

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
Bailey Steger

Scripture Reading:
Alex Bansemer
1Thessalonians 2:1-12

Prayer:
John Fix

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
*Preaching Like Mom and
Dad*

Closing Prayer:
Jim Stubblefield

Wednesday, July 1

Song Leader:
Nate Durham

Invitation:
David Lanius

Prayer:
Chevis Webb

Lord's Supper Preparation
June: Ridings
July: Steger

10:00 AM

Song Leader:
Jim Barton

Scripture Reading:
David Bansemer
John 17:20-26

Prayer:
Ron Hunt

Lord's Supper:
Thom Steger
Wayne Baker

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Unite and Conquer

Announcements:
Stacey Durham

Closing Prayer:
Al Cotten

Usher for This Week:

Creekview *BULLETIN*

Hasten the Day

In 2Peter 3:11, the Scripture says that we should be "looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God." On this Lord's Day, let us hasten the coming of the day of God by demonstrating the urgency of faithful service to Him. Perhaps today will be the day when He comes again.

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

Prejudice

For performing miracles of healing on the sabbath, Jesus was accused of breaking the Law of Moses by the rulers of the Jews. Jesus responded to this charge in John 7:23-24:

²³"If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath so that the Law of Moses will not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made an entire man well on the Sabbath? ²⁴Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

In the eyes of the Jews who accused Jesus, the appearance of His actions was that He had worked on a sabbath in violation of the Law. In that assessment, they were perfectly wrong. Furthermore, they completely overlooked the fact that Jesus had displayed the great power of God.

How could the Jews have been so utterly wrong about Jesus and blind to the truth? The answer is prejudice. Because of their prejudice against Jesus, the rulers of the Jews made themselves incapable of righteous judgment. One of their own rulers, Nicodemus, identified this failure when he asked his fellow Jews, "Our Law does not judge a man unless it first hears from him and knows what he is doing, does it?" (John 7:51). Indeed, it was the Pharisees and chief priests, not Jesus, who had violated the Law of Moses. Nevertheless, they simply dismissed the question of Nicodemus and thus reinforced the truth of what both he and Jesus had exposed, which was their extreme prejudice.

In most contexts, prejudice is an unfavorable judgment that is made before facts are known. In the case of Jesus, the rulers of the Jews had not honestly assessed Him according to His words and deeds in light of the Law, reason, and truth. They were not at all like the Jews of Berea, who later heard the gospel preached by Paul and Silas and examined the Scriptures to see if it was true (Acts 17:11). Instead, they judged Jesus harshly and incorrectly because they were envious of Him and threatened by Him (Matt. 27:18).

Prejudice is a poison that harms both the one who is prejudiced and those whom he incorrectly judges. The person who is prejudiced harms himself because he cannot see the truth. Like those who accused Jesus, he is blind by his own choice. He harms those whom he judges falsely because his judgment can cause real consequences and can influence the judgment of others. Prejudice is often the basis of injustice and oppression, just as it was in the case of the Jewish rulers who condemned Jesus.

The cure for prejudice was prescribed by Jesus in John 7:24: "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment." Appearances can be deceiving, and the eyes of man are not always clear. In Matthew 6:22-23, Jesus said,

²²"The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. ²³But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be

full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"

However, righteous judgment is based on the universal standard of righteousness, which is the word of God. Indeed, "the judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether" (Ps. 19:9). We are capable of making righteous judgments, but we must be honest and careful in handling the word of God (2Tim. 2:15).

Most importantly, prejudice is overcome by love. The Scripture says that love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1Cor. 13:7). By believing and hoping all things, love assumes the best about others rather than the worst. Love does not prejudice by stereotypes or personal bias but instead considers each individual with truth, honesty, grace, and mercy.

As our world is torn by strife and division, let us abide by the Lord's prescriptions against prejudice. This is not a matter of casting away all judgment but rather of making righteous judgments. Otherwise, we will be no better than the Jewish rulers who condemned Jesus or those who cause strife and division today.

Stacey E. Durham

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news & notes

- Today, **June 28**, we are resuming our full schedule of services. From now on, we will again assemble on Sunday at 9, 10, and 11 AM, and on Wednesday at 7 PM.
- Please keep the following members in your prayers: Barbara Atkins, Shirley Buchanan, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Laurie Polchek, and Lana Richardson. Also pray for Jody Baize, Tommy Lanius, Wayne Wright, Dot Long's sister Melissa, and Sandlyn Fultz.

reading plan

Sunday - Philippians 1-2
Monday - Leviticus 7-9
Tuesday - 1 Kings 19-22
Wednesday - Psalms 75-77
Thursday - Proverbs 7
Friday - Ezekiel 18-18
Saturday - Luke 15-16

meetings

None to announce