# CHURCH OF CHRIST

295 Sunrise SVC Road North, Patchogue, NY 11772

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Worship Opportunities

Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

Mid-Week

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

# Patchogue Church of Christ Patchogue, NY 11772

A multi-racial community of believers with a purpose and vision to live holy lives, fulfill the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ by serving each other and our community with compassion, love and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ.

Records you Made:	9/20/15	9/13/15
Bible Classes	31	32
Worship Service	94	97
General Contribution 2nd Sunday - Bldg	\$1768.00	\$2313.00 \$313.00
Wed Bible Class	27	25
Baptisms / YTD	-	10

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. Ro 16:16

# **Youth Corner**

By Jamal Colson



# Where are your treasures?

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal." (Matthew 6:19-20 NIV)

Young people I have a question "where are your treasures? Do you notice how some people carry their treasures around with them here on earth. It may be expensive clothes or other luxury items. Usually when people are consumed with these things, that's all they may talk about or pursue with vigor. You can also tell where someone's treasure is when the "it thing" in their life is broken or stolen and their "world" comes to an end (figuratively). God continues to instruct us in verse 21: For where your treasure is, your heart will be also.

The scriptures don't say we cannot have expensive things instead it says "do not store up for yourself". The things we have are intended for us to share, not to keep for ourselves. So our parents are right when they say "sharing is caring".

In conclusion these 2 verses have a powerful lesson if we allow them to guide us into God's truth. I have never seen a funeral procession followed by a U-Haul; as the saying goes, "you can't take it with you."

# THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ 295 Sunrise Service Road N. Patchogue, NY 11772.

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# Holding grudges

One day a visitor leaned on the old fence around a farm, while he watched an old farmer plowing with a mule. After awhile, the visitor said, "I don't like to tell you how to run your business, but you could save yourself a lot of work by saying, 'Gee' and 'Haw' to the mule instead of just tugging on those lines."

The old farmer pulled a big handkerchief from his pocket and wiped his face. Then he said, "Reckon you're right, but this animal kicked me five years ago and I ain't spoke to him since."

The moral of the story seems obvious, A grudge is harder on the one who holds it than the one against whom it is held.

The way to overcome grudges is to forgive. Basic and fundamental to the teachings of Christ is the notion that we forgive those who do us wrong.

Matt 6:9, 12 - "This, then, is how you should pray: ... Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

Matt 6:14-15 - "For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

Matt 18:32-35 - 32 ""Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' 34 In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.""

Mark 11:25 – "And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

Jesus makes it crystal clear that God our Father expects, demands and commands us to forgive every person who has wronged us regardless of the kind of wrong committed against us. This, Jesus says, is a must because of the unconditional for-giveness we pray to receive for ourselves from our Heavenly Father. If we want God to forgive us, then we must forgive those who offend and do us wrong. Jesus goes further and says to us that if we receive forgiveness from our Father in Heaven and in turn we are unwilling to forgive those who wronged us, our unwillingness to forgive, may nullify the forgiveness we received from our Heavenly Father, with the further consequence that we must pay the penalty for our own sins. A penalty which not only are we unwilling to do, but are totally incapable of doing, (Matt 18:32-35).

Jesus paid the debt for our sins by dying on the cross of Calvary. In this act of love, mercy and grace, our Father in Heaven is saying that there is no wrong our fellowman can do to us, that is so great, that we cannot find it in our heart to forgive. If we find ourselves in this state of reluctance to forgive, then it suggests we lack a proper understanding of the atoning work of Christ, the work Jesus accomplished for us at Calvary, (I John 2:2).

The nature of the forgiveness we extend to others includes forgetfulness. In forgiving us of our sins, the Father said, "And their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more, (Heb 10:17). Forgetting wrongdoing, is integral to love, which "keeps no record of wrongs" (I Cor. 13:5); furthermore, the Holy Spirit tells us, "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you," (Col. 3:13).

Divine and human forgiveness go hand in hand; let us therefore forgive and put away all grudges.

Lancelot W.



#### Privileged to Serve 9/27/2015 Morning Service Song leader Ben Field Call to worship 123 Welcome/Praver **Jamal Colson** Song #1 Scripture – Psalm 23:1-6 Tyler Dowdy Songs #2 Song #3 180 **Greg Watkins** Second Prayer Song #4 Lord's table and Collection: **Derek Peterson** Lead Assistant **James Guiffre** Assistant **Anthony Soto** Assistant **Steve Lynch** Song - Kids to class Song #5 Scripture-Romans 10:8-13 Steve Lynch Lancelot Watson Sermon -Invitation #6 Responses & prayer: John Stallworth **Derek Peterson** Announcements & Closing Prayer Jamal Colson Closing Song #7 703

# **The Gospel Truth**

A publication of the Patchogue Church of Christ, 295 Sunrise SVC Road N, (Corner of Hewlett Ave.), P.O. Box 548 Patchogue, NY 11772.

