

The Church of Christ at **SUNSHINE** Bulletin

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ISSUE 28

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TWO-THIRDS NEGATIVE

"Preach the word; be urgent in season and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and teaching," — 2 Tim. 4:2, ASV

One of the complaints most often heard about preaching is that it is so "negative." Preachers have often defended their negative preaching by quoting the above verse and saying that Paul's instruction to Timothy regarding preaching is, "two-thirds negative." Is it?

Do not get me wrong, I have not joined the "preach only positive" crowd, nor have I adopted the philosophy of the old song, "Accentuate the positive, Eliminate the negative, and don't mess with Mr. In Between." Rather I believe that Paul is telling Timothy there is a healthy balance between all three of these aspects of preaching. Furthermore, I believe if we are to focus on any one thing of these instructions it should be to exhort one another.

Besides all of this does "reprove" really carry a negative connotation? The New King James translates this word as "convince," which probably more accurately portrays the apostle's thought. The noun form of this word, reproof, found in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 means, "a proof, proving, a test," the verb form found in our text means, "to convict or expose." Not necessarily a negative connotation to either definition. To reprove simply means to make the point clear and convince the audience that what is being taught is the truth.

Rebukes are sometimes necessary, and yes, this word carries a negative connotation; however, rebukes are to be handled with a gentle spirit (Gal. 6:1). It is possible to rebuke someone for their actions and attitudes without coming down on them with "all the fires of Hell." Bro. Robert Turner tells the story of being called to preach at a congregation that was having problems. The call came at the last minute, and bro. Turner had to get someone to drive him to his destination so he could finish his sermon notes in the car on the way. He says he sat in the back seat of the car furiously working on a scathing rebuke. He and his driver got to the building of this congregation right on time, walked through the door, one man was still in the vestibule. He introduced himself to this man hurriedly, and was fixing to dart to his seat for the service to begin when the man said to him, "Go in there brother and give 'em Heaven!" Bro. Turner said that stopped him in his tracks. When delivering a rebuke we must always be mindful that we are dealing with the souls of others. Our goal is not to destroy, but to save.

Exhort means to call or entreat. In other words to encourage. The word itself denotes one calling another to his side. This is significant, for the New

PRAYER REQUESTS

For the innocent who are suffering in the midst of war.

For the lost in our families and community.

For those who are being martyred and persecuted for Christ in our own time

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

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri

For Tim and Jennifer in the adoption process

For the success of the mission trips to Haiti and Honduras Our group headed for Honduras will be leaving July 26 and return on August 2. Pray that much good in the kingdom will be done.

Millie Lemon continues to recuperate at home after her heart surgery.

Charlotte Brisker is now residing at Elbrooke Pavilion.

Willis Shumway had a heart catheterization and angioplasty (3 stents) this week at KDMC. All went well and he was able to come home on Thursday.

Zeb Wiehle (1 month old son of Keith and Kristi Wiehle) had a heart catheterization on Thursday in Columbus.

Emily Cram was retested on Wednesday at Children's in Columbus for a heart problem associated with connective tissue disorder. The test confirmed she has this condition. For now this means her heart must be monitored closely (every 6 months) and in the long term it means she will have surgeries periodically to counter-act the effects of connective tissue disorder. Let us come boldly to the throne of the Father to ask for healing and mercy for her.

TWO-THIRDS NEGATIVE - Continued

Testament teaches that we cannot make it to Heaven alone (Heb. 10:24-25). We must have one another. We exhort one another, serve as examples to one another for greater faithfulness. As Solomon said, "Two are better than one..." (Eccl. 4:9-10). This is why the Lord set up the association and fellowship we have as members of a local body of believers.

Negative preaching has a place. But twisting Paul's words to Timothy into something they are not is a dangerous matter. We must be careful regarding our negativity and turning people off. I know of a congregation which had about 200 members when a particular preacher went there. Shortly after he arrived about 50 left. Since 1997 they have had one family place membership with them, and that family recently decided it was time for to change, none have been baptized in that time frame. We must be careful to balance negative and positive, understanding that it is the soul of man that is important, it is what we are trying to win. All part of "letting our speech be seasoned with salt," (Col. 4:6). Positive and negative preaching must work together.

Jason Stringer

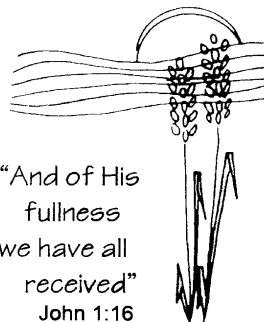
Dayton Road Church of Christ
Waco, TX

Sunshine Cookbook

There is a basket of recipe cards and an empty bag on the table in the foyer for members to place their recipes for submission in the new Sunshine Cookbook. Anyone is welcome to submit recipes. The categories are listed on the table. The deadline for submissions is July 29.

Teen Devo

No devo this week due to FHCYC camp week.



Brother smiling, stripes on fathers belt, more stones, bush larger, hem on sons robe, window larger, fathers hat and hair changed, border added to brothers robe, cloud added to sky.

Honduras Prayer/Encouragement Notes

On the window in the foyer are nine file folders taped to the window with the names of the nine people who are going to Honduras. We are asking those of you who want to do so to write a note of encouragement and prayer to each team member and seal it in an envelope and place it in their folder no later than Wednesday, July 25. They depart for Honduras on July 26. The names of our nine team members are: From our congregation - Wayne Gampp, Jamie Riley, Dewey Cordle and Mary Lemon. And from Innermission - Andrea Hock, Nick Burkholder, Tyler Jones, Rob Moore and Luke Purpero.

