

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
Bailey Steger

Scripture Reading:
Chevis Webb
1Peter 1:6-9

Prayer:
Andrew Durham

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Has Your Joy Been Stolen?

Closing Prayer:
Jim Stubblefield

Wednesday, July 15

Song Leader:
David Bansemer

Invitation:
Thom Steger

Prayer:
Nate Durham

Lord's Supper Preparation
July: Steger
August: -

11:00 AM

Song Leader:
Andrew Durham

Scripture Reading:
Jim Barton
Romans 12:14-21

Prayer:
Louis Long

Lord's Supper:
Alex Bansemer
Chris Huffines

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Navigating Difficult Times

Announcements:
Thom Steger

Closing Prayer:
Kevin Hayes

Usher for This Week:

Creekview *BULLETIN*

Christ is Our Life

In Colossians 3:4, Paul wrote that Christ is our life. These words mean that Christ has become the reason for a Christian to live (see Gal. 2:20). Therefore, it is only right that those who count Christ as their lives should assemble on His day to declare their praise and worship for Him. May this be our aim today as we assemble together.

Streaming Services

All services of the church will be streamed live on the Creekview Facebook page. Each stream will begin a few minutes early so that viewers can connect.



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SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS:

WORSHIP: 9:00 AM
BIBLE STUDY: 10:00 AM
WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE STUDY: 7:00 PM

Respect What is Right in the Sight of All Men

In a context that describes how to be a “living and holy sacrifice” (Rom. 12:1), the word of God gives the following instruction in Romans 12:17: “Respect what is right in the sight of all men.” This spawns a few questions. How does respecting what is right in the sight of all men contribute to a believer in Jesus being a living sacrifice? Do all men ever agree about what is right? If all men think that evil is right, should we respect that?

To be a living sacrifice, believers in Christ must live in a sacrificial way among both believers and unbelievers. It is imperative for Christians to have a good influence on everyone around them, and this requires being respectful and peaceful toward all people. A Christian cannot be an effective ambassador for Jesus if he offends unbelievers by his words or conduct. The apostle Paul gives further insight concerning this in 2Corinthians 8:20-21:

²⁰...taking precaution so that no one will discredit us in our administration of this generous gift; ²¹for we have regard for what is honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.

Sometimes a Christian must make a personal sacrifice of his own liberty for the sake of his influence. Paul himself did this and explained, “I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some” (1Cor. 9:22). He conformed to those whom he taught in respect for their customs so that he could reach them with the gospel.

Respect for what is right in the sight of all men is a matter of consensus. There will never be perfect agreement among all individuals in the world about what is right. However, there is typically a consensus within each culture about right and wrong, and Christians must be respectful of that consensus. Opponents of Jesus will be watching Christians to find grounds for accusing them of wrongdoing in order to discredit them and the gospel. Knowing this, Christians must “keep [their] behavior excellent among the Gentiles” (1Pet. 2:12).

Of course, there are limits to what Christians can do in respect for the customs of unbelievers. The instruction of Romans 12:17 must not be interpreted to justify doing evil. Even if all men agree that wrong is right, it is still wrong in God’s sight. “Let God be found true, though every man be found a liar” (Rom. 3:4). We shall never respect what is wrong. So then, respecting what is right in the sight of all men pertains only to matters that are right in God’s sight and are matters of liberty. For example, if you go to a country where it is offensive to wear shoes inside a house, then respect that custom. Do not cause offense over such a matter of no consequence. However, if you go to a country where the word of God is forbidden, then you shall never respect that custom. It is better to cause offense than to conform to wickedness.

The instruction of Romans 12:17 may be more challenging than it appears. Submitting to others in matters of liberty requires personal sacrifice, which is not easy. You may have a right to do something, but it may not be expedient for the sake of the gospel to assert that right. It takes Christ-like meekness and humility to be so deferential to others. It is a practical application of the two greatest commandments (Matt. 22:36-40), for you must love God enough to carry out His will, and you must love your neighbor enough to give up your own liberties for the sake of his salvation.

The point of respecting what is right in the sight of all men is not to yield control of your life to others. It is not to allow those with the weakest consciences to determine the standard of behavior for everyone. The point is to respect the consensus of the culture for customs that are also honorable in the sight of God and not to be intentionally offensive or provocative. Therefore, let us follow this instruction as “living and holy sacrifices” for the sake of the gospel and peace among men.

Stacey E. Durham

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news & notes

- The county mayor has ordered citizens to wear face masks in public, but churches are exempt. Please use your own discretion concerning the wearing of a mask in the assembly for the sake of your health.
- Please pray for the following members: Barbara Atkins, Shirley Buchanan, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Laurie Polchek, and Lana Richardson. Also pray for Jody Baize, Sandlyn Fultz, Tommy Lanius, Judy Ragland, Wayne Wright, and Dot Long’s sister Melissa.

reading plan

Sunday- Colossians 1-2
Monday - Leviticus 13-15
Tuesday - 2Kings 6-10
Wednesday - Psalms 81-83
Thursday - Proverbs 10
Friday - Ezekiel 25-30
Saturday - Luke 19-20

meetings

None to announce