

Let's Visit

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Finding Fault

"And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashed hands, they found fault" (Mark 7:2) Imagine that, the Pharisees found fault with followers of Jesus! Any student or even casual reader of the Bible is aware that the Pharisees were frequent critics of Jesus and of His disciples. Their criticism of Jesus was based primarily upon the dislike they had for him because his teachings were contrary to their own ideas and actions. In fact, the more Jesus taught, the more intense their dislike and the more severely they managed to find fault.

Let's be honest. Criticism can be a good thing if it is the right kind of criticism. Yet, the criticism of the Pharisees was not what we would call "constructive criticism". Their criticism was not designed to help Jesus. The purpose of their criticism was to belittle him in the eyes of the people. It was also to escape the condemnation that they deserved because of their sinful conditions. It required very little ability or intellect to criticize in the way the Pharisees criticized. It is for this reason that very little if anything is gained by engaging in this kind of criticism. No one is helped, neither the one being criticized or the fault-finder who is doing the criticizing.

To be sure, we need to be aware of our faults. We do not need to be like the conceited man who said, "I think I would be able to see my faults, if I had any". Most people, when their faults are pointed out to them in a kind and loving manner with the right motives are ready to correct their faults. But, beware of that man or woman who finds fault with everyone but you whenever they are in your presence. That person will surely find fault with you when they are in the presence of someone else. In fact, a person like that is what is commonly referred to as a "chronic fault finder". It is rare for them to

ever say much that is good about anyone and they usually spoil anything good they have to say by launching into a lengthy recitation of all the faults that they are aware of.

As Christians, finding fault with others should be kept at a minimum. If we honestly look for the good in others, most people have far more good characteristics than they do bad characteristics. Certainly, the bad characteristic in others should not be overly emphasized as they often are by the "chronic fault-finder". Finding fault with others as the Pharisees found fault with Jesus is sinful, there is simply no other word for it. Much of the fault-finding in our day and time is based upon incomplete information and incomplete knowledge of the person who is supposed to be at fault. Perhaps if the critic knew them better, they might discover that they were the one who was in the wrong, not the one they are criticizing.

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In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSLA 12 – Shreveport -7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 -6:00 a.m. Sunday

Preaching and Practicing

It is not what we eat, but what we digest, that makes us strong; not what we read, but what we remember, that makes us learned; not what we gain, but what we save that makes us rich, and not what we profess, but what we practice, that makes us good Christians.

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Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

"Everything Belongs to You"

Paul is writing to the Corinthians and reminding them how blessed they are to be Christians and what belongs to them as Christians.

on Friday Night after the singing (we will have more details about this later) and we will be having a covered dish luncheon on Sunday following the morning worship.

We are excited that Brother Phil Sanders, the speaker on the nationally televised program "In Search of the Lord's Way" will be here with us as our speaker for that weekend.

Begin now to plan to be here, invite your friends and neighbors to come and join us and let's have the greatest weekend in the history of the Center Church of Christ.

tp

Each One Bring One!

53 in '23

Invite Someone Each Week!

For The Pantry. . .

March 5 – Peanut Butter

On The Lighter Side. . .

It Was A Great Day!

This past Sunday was a wonderful day in the life of the Center Church of Christ. It was our annual "Pack-a-Pew Sunday" and we could not have asked for the weather to be any better. We had a great audience for Worship and a tremendous covered dish luncheon.

As usual, you, the ladies of this congregation outdid yourselves in preparing a feast for everyone to enjoy. When people are able to fill their plates to overflowing and then there is so much food left over that folks are preparing "to go boxes" you know there has been an abundance of good things to eat. My only personal regret was that I was not able to sample all of the different desserts (Norma was watching me too closely) but I did get to enjoy my share of good food and good desserts.

We appreciate the work of the ladies of Hospitality Group on in decorating the fellowship hall, getting the food on the table and cleaning up the mess we left. We appreciate your hard work.