Spirit Club Award Sunday

Sunday, July 22, will be our Sunday to recognize those students who have been successful and faithful in their Spirit Club memory work. At the end of the am services, we will be awarding Spirit Club T-shirts and certificates for 2007.

Spirit Club Big Bash

Saturday, July 28, is the day set for our Spirit Club Big Bash at Splash Down in Jackson. There is a list on the back bulletin board of all of our students who have earned a shirt and a second list of those students who will be able to attend Splash Down on Saturday, July 28. Please check the list TODAY and make sure it is correct. Parents, please turn in your money for Splash Down TODAY as well. See Kristi Cordle.

Honduras Mission Team Send-Off

Sunday, July 22, after our PM Bible classes are concluded, we are going to re-assemble in the auditorium and take about 15 minutes to recognize the nine people who are going to Honduras as representatives of Christ and this church in Honduras and to allow the shepherds of our congregation to pray publicly for each of them and the mission.

Spirit Club Verse of the Month

Habakkuk 2:20 - The Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

COMING EVENTS

- 7/22 - Spirit Club Award Sunday (AM)**
- 7/22 - Honduras Mission Night (PM)**
- 7/26 - Depart for Honduras**
- 7/28 - Spirit Club Big Bash**
- 7/29 - Rick Fyffe of HFHC for PM service**
- 8/2 - Return from Honduras**

Bible Study Curriculum

Sunday

- 7/15 Mark 12:41-44
John 12:20-50
- 7/22 Matthew 24:1-51
- 7/29 Fifth Sunday

Wednesday

- 7/18 Psalm 2,16,22,45,110
- 7/25 Psalm 32, 38,51
- 8/1 Psalm 19 & 119

Fort Hill Camp News

Today is the beginning of Sunshine week at Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp. It is not too late to register a camper for the week. Applications and information are on the bulletin board in the foyer. We have about 30 campers and 30 adults who have gone to camp for this week as support personnel, counselors, teachers and chaperones. They will be back with us next Sunday along with all of the campers. The Camp leaders asked us to be in prayer this week about all the campers and the adults who are there. May the Lord's name be magnified in all that is done.

Teen Girls Class Cancelled

The Teen Girls class will not be meeting this evening because the teacher is at Camp. Class resumes next week.

Special Prayer Request from India

Stephanie Copas is doing Bible studies online with people in India through World Bible School. One of her students named Jyothirmayee Chandra has requested that we pray for her and her work. She and her husband live in India and travel from place to place establishing churches. It's like right out of the Bible. They are at an important point in getting things going with their current group. She prays that God will open doors and open the hearts of the people. They are willing to believe in the One True God, but not quite ready to give up their idols...trying to keep everyone happy. She believes that God will do His work through them AND that prayer WORKS. She asks us to pray for their work.

Those Who Serve

Sunday Morning

Welcome & Prayer
Song Director
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Lord's Supper –Bread
Wine
Server 1
Server 2
Server 3
Server 4
Server 5
Server 6
Message
Closing Prayer

July 15

Wayne Gampp
Shaun McCray
Matt Cram
David Gampp
Jamie Riley
Dewey Cordle
Barry Hayward
Jack Jennings
Ed McLaughlin
Sean Higbee
Ryan Coriell
Ira Coriell
Steve Miller
John Berry

July 22

Tom Kelley
Nick Davis
Eric Copas
Rich Book
Shawn Gragg
Aaron Kallner
Eric McLaughlin
Michael Dixon
Mark Risner
Lane Raiser
Andrew O'Dell
Dale Gampp
Jamie Riley
Gary Glispie

Sunday Evening

Song Director
Scripture Reading
Lord's Supper
Prayer
Bible Class Text

Gabe Coriell
Troy Gahm
Mark Gampp
Aaron McCray
Mk 12:41-44, Jn 12:20-50

Matthew Hoskins
Bob Hayward
Terry Sullivan
Jeff Hayward
Matthew 24:1-51

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer
Bible Class Text

July 18

Zach Coriell
Jason Coriell
Psalms 2, 16, 22, 45, 110

July 25

Jacob Miller
Nick Gampp
Psalms 32, 38, & 51

Children's Bible Time

July 3/5: Mary Lemon
July 6/8 : Jane Ruggles
August 3/5 : Jill Williams, Steve Williams, Jenny Williams
August 6/8: Julie Miller, Renee Higbee, Jacob Miller

Regular Service Times

Sunday

Worship - 10:00 am
Bible Study - 6:30 p.m

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin 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.

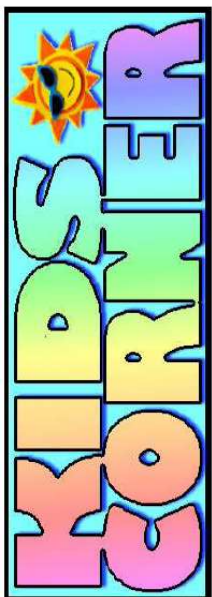
Deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. Friday. News items may be called to Al Graff or Steve Miller or e-mailed to:

info@sunshine-church.org

VISIT US ONLINE AT

sunshine-church.org
sunshine-church.blogspot.com
innermissionssu.com

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please make arrangements for a substitute. Thank you.



For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. Luke 15:24

Find nine differences between the two pictures below. Answers on page 2.

