

Crossville Church of Christ

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COMPASS

Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation

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Elders:

Frank Bohannon
Jiggs Killgore
Jonathan Loveday
Larry McDuffee
Brian McLaughlin
Jon Tatum

Deacons:

Jim Bell
Charles Evans
Kyle Fairman
Dale Hennessee
Mike Isaacson
David Kerley
Doug Loveday
Greg Maxwell
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Roger Smith
Jason Wyatt
Jerry Wood

Minister:

Barry Kennedy

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Sunday Bible Study | 9 AM |
| Sunday Worship | 10 AM |
| | 6 PM |
| Wednesday | 6 PM |

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Ladies Bible Class | |
| Tuesdays | 11AM |
| Prayer Meeting | |
| Tuesdays | 10 AM |
| Joyful Generation (Youth Devotional & fellowship) | |
| 1st Sunday | 7:00 PM |

January 25, 2015

A CHILD OF GOD

A child of God has an awesome obligation,
To be a shining light unto a lost generation.
Our Savior exemplified how this is done,
And now with great patience our race must be won.
It will not be easy because the world will resist,
But with help from above and a resolve to persist,
The reward in the end we will not have to miss.
As children of God we have a position,
A place along side the God of creation.
That position cannot help but to glow,
In a world full of darkness where sin tends to grow.
The light that proceeds from each child of God,
Has potential to help turn the lost from God's rod.
So who is your father, and what is your goal?
Become a child of God, and take hold of your role.
The hope that He offers will carry you through,
And maybe your hope will bring others with you.
—Barry Kennedy

FIRE PROTECTION

David A. Sargent

A certain Midwestern city had a hospital that maintained its own fire-fighting equipment. If ever a fire broke out within the walls of the hospital, anyone could reach for a nearby hose on the wall and extinguish it. For about 35 years the hospital operated totally free from fires. The hospital's safety record was impeccable. The state-of-the-art system never had to be used — and it's a good thing that it was never needed!

One day an inspection was made of the system. The inspection revealed a very interesting and alarming situation. The pipe that was to carry the water into the building and, subsequently, into the fire-fighting system had never been connected to the water source! For 35 years, the people who worked in and used the hospital had maintained complete confidence in a system that would not work! The system had all the hoses and equipment it needed. The only problem was that it had no connection to the most important part of the whole system— the water!

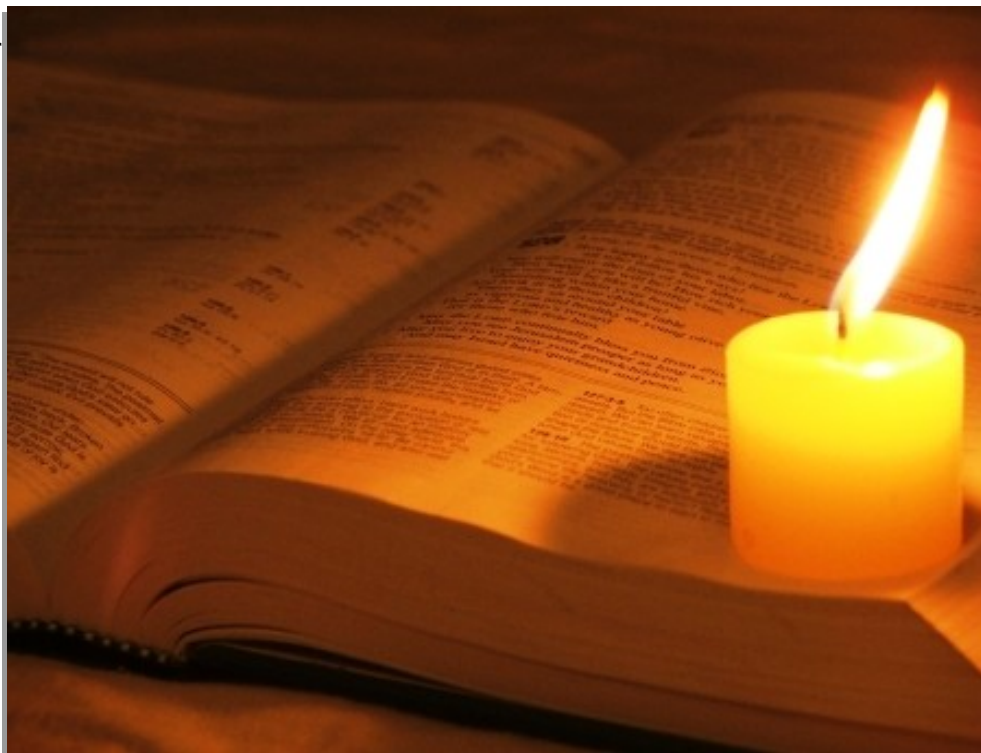
May you and I never make the same mistake, especially when it pertains to our salvation from sin!

