

**New Caney
Church of Christ**

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Assembly Times

Sundays
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

***Retaining The Standard
Of Sound Doctrine***

Evangelist: Charles Willis
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Know Your Bible: Answers

1. Elisabeth (Luke 1:5)
2. Martha (John 11:24-26)
3. Anna (Luke 2:36)
4. Michal (2 Samuel 6:16)
5. Lydia (Acts 16:14)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Billy Lovell
Announcements:
Encouragement Talk:
Opening Prayer: Eddie Bowen
Song Leader: Jacob McAdams
Table Talk: Arturo Orozco
Contribution: Todd McAdams
Helper: Theo Edge
Fruit of Vine:
Helper: Lester Mabry
Helper: Verlin Wilson
Scripture Reading: Ryan Haarmann
Closing Prayer: Tyler Blazek

Sunday Afternoons

Feb 19 3PM Prayer Meeting
Feb 26 4PM Parent Class; Children's Drill Class
Mar 5 4PM Devotionals (Men, Women, Youth)
Mar 12 3PM Bible Fundamentals Class
4PM Outdoor Work Day

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Arturo Orozco
Speaker: Tyler Blazek



Standing Firm

“Take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist
in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm”
Ephesians 6:13

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Becoming As Clay

“But now, O Lord, You are our Father, We are the clay, and You our potter; And all of us are the work of Your hand” (Isaiah 64:8). God is the one who *“formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being”* (Genesis 2:7). It is appropriate and right for us to consider God the potter and us as the clay. We are indeed His handiwork!

Since the garden God has given man the ability to choose and the Bible records how man has repeatedly hardened his heart to the will of God. To this day we can have a heart that is disobedient and abtinent. The heart of man is the seat of all thought and emotion, and our thoughts are what can defile us. The Israelites suffered from hardness of heart due to disbelief (John 12:40) and sin (Hebrews 3:13). Consider the hardness of heart to be as dried clay that is no longer pliable! *“Behold, like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel”* (Jeremiah 18:6). The Lord said He could still manipulate nations and events to bring about His will, despite the hardness of heart evident in Israel. While this is very true even in our day and age, our desire should be to have a soft heart with which God can operate.

The gospel has the power to penetrate the heart (Hebrews 4:12) and cause the hardness to soften. The good news of salvation in Jesus infuses the hardness and dissolves it. Our heart becomes more pliable as we dig deeper into the goodness of God. That is the concept of being “transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Romans 12:2). We allow God’s will to permeate our heart with the result of our adoption of His will for our won. The more this process takes place the more our heart will soften - the more God will be able to mold us.

To become the consistency of moldable clay requires that we be “conformed to the image of His Son” (Romans 8:29). This speaks of taking on the shape of the mold (Christ). It is as if God works us into the “mold” of Christ. He continues to shape us till we begin to fill every nook and crevice of the mold so that our life will begin to

more closely resemble Him. Paul told the Galatians he was in “*labor until Christ is formed in you*” (Galatians 4:19). We should continue to strive for a softer heart that is willingly shaped after Christ!

What kind of heart do we have? We have the ability to harden our heart and we have the ability to soften it again. It is our decision. The hymn says it correctly and perhaps we need to pray it more: “Make me as clay in the potter’s hand.” CLW

Finding Peace

by Charles Willis

The Kentuckycounselingcenter.org recommends the following strategies for finding spirituality, peace, and happiness.

1. Spend time in nature.
2. Meditate.
3. Be grateful.
4. Take responsibility for your actions.
5. Don’t let your past mistakes define you.
6. Love yourself.
7. Practice acceptance and contentment.

This is not at all what Scripture says. Rather than listening to the wisdom of man we need to listen to the wisdom of God.

“*Whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God*” (James 4:4). This is the state of all men who are in sin, including Christians. “*The mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God*” (Roman 8:7). God is the one who tells us this: “*There is no peace for the wicked, says the Lord*” (Isaiah 48:22). Truly, “*the path of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes*” (Romans 3:17–18).

If you want peace, you have to deal with your sin. Our godly sorrow over sin (2 Cor. 7:11) “*produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation*” (2 Cor. 7:10). We are not saved at the point of repentance, but cannot be saved without repentance. Believing Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24), confessing He is the son of God (Matt. 10:32), and being baptized for the forgiveness of sin (Acts 2:38) results in our salvation. Then “*times of refreshing*

Know Your Bible

Notable Women

1. What New Testament woman was married to a priest named Zacharias?
2. To whom did Jesus say, “I am the resurrection and the life”?
3. What woman was called a prophetess by Luke?
4. Which of David’s wives “despised him in her heart”?
5. What wealthy woman made her living selling purple?

Answers On Back

Sunday Sermon

Point your phone camera at the square below, then click on the link to hear the sermon. Recordings will change mid-week.



may come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19). Having been baptized “into Christ” (Gal. 3:27) and “*justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ*” (Romans 5:1).

Jesus told the disciples, “*Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you*” (John 14:27). The peace of Christ is far greater than the peace of the world. “*All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted*” (2 Tim. 3:12). There will be enemies in our families because of our faith (Luke 12:53). Yet still, the peace of Christ is greater. “*These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace*” (John 16:33). “*The peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus*” (Philippians 4:7). We CAN have peace in our heart while in this world, because THIS peace is not dependant on what happens in this life. It is far greater than worldly peace. It is a spiritual, eternal peace with God.

So we are to “*let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful*” (Colossians 3:15). Some Christians still struggle, looking for peace, because they have not let the peace of Christ rule in their heart. When we lack faith and obedience, when we struggle spiritually, we lack peace. We must allow Christ to rule in our heart, and then His peace will rule in our heart. “*The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, Because he trusts in You*” (Isaiah 26:3). Our trust in God’s promises, trust in His words of how to live - this is what keeps us steadfast in our mind. It is often our own poor thinking that leads to a lack of peace. We allow ourselves to be distracted, leading to worry and doubt. We must trust if we want peace. “*Those who love Your law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble*” (Psalm 119:165).

The peace of Christ is greater than the peace of the world, so much so we are at peace even as we near death. The sting of death is sin (1 Cor. 15:56). People fear death because of their sin. They fear facing God. But the one who obeys and trusts God has great peace. Simeon was told by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Christ. After holding the infant Jesus he said, “*Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word*” (Luke 2:29). Paul wrote, “*For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing*” (2 Timothy 4:6–8).

The wisdom of man will never bring peace to our lives. It is only found in Christ Jesus.