Now, it's time to get ready for our next event. We are hosting an "Area-Wide Singing" on Friday, April 21st and then we are having a Gospel Meeting that weekend also. We will be serving refreshments



"We're an affectionate church, if you haven't noticed."

Miscellaneous

TODAY IS THE DAY!



March 5, 2023

We will be having our quarterly covered dish luncheon following our Worship this morning.

Please make your plans to stay and enjoy the covered dish luncheon and a time of fellowship.

HOSPITALITY GROUP

We want to thank all of the ladies who volunteered to be a part of our "Hospitality Groups". You are appreciated more than you know and more than we have words to express. Hospitality group 1 will be in charge of the luncheon today. The members of this group are:

Marsha Bounds
Melonie Molloy
Lisa Miller
Betty Miller
LaResa Livingston

Those ladies who are not a part of this group can just relax and enjoy the luncheon and not be burdened with the "details" that normally accompany a luncheon.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL – Our next Wednesday night meal at 6:00 p.m. prior to our evening services will be March 29, 2023

Make your plans now to be here!



Those To Remember In Prayer

Hugh Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother) being treated for multiple health issues at this time.

John Henry Holloway (Martha Jean Golden's son) has been hospitalized in Shreveport.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, **Gene Bradshaw**, **Martha Bradshaw**, **Martha Jean Golden**, **Geneva Graves**, **Alice Hall**, **Thelma Hinton**, **Louise Johnson**, **Lisa Miller**, **Mike O'Brien**, **Debra Pate**, **Jerry Pate**, **Wayne Sims**, **Betty Willis**

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother), **Minion Bean**-(Mike O'Brien's mother) recovering from a fall and hip surgery), **Ana Blair** (friend of Debra Pate) **Ron Cone** (Laura Miller's dad), **Celina Danley** (Sister of Joyce Danley) multiple health issues, **Hugh and Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) **Sandra Fuller** (friend of Betty Miller) **Roy Garcia** (friend of Tim and Norma Perkins recovering from brain surgery) **Suzie Hogan** (Roxie Bostick's sister) **Suzanne Ihlo** (Martha Jean Golden's sister recovering from a stroke) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **Reba Miley** (friend of Debra Pate) **Johnny Miller** (Betty Miller's son) recovering from heart surgery; **Stephanie Richard** (friend of Norma Perkins) facing cancer surgery; **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; **Michael Smith** (Debra Pate's cousin) is being treated for lung cancer, **J. C. and Pat Tate** (Jana O'Brien's mother and father) **Clark Paul Williams** (LaResa Livingston's cousin)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, **Leland Bradshaw**, **Michele Bradshaw**, **Jeremiah Soape**, **Rosie Tate** and **Lucas Tate**

If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill out a card and put it in the offering plate.



SAVE THESE DATES!

April 21st, 22nd and 23rd

Phil Sanders
is coming back to Center!

Area Wide Singing on Friday Night.
Preaching on Saturday night
Refreshments following the singing and
Covered Dish Luncheon following the
Sunday Services.



Across The Preacher's Desk

Why do we live in such a mad rush? Why have you been racing about all day, as though today is your last day on earth? Why do you sit and pat your foot impatiently when your telephone call is a little slow going through?

The answer of course is always, "There is so much to be done, and so little time!" And it is true. However, have you ever heard the old saying, "Rome was not built in a day"?

Jesus had the burden of the sins of the world on His shoulders, and yet, He said to His disciples, "come ye apart into a desert place, to rest awhile." Jesus knew they could not crowd every day and every moment to the brim without losing some of the peace and relaxation they needed for their real goal in life.

When Jesus and the disciples passed through Samaria, Jesus was weary, so He sat down by the well to rest, while His disciples went away into the city to buy bread. He took the time to take little children into His arms and bless them. To a group of disciples with the most stupendous task before them any group of men ever had – evangelizing the whole world – Jesus said, "Consider the lilies".

Take time out to notice the beauties of nature and draw some conclusions about God from them. Don't live in too much of a hurry.

it's something to think about.....tbp

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
53 in '23!**