

Tidings From Timothy

VBS is not far away. Make a good effort to get the word out and see us Sunday and each evening. Teachers, get signed up so we can start giving you literature and instructions on the class crafts. We need some to provide refreshments each night, and don't forget the cookout after the last class on Wednesday.

Vacation Bible School: Get advertisements out front and distribute them to all you can, especially young people.

4th Sunday Happenings: Today is a busy one. After this morning's services, I have a jail service, and then we have nursing home services at 3pm (notice the time change). Also, we need to get ready for some good lessons tonight from the young men at 6pm. Let us support every good work.

Men's Meeting: The next one is scheduled for this Monday at 6pm. The church needs your input!

In Need of Prayer: Lucille Abney has been moved to Sky Rehab in Bowling Green and her address to send cards is posted over the desk. David and Mellissa Biggerstaff's baby, Ella, has been closed up from the surgery and is still in need of prayer. Laura Key is going to continue treatment since the results from this last month showed it may be shrinking some. Our hearts are saddened at the passing of Phillip McCoy. Brother McCoy was a fine gentleman from all reports and held up well under his ailments. He loved to be a church and will be sorely missed by all of us at Mt. Gilead. Ezra Proffitt is scheduled for another pet scan the last of August. Latest one didn't show any lymphoma in his hip, but there was some in lymph "nodes."

DOCTRINAL PURITY OR COMPASSION

Have you ever been asked a question that was worded in such a way that you could not answer the question as stated? "Either or" questions are often like that. For instance, I might ask you the question, "Are you interested in improving your relationship

with your spouse or are you interested in improving your relationship with you children?" Well, which is it? As you can well see, this is not a fair question. It creates a false division. It assumes that you cannot desire to improve your relationship with both your spouse and your children. However, hopefully we want to improve our relationship with both our spouse and our children and we need not choose between the two.

Recently, I have heard some statements similar to the above question. Some seem to be suggesting that we must choose between being doctrinally pure and being compassionate. For instance, when asked how to handle the issue of divorce and remarriage in a congregation, one preacher said the following: "You must decide what business you are in. You are either in the business of defining or defending doctrine, or you are in the business of changing lives." Now I beg to differ with this man's assessment. I don't believe that this is a choice that must be made. I don't believe that striving for doctrinal purity and being compassionate are mutually exclusive.

Both doctrinal purity and compassion are noble goals that are worthy of being pursued. Just check out the following passages (Galatians 1:8-9; Ephesians 4:32). Since both are noble goals, which one should we pursue? Which one is better? Do you think God would call us to pursue two worthy goals that were mutually exclusive of each other? Such a contradiction could not be harmonized with the nature of the God we serve.

Doctrinal purity and compassion are not poles apart as some would seem to suggest. In fact they must go hand in hand. What good would it do if I knew all the answers to doctrinal questions, and yet would not show compassion to my fellow man (James 2:13)? And what good would it do if I was compassionate to my fellow man but had little regard for the will of God (Matthew 7:21-23)? Rather than being goals between which we must choose, doctrinal purity and compassion cannot be separated.

Jesus best exemplified this truth. In Mark 10:17-22, we read of when the rich young ruler came to Jesus, asking him what he needed to do to inherit eternal life. Jesus, knowing his heart, knowing his attachment to money, told him he must sell all that he had and give to the poor. Upon hearing this answer, the rich young ruler went away sorrowful. In this case, Jesus demanded doctrinal purity. The demands were strenuous. He didn't compromise the truth any to make it easier for this young man. Dare we charge the Lord with lacking compassion? (cont. on page 4)

We had better not. In fact, take a closer look at the text. What was Jesus thinking just before he stated this difficult truth? "Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him..."

Whether to uphold truth or be compassionate were not choices Jesus made, and neither should we. Rather, we need desperately to grow in both doctrinal purity and compassion toward those who need it. —Steve Higginbotham

What must I do?

- **Hear the Gospel - Acts 15:7**
- **Believe the Gospel - Mark 16:15,16 (cont. on p.4)**
- **Repent of Sins - Acts 17:30**
- **Confess Christ - Rom. 10:9,10**
- **Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins - Acts 2:38**

Then, as a Christian we must:

- **LIVE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH - REV. 2:10**

Birthdays:

Greta	Bartley	07/25
John Payton	Hammer	07/26
Christie	Lyons	07/27
Matthew	Walker	07/27
Virginia	Smith	08/01

Mt. Gilead church of Christ

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• <http://mtgileadchurch.net>

Lord's Supper Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23 - 29 ²³For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "**Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.**" ²⁵In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "**This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.**" ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. ²⁷Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body

Elders:

Keith Dyer.....427-4105
 Veachel Harlan.....487-5727
 Roger Deckard.....487-8544
 Steve Carter.....487-8746

Deacons: Larry Copas, Cass Thomas Froedge, Bobby D. Gerald, Bobby Harlan, Kevin Deckard, Jimmy High, Ray C. Lyon, Michael McPherson, Gary Rowland

Evangelist:

Tim McHenry, 931-258-3494
 12955 Clay Co. HWY Moss, TN 38575

Schedule of Services:

Sunday:

Bible Study... 9:30am
 Morning Worship... 10:05am
 Evening Worship... 6pm

Wednesday:

Bible Study... 7pm

Listen to our Sunday Morning Radio Sermon on WTKY 1370 AM & 92.1, 102.7, 101.5 FM at 8:30am each week, and to our weekday 10min program after the Noonday news and reports.