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# The family

# by

# John Stallworth

### Ones - 1's

Pr. 1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: 2 for attaining wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight;

Pr. 2:1 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,

Pr. 3:1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart,

Pr. 4:1 Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding.

Pr. 5:1 My son, pay attention to my wisdom, listen well to my words of insight,

Pr. 6:1 My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, if you have struck hands in pledge for another,

Pr. 7:1 My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you.

Pr. 10:1 The proverbs of Solomon: A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son grief to his mother.

Pr. 12:1 Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.

Pr. 13:1 A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a mocker does not listen to rebuke.

We find a theme flowing throughout the book of proverbs. From just a set of 1's we can learn the value and power of the book. Solomon appeals to our character to open our ear and listen.

If you claim God to be your father, what kind of son are you? If Solomon was sitting across the table from you and giving you council: how would you listen? Would you engage with bated breath; excited to learn? Or are you done? You know it all. We adults sometime speak critically of those "teenagers" knowing it all. However, as we age, sometimes we can find ourselves in the same place; unable to listen and learn! Jesus might say, "He who has ears, let him hear."



# LIVING IT OUT— PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY BY BENJAMIN FIELD

# ladies' Corner by Paviette Watson

#### **Our Politicians Cannot Save Us**

We all have opinions. Of course mine is better than yours and yours are better than mine (Joke). As I am watching the media circus in the world of politics and religion I feel compelled to point out some truths as through our faith.

"There will be terrible times ....People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, .... ungrateful, unholy, ..., slanderous, ..., brutal,... treacherous, ....conceited, .....having a form of godliness but denying its power.

### There is no savior but Christ

We cannot rely on a candidate to restore morality, or Godly law, or for "revival." "Revival" doesn't come from secular government or favorable laws. It isn't even a term in the bible. It doesn't come from our works either. It is by the blessing and permission of God by His timing. It is usually under bad conditions politically, not favorable. If you want revival - vote for the most horrible anti-Christian person you can....I thought so..."no" right? 2 Peter 3:1-18

The candidates are not Christians

We don't need to get into individuals here, but I would encourage you to examine any candidate and see if they have obeyed the Gospel according to a biblical pattern. Have any of them? If not, they don't have loyalty to you. Don't quote what they say, examine them. I was amazed last election to watch Christians supporting a candidate despite him being in a <u>cult</u> that denies the authority of Christ. Actually calling him a "Christian." 2 Corinthians. 6:15

### America is Beneath God

Our loyalty should be first to God then each other. Our political disagreements should **never** divide us. We also should never give money or support to politicians that uphold evil. Yes, this means we will soon have no one to really get behind. Give your money to the Church instead. We need it; they have Super PACS. Never argue with a brother/sister who is not mature enough in the faith. If you push out the weak of the faith on account of your politics, you are in danger of hell. **Philippians 3:20, 1 Cor. 8:9** 

Don't Plug God into Your Party

Like politics? Good for you. Remember that Lincoln said "my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right." Each party is guilty of anti-Jesus sin, so remember "God is no respecter of persons" He doesn't care about your party loyalty and has none for it Himself..even a little...It is just an idea...a flash of smoke in the wind before Him.

## The Joy of the Lord – His Works

"When you're down and out, feeling small, when tears are in your eyes..." (The Beatles), at times like these the joy of the Lord can be your strength (Nehemiah 8:10). One way to experience the joy of the Lord, even in the face of sorrow, is to focus your thoughts on the works of God in your life

David said in Psalm 92:4, "For you make me glad by your deeds, O Lord; I sing for joy at the works of your hands." When we're feeling down, reflecting on the practical ways God has worked in our lives will give us strength. In 1 Peter 2:3, Paul tells us that as Christians we "have tasted that the Lord is gracious," that is, we have experienced the kindness of the Lord. Surely you have experienced God's kindness? This was Hannah's experience: "And the Lord was gracious to Hannah; she gave birth to three sons and two daughters" (1 Samuel 2:21). If the Lord has ever answered your prayers, or done something in your life for which you are thankful, reflect on God's goodness to you and be joyful. Be like Hannah "who prayed and said: "My heart rejoices in the Lord" 1 Samuel 2:1). Let us echo David as we focus on God's good deeds in our lives: "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy" (Psalm 126:3).

The joy of the Lord is not like worldly joy which is fleeting – here today and gone tomorrow. It is permanent, long lasting, something we can have at will, because it springs from our relationship with God. David explains it in this way, "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him" (Psalm 28:7). We can sing and praise God with joy from the heart all the time because we trust Him, and we know that He is our strength and shield in all situations.