Sin is a universal problem (Romans 3:23) with terrible consequences (Romans 6:23). In the Bible, a phrase that is used to describe punishment for sin is the... "Fire of Hell" (see Matthew 18:9; Mark 9:43,45,47). Language about hell seeks to describe for humans the most awful punishment human language can describe to warn the unbelieving and impenitent before it is too late!

Yet, because of God's love, we can be "protected" – if – we are connected to the Source of salvation. The only thing that can protect us from the punishment for sin is the ... "Blood of Jesus." On the cross, Jesus died – He shed His blood – as payment for your sins and mine. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins,, according to the riches of His grace." (Ephesians 1:7)

In order to be "connected" to the Source of our salvation, we must: place our trust in Him (Acts 16:30-34), repent of our sins (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38). THEN - as long as one continues to walk in the light of God's Word, the blood of Jesus continues to "cleanse" him of sin and "protect" him from the punishment for sin (1 John 1:7).

Are you protected? Are you connected to the Source of salvation? Wisdom and understanding are the keys to success in this life. But how do we acquire wisdom? Solomon gives us the answer. "For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding." (Proverb 2:6)



BECOMING LITTLE CHILDREN

Derrick Coble

Children are so honest you never know what they will say. A religious publication recorded the responses of some children in Bible Class. “One answered, ‘Noah’s wife was Joan of Arc.’ The fifth commandment? ‘The fifth commandment is to humor your mother and father.’ Lot’s wife? ‘Lot’s wife was a pillar of salt by day and a ball of fire by night.’ One little girl said, ‘A Christian can have only one wife. This is called monotony.’” These answers are so funny, yet so innocent. Perhaps, this is the type of innocence in which Jesus had in mind when He said, “Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven” (Mat. 18:3). Being born again (baptized) is a requirement to enter Heaven (John 3:5-7). Afterwards, we are “children of God” (1 John 3:10) and are expected to act like them in innocence and humility. “Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Mat. 18:4). What makes children great? Their greatness comes from their character and attitude toward things spiritual. This attitude was manifested in answers to questions which I received from a group of pre-school students. Since Jesus said, “Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein” (Luke 18:17) we ought to be very interested in how we can become more like them in their attitude toward God, work, and obedience.

First, the little children I spoke with had great things to say about God. They said things like, “He’s Wonderful, He’s nice and good, and we like Him because He takes us to Heaven.” What a great attitude for all to have! The Scriptures teach that Jesus would be called, “Wonderful” (Isa. 9:6), the goodness of God leads us to repentance (Rom. 2:4), and God does have a place reserved in Heaven for the faithful (1 Pet. 1:3,4).

Second, these children had a good outlook toward work. When asked what they thought about work, they said, “It’s good, we like it, and it is hard and fun.” Jesus wanted us to have the same feelings toward working in the Kingdom. He went about doing good works (Acts 10:38) and Paul’s desire for the Colossians was that they “might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God” (Col. 1:10). Even though the work for the Kingdom is difficult at times (2 Tim. 3:12), Solomon said, “There is nothing better for a man, than that he should . . . make his soul enjoy good in his labour” (Ecc. 2:24).

Third, the little pre-school children had something positive to say about obedience. I asked them what they should do when told to do something and they said, “Do it and Listen Right!” What a simple and powerful lesson for every adult to learn. James wrote, “But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves” (James 1:22). So many adults are plagued with “Gospel brain damage.” They can hear what God has to say but will not comprehend it and do it. The Gospel is able to save our souls (James 1:21) and the only way that can happen is by “listening right” to God, hearing the Word of the Gospel, and believing it (Acts 15:7). “My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:18).

So, we spend all our lives waiting to be grown up only to find out that God wants us to become little children again. Innocence, purity, obedience, love, and happiness are all a part of a child’s heart. Children are an example unto all. Let us follow their steps by becoming faithful children of our Heavenly Father (Luke 11:13; 1 John 3:1).

