhetoric and media hype can be confusing, so I urge you to look at the policies of each candidate and the platform on which their party stands and compare it to your Christian values, traditional U. S. ideals and prayerfully make your choices.