

The PRISM



Sunshine Church of Christ

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Sinful nature vs. fruit of the Spirit

Sometimes we tend to bounce around too much and not cover things that really need to be said. We don't come down on the bad enough and show the contrast of the good. There comes a time when we just ought to zero in and do some plain talk.

The apostle Paul was good at "telling it like it is." Frequently, his letters go both ways, praising the good and condemning the faults, while encouraging on both counts. His letter to the Galatians is a good example. I want to look at what he had to say to them (and to us) in the fifth chapter.

Paul had a problem with the Galatians: mainly, that they were going away from the gospel of Christ and to the Law of Moses from which they came. He had told them in the first chapter that there was no other gospel than what had been preached to them (Christ). In 5:7 he said, "You were (past tense) running a good race (Paul often made reference to athletics)." But also, speaking of the freedom they were called to in Christ, he said (5:13), "do not use your freedom to indulge in the sinful nature" but "serve one another in love," noting that the "entire law" (I would presume of Moses and of Christ) is summed up by "Love your neighbor as yourself."

There is more wrong than making a wrong selection of religion they were going to follow, indicated by his telling them (5:16) how to "not gratify the desires of the sinful nature."

Paul says the sinful nature is not compatible with the Spirit. One obstructs the other.

He gets specific on the ways of sinful nature and the fruit of the Spirit. There should be no doubt in their minds or ours in deciding what ought to be avoided and what ought to be followed. He makes no distinction of what is worse in the bad, but he seems to include all in the good.

"The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery (extreme indulgence in sensuality); idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like."

Then, he provides a rather stern warning: "those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God" (5:19-21).

Observe that Paul leads this by saying the bad is "obvious," indicating to me that the sins he follows with are the color of sin. Looking at each, we should be able to imagine without much difficulty that they don't meet the test of loving our neighbors as ourselves.

It is good practice to give folks options. Instead of this, that. Paul does so in the verses following (5:22-26). Hear the contrast.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and selfcontrol. Against such things there is no law." As I alluded before, how can one have one without the other.

What a contrast! Honestly, just looking at the words in each set with a little imagination, I think most can figure out the better option. Standing alone, it seems to me that we ought to find more happiness, more peace in following the latter group than the former. But there's more.

There is a difference in the final outcome that makes it more than worthwhile to follow the Spirit rather than the sinful nature. It is that we want to "inherit the kingdom of God" (5:21).

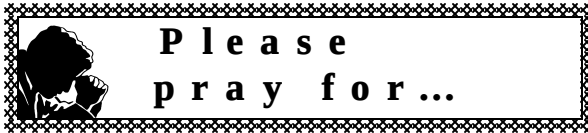
Paul says that those who have committed to Christ should know better. Here is his conclusion:

"Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other" (5:24-26).

Chuck Owen

Northside Church of Christ

Laredo, Texas



For our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

For our troops in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.

For the lost in our families and community.

For the ban on partial birth abortion to stand as law.

For marriage to stand in our laws as God ordained it.

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri Brook Butler (little sister of Zach Coriell's coworker) is scheduled open-heart surgery in October.

Sarah Riley (Jamie's mother) is being tested for a persistent cough and spitting up blood.

Pauline Caseman (Jim Jacob's sister-in-law) is suffering with advanced cancer and is not yet a Christian.

Eldon Conkel had a massive heart attack Friday. He has been transported to Riverside in Columbus. If he can survive the next few days, he has been scheduled for a possible triple bypass surgery toward the middle of the week. The doctors want to let his heart rest for 5 or 6 days before doing anything.

Paulina Hilt (mother of Darriah Kelley) has had a recurrence of cancer in her liver and lungs.

Gary and Janine Robinson are in University Hospital in Columbus after a severe motorcycle accident.

Tana Darnell (37 year old friend of Cindy Coriell) was involved in a serious motorcycle accident last week. She is in Cabell Huntington Hospital with internal injuries and had to have a leg amputated.

