


The Reminder

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

“Humble Enough to Worship”



“The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men — extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess’” (Luke 18:11,12). Just as agitation gets in the way of carefulness, pride gets in the way of worship. Nothing in the spiritual life is more important than awe and utter respect before God, and so if pride hinders us from being reverent, it’s a deadly danger to our souls.

What is pride, really? It can be thought of in two directions: toward God and toward other people. Toward God, pride is a sense of *independence*, and toward other people, it’s a sense of *superiority*. In both cases, pride is a sinful sense of self-satisfaction. Pride sees itself as doing a pretty good job of standing on its own two feet before God; it believes it has the inside track as far as God is concerned, so that God will make special allowance for any mistakes that might be made. And in regard to other people, pride pats itself on the back (secretly, of course, and always with admirable “humility”) that it sees things from a more mature vantage point than some others, especially its rivals and its enemies.

If this is what pride is, then, it should be obvious that it’s a great hindrance to worship. Indeed, one way of looking at pride is to see it as the opposite of worship.

The spirit of worship is the spirit of selfless wonder at the majesty of God — the smallness of self in God’s presence. And for sinful beings like us, it’s also the spirit of brokenness and repentance. Our hearts may be proud or they may be worshipful, but they can’t be both. And if they’re not worshipful, then we’re lost. It doesn’t matter how many hardships we think we’ve overcome. Without real reverence, we’re lost.

There is no living person who does not need to be constantly vigilant concerning pride. It’s the source of all other sin, and it can creep into our hearts in so many disguises that, too often, it gets in the door and seizes the throne room of our hearts before we know what’s happened. More often than not, it gets past our defenses wearing a cloak of humility.

“And the devil did grin, for his darling sin is pride that apes humility” (Samuel Taylor Coleridge).

“Beware of a proud and haughty spirit. This sin puts a great barrier between an individual and God. You will have a hard time being aware of God as long as you are filled with pride. If it gets angels cast out of heaven, it will certainly keep your heart out of heaven” (Richard Baxter).

Gary Henry – WordPoints.com

SUNDAY
APRIL 19, 2015

BELLAIRE

church of Christ

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Schedule of Services

SUNDAY:

9:30 AM Worship

11:00 AM Bible Study

5:00 PM Worship

WEDNESDAY:

7:30 PM Bible Study



“Seek Ye First”

Morning Lesson

“Things In Which I Trust”
Jack Smith

Evening Lesson

Song Service
Steve Garrett

News and Notes:

Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues. Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn and Don Hurd.

Looks like a busy and enjoyable evening - Youth Devo and Women's Class both tonight. Hope the day is really profitable.

Several out of town - Clanton's and Moon's are involved in the MS 150, so will be in Austin today. Robert and Barbara are in Denver for a family funeral. Dan and Janice are out of town this morning. The Kruger's are in Vidor visiting family. We'll sure miss them all.

Zonia Davila has a new phone # 832-566-2600. Please make note of it.

Maddy was involved in an auto accident last week. She's fine but car was seriously damaged. Hope to see her today.

Consider how the “*cares of this world*” (Mt 13:22) may give us more trouble than riches with maintaining correct priorities in our lives. These are likely things that are okay within themselves, and even good, and many that are necessary. But if we are not very careful we can easily find ourselves too busy with those things to read and study our Bible, strive to teach the lost, pray as we should, attend and participate in worship as we should, or serve others as we are taught to do.

God and His Son deserve first place in every aspect of our lives:

F – FRIEND

God is a true Friend to all the faithful. “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. And he was called the **friend** of God” (Ja. 2:23).

I – INSPIRATION

He is our ultimate Inspiration or Influence for righteousness. “*He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk **just as He walked***” (1 Jn. 2:6).

R – REDEEMER

He alone is our Redeemer. “Who gave himself for us, that he might **redeem** us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works” (Titus 2:14).

S – SACRIFICE

He is the only Sacrifice for our sins. “But this Man, after He had offered one **sacrifice** for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God” (Heb 10:12).

T – TREASURE

He must be our only real Treasure. “*For where your **treasure** is, there will your heart be also*” (Lu 12:34).

Bruce Turner - edited

ASSIGNMENTS

MORNING SERVICE

Announcements - M. Pharris
Hymn Director - W. Hodge
Scripture Reader - B. Mann
John 19:22-42

Opening Prayer - R. Black
Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

EVENING SERVICE

Hymn Director - S. Garrett
Opening Prayer - M. Robinson
Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

EVANGELIST

Jack Smith
Steve Garrett

ELDERS

Mark Mann
Matt Miles
Mike Pharris
Jack Smith

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

BIBLE CLASSES

- World Religions
- John and Romans
- Graded Classes for Children