

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

April 29, 2018

Are You Reclining, Whining, or Shining?

It seems to me that there are three kinds of church members. Let's briefly examine each and, as we do so, please honestly examine your part in the church and see which you are:

* **There are those who recline.** They just sit back and watch everything going on around them. They are never more involved than just "warming the pew" from time to time. God wants us involved with the church because, **'He who is slothful in his work is a brother to him who is a great destroyer'** (Pro. 18:9).

* **There are those who whine.** Sadly, other church members may be active, but they are involved with other members' business. They seem to spend the majority of their time and resources complaining. God wants us to focus on harmony and make sure we **"do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned"** (James. 5:9).

* **There are those who shine.** Gladly, there are church members who possess a great attitude and are working heartily for the Lord. They are busy doing the Lord's will and singing along the way. They are shimmering example of faithfulness and fruitfulness. **'Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven'** (Matt. 5:16).

Paul had instructions concerning all of these in Phil. 2:14-15, ***“Do all things (that’s the opposite of reclining) without complaining or disputing (that’s the opposite of whining), that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world (that’s being a shining example).”***

So, Christian, are you reclining, whining, or shining?

— Edd Sterchi

As Jesus admonished us, let’s shine together as a city on a hill that cannot be hidden.

Matthew 5: 14

Freedom ... Through slavery

That sounds strange doesn’t it. Freedom and slavery are polar opposites, are they not?

Note what the Bible has to say, ***“But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is satisfaction and its end, eternal life”*** (Romans 6:22). And again, ***“Live as free men, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil; but live as servants of God”*** (1 Peter 2:16).

Free, but slaves! All men are prisoners of something. We merely choose our prison. Some are slaves to alcohol, others to drugs, and some to their own passions. Others, as the apostle Paul, delight in being a slave to Jesus Christ.

Here’s the way Charles Kingsley expressed it, ***“There are two kingdoms: the false, when one is free to do what he likes; and the true, when one is free to do as he ought.”***

The apostle Peter knew some advocates of the false kingdom who promised freedom. Were they to be trusted? Hardly. ***“They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption; for whatever overcomes a man, to that he is enslaved”*** (2 Peter 2:19). Strange isn’t it! A slave of corruption promising freedom.

As William Temple says, ***“We need to be delivered from the freedom which is perfect bondage into the slavery of God’s service which is perfect freedom.”***

Don't you suppose that is what Augustine had in mind when he exclaimed, "*Love God and do what you will*"?

True freedom is found in Christ. "*So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed*" (John 8:36).

— John Gipson

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

I Corinthians 15: 58

Don't Stumble

Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

II Peter 1:10

Whenever I stumble and fall, it is not a happy time. When I start down, I am little more than a physics experiment of mass, speed, and collision. I usually recount my last few steps to determine how it all happened. The same is true with a spiritual fall. This verse calls for us to look back at our last few steps to practice the right things, so we won't stumble again. God calls us to add to our faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. To keep increasing these so we may not be short-sighted and blind on our path. Let's take special note of this fall. We might stumble again, but let's not let it happen in the same place.

— David Grubb

Pride Packages For Soldiers: We rotate the items that we bring in so there will be a variety of things available for Pat to send to our soldiers. For the next two weeks we'll be bringing: Feminine hygiene products for lady troops (pads, tampons, panty liners), Men's boxer shorts, dark colors, M, L, XL , Women's cotton regular underwear in dark colors, S,M,L

Reading : Ephesians 4: 11-16 ; I Corinthians 15: 50-58

NEXT WEEK : (May 6, 2018)

Song Leader : Delmar

Scripture Reader : Ron

Table & Announcements : Darrell

Prayer list :

Robin Shumard : She has had diagnoses in addition to her painful Neuropathy which has resulted in her being required to use a wheelchair for mortality.

Ron Bartanen : Due to lack of insurance coverage Ron has gone home where he will be assisted by his daughter for the next couple weeks. He is making excellent progress.

Rosanne Reynolds : Still has problems, but no update

Hazel Rankin : Back surgery went well, but fall has reinjured

Riley Stevens : Procedure to release upper lip went well.

Ernie Wasson : Wounds are finally healing, his physical therapy has enabled him to get around the house with a walker.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Ruby, Doris, Mary, Jeanne, Delores, Marg, Pete & Hazel, Betty, Francis

Other members with ongoing issues :

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease, moved back in town

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Bruce Miller: Madonna's brother-in-law .. chemo continues

Hailey Wilhour: Beginning to show some improvement

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend is suffering from kidney failure due to diabetes. Stabilized, but remains an ongoing problem.

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Ya'll Come !