Leslie Allison is being tested for preclampsia. Prayer is requested for her and baby **Logan**. Also, **Evan** is taking a new job in Ashland, KY, 9/13/04 and somehow needs to get his family moved from Cincinnati.

Elizabeth Stout is at the point of death with advanced Alzheimer's disease.

Scheduled Bible Study Texts

Sunday	Wednesday
9/5 Mt 12:22-50	9/8 Ecc 1-6
9/12 Lk 11:37-13:9	9/15 Ecc 7-12
9/19 Mk 4:1-29	9/22 Daniel 1-2
9/26 Mt 13:24-53	9/29 Daniel 3

Scheduled texts and teachers through the end of the year are posted on the church web page.

Offering Boxes

You might have noticed the additional Offering Boxes that have been installed in the foyer. The two existing Offering Boxes were not able to hold the contribution from the congregation (good problem to have). Thanks to Dick Havens for doing the work and getting the new boxes up. Church, go ahead and fill up all four boxes to overflowing. Dick can make as many of them as we need.

Memorial Contributions

The congregation, in memory and honor of Wanda Coriell and Harry Woodworth, has received memorial contributions totaling \$3650.00. The contributions that have been given in memory of Wanda Coriell are being used to purchase the fencing that is being installed at the front of the building. The fenced area is being provided as a safe place for the little ones to play before and after services. Thanks to Dick Havens and Ryan Coriell for doing a super installation job. The money given in memory of Harry Woodworth is being sent to the World Bible Translation Center to provide Bibles in foreign lands. The families of Wanda and Harry designated the use of both memorial funds.

Teen Devo

Tuesday, 6:30 pm, at Terry and Debbie's house.

Shower for Nicholas

Saturday, September 25, 3 pm, here at the Sunshine fellowship hall there will be a shower for Nicholas Boggs. He is registered at Walmart. His mommie wanted to wait till after he came to have his shower. See Autumn Risner for details.

Teen Retreat at Fort Hill Camp

September 10-12, Danny and Betty Speight will be keynote speakers at the teen retreat at Fort Hill Camp. Theme: *"This Is Your Life--Make It Count!"* For more details, see Shaun McCray.

Help Needed

We have a family associated with the congregation with 3 special needs children. They have been discouraged about attending church because of the difficulty of managing the children during services. Children's Bible Time is not an appropriate place for them either. We are considering the possibility of asking a couple of adults to take the children to a classroom and watch them for the Sunday morning worship assembly so as to allow the parents a chance to participate in worship. This would be done on a rotating basis. One adult team doing first Sunday's, another team doing 2nd Sunday's, another team doing third Sunday's, etc. If you would be willing to give up one morning service per month to help out this family, please get with me and tell me which Sunday you could do on a regular basis. We are "testing the waters" here before we make any commitments to anyone. Steve.

Sunday PM Services

Singing devotional tonight.

In the News

Mike Coriell was honored at a ceremony Monday evening here at the building by receiving the 2nd Tip on his black belt in Karate. This is a high honor in the world of Karate and must be conferred by black belt masters who have observed Mike and his dedication to teaching the martial art to others. Mike and his son, Gregg, and two other black belt instructors teach a community Karate class in the fellowship hall on Monday evenings from 6-8 pm. About 20-25 men, women, teens and children, at all levels of Karate proficiency meet here for the class. Congratulations, Mike, on receiving this high honor.

3rd Annual FHCYC Golf Outing

If you are interested in participating in the Fort Hill golf scramble on September 18th, please sign the list on the bulletin board and see Jamie Riley. We will be leaving at about 8:00 am. for the Scramble, which will be at Westchester Golf Club in Canal Winchester.

Round Lake Leadership Retreat

September 24 and 25 is the 20th annual Men's Leadership Retreat in Lakeville, Ohio. There will be a golf scramble on **Friday, Sept. 24th**, then that evening through noon Saturday, worship, keynotes and fellowship. We plan to be home by early **Saturday evening the 25th**. If you are interested, please sign the list on the bulletin board, and note if you are playing golf or not. Cost is \$45 per person payable at the retreat. For more info see Jamie.

