

Christians and “Corrupt Communication”

Jerry C. Brewer, Elk City, OK

A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned (Matthew 12:35-37).

It is sad and very disappointing when Christians use the foul language of the world—especially when those Christians are known as being sound in their beliefs and teaching. Paul told Timothy:

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee (1 Timothy 4:16).

It is not enough to take heed to the doctrine, but to take heed to one’s life also. The person who will not live the doctrine of Christ destroys his influence in teaching it. Paul further commanded:

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers (Ephesians 4:29).

Within the past week, I observed Christians violating these Scriptures on Facebook. It is absolutely baffling to me why any Christian would write posts or share posts on their pages which contain curse words such as, “damn,” or “hell.” Now, I realize that those words are in the Bible, but they are not used there as profanity like they were used on Facebook. The Christian who does that reveals a heart that is not good in the sight of the Lord (Matthew 12:35). Moreover, he tells the world, “We are just like you.”

Our world today freely uses curse words and other vile language as a matter of course—words that would never have been used in polite company a generation or two ago, even among those of the world. When Christians fall in line with the world by using foul language, they are no longer, “*a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light*” (1 Peter 2:9). Those who have such language on their Facebook pages need to repent, remove it, and let their friends know they are sorry for using it and do not condone it; unless, of course, they have sold out to the world. Then they need to stop claiming to be a child of God and bringing shame upon Christ and His church.

- via Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -

“For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid from mine eyes.” Jeremiah 16:17

“Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the Lord.” Jeremiah 23:24.

Do not say all that you know, but always know what you say. - Claudius

News & Notes

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: Loretta McCoy.

NEW CONVERT CLASS: Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 401.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER & AFTERNOON SERVICE: TODAY at about noon at the Fellowship Building followed by our early afternoon service at 2:00 p.m. at the church building.

ARK ENCOUNTER TRIP: TODAY is the last day for sign-up and payment of fees. See Dean Spencer or Rico Brown. Trip date: Friday, June 28th.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All ladies are invited to participate in this activity to make little stuffed bears for kids. Come and join in this good work, fellowship, conversation, and fun.

MEN’S ENRICHMENT CLASS: This class has been discontinued until September.

MEDICAL ISSUES: Cam Adamson (Twila’s husband) will have some medical procedures next Friday, June 7th at Presbyterian Hospital in Pittsburgh. Remember him in prayer.

FRIDAY NIGHT SING: Chester and St. Clair Ave. congregation, ELO will join together here in Chester for our area-wide sing, next Friday, June 7th. Donations for refreshments following the sing can be given to Sharon Sprout.

MEN’S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, June 8th, 8:30 a.m. at the Church of Christ, Columbiana, OH.

OUR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: June 17-21, 7:00 p.m. Classes for all ages; **Adult Class:** Steve Smithbauer, preacher at the Weirton Heights congregation.

PANTRY: Mandarin oranges.

SICK & SHUT-IN: *At Home:* Chris Lamb (David Roach’s sister), Blondenia Orr, Arlen & Joann Webb, Russell Martin, Doris Dunham. *FOX:* Mary Jane Bowers.

CROSSROADS: Sarah Miller. *IN FLORIDA:* Ilene Rayl.

HOW TO LISTEN TO A SERMON

Do not be a criticizing listener. The minister makes mistakes as well as you; if he were perfect, he would not be here.

Do not be a sermon fitter, trying to fit the sermon to someone else. If the sermon does not fit you, let your neighbor fit it to himself.

Do not be a sermon taster...The sermon is not intended to be pleasing to your aesthetic nature or your hobbies, but to leave you a better person. Listen with a mind prepared by prayer and expectation.

Listen with a humble mind. Let the searching light of the gospel reveal the need of your heart. Listen with an open mind. You may disagree with the sermon, but remember, one of the functions of a true sermon is to disturb your complacency. Listen with a prayerful attitude.

A sermon conceived in prayer, meeting with sympathetic, humble, cooperative minds, will be used as seeds sown upon soul watered by the Spirit, springing up into life many fold.

- Author Unknown