

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

Can Our Conscience Be Our Guide?

By Michael Foresha

"Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another" (Romans 2:15). You may have been told, "Let your conscience be your guide." The conscience sits in judgment of man's actions. According to Romans 2:15 the conscience accuses us or excuses us, "...their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another:" In order for our conscience to function properly it must be educated properly. Notice these examples where on account of wrong or a misinformed conscience, individuals proceeded without any feeling of guilt.

The Apostle Paul did "many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth" (Acts 26:9), yet believed he had "lived in all good conscience before God" (Acts 23:1). He did so in ignorance and unbelief. His conscience was uninformed. Those at Ephesus, who had gone "past feeling" and practiced lasciviousness, uncleanness with greediness" (Ephesians 4:19). These individuals had disregarded their conscience.

Those that departed from the faith described in 1 Timothy 4. Paul described their conscience as being "seared with a hot iron" (1 Tim. 4:2). Their conscience had become injured and calloused as they crossed the line between right and wrong so frequently, so as to render it useless to accuse or excuse their actions. The woman described in Proverbs 30:20. "Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness." This is an example of a useless conscience.

In order for our conscience to be properly functioning it must be properly fed. It can only be properly fed (i.e. educated) by a constant diet of God's Word. The conscience can be our guide, but only as it is guided by our only guide, God's Word.

Dates to Remember

- ★ Ladies meet the 4th Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food
- Men meet the 4th Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.

Sermons and bulletins available @
Melbournechurchofchrist.com

Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m.



Melbourne Church of Christ
A Place to Belong

Elders

Danny Brightwell
291-3439

Shelby Qualls
346-5255

Deacons

Bryan Phillips David Brightwell
373-0546 307-5714

Alan Love Joe Cooper
243-4608 291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
368-7886
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR 72556



* Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

OPENING PRAYER Anthony Weston

CLOSING PRAYER Brent Qualls



Bryan Phillips

"The essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere flea bites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind." — C.S. Lewis

"Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading." — Oswald Chambers

"Cheap grace is the grace we bestow on ourselves. Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession.... Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate." — Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Prayer List

Military: Derek Love, A.J. Talkington

Officers: Steve & Sherry Davidson, Josh Morehead, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

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|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Health: Ted Kidd | Richard Gunter | Donnie Vest | Joanna Smith |
| Joe Guiltner | Dan Clark | Wilma Cooper | Wayne Crosby |
| Tracy Thomas | Brooke Pritchard | Troy Gaston | James Nicholson |
| Bill Roland | Hayden Phillips | Donny Smith | Joanne Weston |
| Bill Wiseman | Debbie Nicholson | Helen King | Phil Haagenon |
| Mary Kosmitis | Dorothy Teague | Jim Fowler | Shirley Lewis |
| Diane Owens | Ivy Jo Slade | Jeff Young | Lynn Hicks |
| Justin Teague | Charlotte Cooper | Cecilia Broughton | Sue Campbell |
| Arlene Davidson | Chip & Regina Master | | Deborah Halcom |
| Ted & Sanyia Austin | J.B. & Wanda Dill | | |

Nursing Home: Debbie Hoskinds, Holly Stroud, Emma Jean Cooper

September Birthdays

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|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Alan Love 1 st | Sandra Taylor 6 th | Marilyn Smith 6 th |
| Brad Sipe 8 th | Aaron Hoskinds 8 th | Randy Haney 13 th |
| Ann Lawrence 15 th | Sally Adkisson 19 th | James Phillips 20 th |
| Landon Taylor 25 th | Halle Jo Cooper 26 th | Christie Haney 26 th |
| Robert Langston 27 th | Stephanie Gillihan 28 th | |

September Anniversaries

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| Trey & Melissa Lamb 2 nd | Brad & Julie Teague 20 th |
| Brad & Laura Sipe 22 nd | Wayne & Melanie Crosby 23 rd |

James 5:2-6, "Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days... You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the innocent one, who was not opposing you."