COMING EVENTS

- Aug. 29 - Sunday PM Youth Service
- Sep. 3-5 - Summit Rally in Columbus
- Sep. 9-12 - Ft. Hill Teen Retreat
- Sep. 14-16 - Ft. Hill Senior Retreat
- Sep. 18 - Ft. Hill Golf Scramble
- Sep. 19 - Area Wide Worship (Cincinnati)
- Sep. 24-25 - Round Lake Retreat & Golf Scramble
- Sep. 25 - Ladies Day @ Fishinger & Kenny CofC
- Oct. 1-2 - Annual Leaders Retreat
- Oct. 3-5 - Willard Tate Meeting
- Oct. 17 - Sunday Home Group Meetings begin
- Nov. 13 - Sr. Ambassadors Banquet
- Nov. 14 - Sunday Home Group Meetings end

Directory Updates

Last Sunday, **Shawn and Heather Gragg** indicated their desire to be identified with Sunshine congregation. We welcome them into the fellowship here.

Jeff and Teresa Hayward moved into their new house last week.

Those Who Serve

Scheduled Services

Sunday

Bible Study - 9:45 am
Worship - 10:30 am
Eve. Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

The Prism is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover. Deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. Friday. News items may be called to Steve Miller or Al Graff or e-mailed to:

bulletin@sunshine-church.org

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Sunday Morning

Bible Class Text
Welcome & Prayer
Song Director
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Lord's Supper - Wine
Bread
Assist
Assist
Assist
Assist
Message
Closing Prayer

September 5

Matthew 12:22-50
Don Coriell
Scott Gamp
Matt Hoskins
Troy Gahm
John Berry
Aaron McCray
Ira Coriell
Rick Coriell
Ryan Coriell
Aaron Franke
Steve Miller
Jamie Riley

September 12

Luke 11:37-13:9
Jon Coriell
Shaun McCray
Tim Coriell
Jason Coriell
Eric McLaughlin
Rick Brown
Shawn Gragg
Terry Royster
Kevin Stimpert
Ira Coriell
Steve Miller
John Berry

Sunday Evening

Song Director
Opening Prayer
Lord's Supper
Closing Prayer

Selected
Rick Brown
Aaron McCray
Mark Risner

Bud Coriell
Troy Gahm
Greg Coriell
Terry Sullivan

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer
Bible Class Text

Gabe Coriell
Mark Gamp
Ecclesiastes 1-6

Mark Gamp
Ryan Coriell
Ecclesiastes 7-12

Advance listings for Those Who Serve are posted on our website.

Elders

Don Coriell	776-6346	dcoriell@sunshine-church.org
Jon Coriell	776-3248	jcoriell@sunshine-church.org
Wayne Gamp	820-3444	wgamp@sunshine-church.org
Tom Kelley	259-2258	tkelley@sunshine-church.org

Evangelists

Steve Miller	820-4379	smiller@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0156	
Jamie Riley	820-3348	jriley@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0158	

Building 820-3415
Building Fax 820-5450
Campus Ministry 355-3186

Office Hours: 8-12 M-F
sunshinecofc@peoplepc.com

Deacons & Areas of Ministry

Rich Book	820-3213	Education, Elbrooke Services, Library
Bud Coriell	776-3452	Building Remodeling
Mike Coriell	820-3415	Local Benevolence
Jason Coriell	820-4739	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Scott Gamp	820-3545	Worship, Special Events
Gary Glispie	776-4279	Church Directory, Program of Work
Alan Graff	776-7905	Bulletin, Advert., Front sign, Computers
Dick Havens	456-5009	Building Maint., Supplies
Taylor Hoskins	820-4645	Worship, Insurance, Budget
Shaun McCray	776-7738	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Homer Miller	776-7550	Funerals, Hosp. Visit., Attendance
Eugene Risner	820-2256	Fire, Health, Seniors, Joy of Giving
Willis Shumway	820-2833	Bldg. Use & Security, Baptistery
Terry Sullivan	776-7056	Youth Ministry

Visit us online at www.sunshine-church.org