

**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***

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Know Your Bible: Answers

1. Gabriel (Dan. 8:15-26; 9:21-27)
2. Michael (Revelation 12:7)
3. Elijah (1 Kings 19:5-8)
4. A repentant sinner (Luke 15:10)
5. Matthew (28:2)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Ryan Haarmann
Announcements: Eddie Bowen
Encouragement Talk: John Franks
Opening Prayer: Billy Lovell
Scripture Reading: Harper Flores
1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
Song Leader: Todd McAdams
Table Talk: Brad Smith
Contribution: Jacob McAdams
Helper: Corwin Richardson
Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek
Helper: Verlin Wilson
Helper: Ronnie Ramsey
Closing Prayer: Joel Jordan

Sunday Afternoons

Nov 12 Parent Planned Youth Devotional
Nov 19 4PM Encouragement Effort (writing cards, texts, emails at the building)
Nov 26 Nothing
Dec 3 4PM Worship

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Ryan Haarmann
Speaker: John Franks



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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Be An Example

“Let your light shine before men...” (Matthew 5:16)

Every Christian must understand we are to look to the example of others in how to live faithfully unto God. *“Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps”* (1 Peter 2:21). The example of Jesus is our primary example, one that we look to for how to live righteously, how to pray (Matthew 6), and how to serve God. The apostles are also examples for us, for Paul wrote *“...in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example”* (2 Thessalonians 3:9), and *“Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ”* (1 Corinthians 11:1). These examples are things we are to study in Scripture and learn from.

God also tells us to look at living examples in our lives. Elders are to prove themselves *“to be examples to the flock”* (1 Peter 5:3). We are told to *“remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith”* (Hebrews 13:7). We are greatly encouraged by the living example for we see they can be righteous, they can grow to maturity, therefore so can I. We learn from fellow Christians.

What many Christians fail to realize is the teaching in Scripture that we must all be an example to everyone else. *“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven”* (Matthew 5:13-16). Letting your light shine so everyone can see your good works – that is about being an example. When they see your example, they will learn to glorify the Father in heaven. So we cannot hide our light but must instead live righteously without shame or fear of what others might do to us. This is the *“way”* in which we let our light shine. If others cannot see our good works, cannot see us living in righteousness, then we are not obeying this teaching of Jesus.

By inspiration of the Holy Spirit the apostle Paul gives a similar teaching, saying *“do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you*

appear as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life” (Philippians 2:14-16). To live *“above reproach”* is about our example. The phrase in the original language means to “be blameless.” No one can accuse us of unrighteousness and it be true. We are to be *“innocent”* in all things. The context is about *“grumbling and disputing”* between believers. When we behave in this unrighteous way, we are no longer innocent or blameless. Men in the world will be repulsed by such conduct because it is not following the teaching of Scripture. There is plenty of guilt and blame in the way men live in the world. The *“crooked and perverse generation”* (those in the world) are supposed to see something different in Christians. We are to *“appear as lights”* because we “hold fast the word of life” meaning we live in righteousness to what God has said. EVERY Christians is to be an example.

By inspiration of the Holy Spirit the apostle Peter gives a similar teaching, saying *“Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation”* (1 Peter 2:11-12). Again, *“excellent behavior”* is required of every Christian. Like *“aliens and strangers”* who do not live in the country and have different ideas and behaviors, Christians are to live among the *“gentiles”* (those who are not Christians) in righteousness. Specifically in this passage we are to *“abstain from fleshly lusts.”* Abstain means “to hold oneself off”, to have no participation. Christians cannot indulge or give in to the lusts of the flesh. *“Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God”* (Galatians 5:19-21). It is not difficult to see how the *“crooked and perverse generation”*, the *“Gentiles”*, participate in such things. Look through any city and you will see places where people go to drink alcohol where outburst of anger, disputes, dissensions, drunkenness and carousing all take place every day. Immorality is rampant in the world among those who are not Christians. We must **ABSTAIN** from such things if we want our light to shine. They must see our *“good deeds”* – how we live in righteousness. This is the only way we can be an example to others.

By inspiration of the Holy Spirit, there are a few other specifics about

Know Your Bible

Encounters With Angels

1. What angel helped Daniel to understand the future?
2. According to Revelation, what angel fights against Satan?
3. What prophet was fed two meals by an angel?
4. According to Jesus, what causes angels to rejoice?
5. Which gospel says that an angel rolled away the stone from Jesus’ tomb?

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.



being an example. Paul writes to the young evangelist saying, *“Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe”* (1 Timothy 4:12). Many who are young Christians do not think of themselves as being an example to others, but Scripture says we must be. Letting your light shine is not reserved for those who are old. Our light shines in our *“speech”*. We do not lie (Revelation 21:27), we do not curse (James 3:10), and we *“bridle”* our tongue (James 1:26). This conduct is very different from the world and will be seen. Our light shines in our *“love”*. It is seen in the things we love. The world loves wealth, immorality, bad movies and shows, gambling, and much more – but that cannot be what we love. The world must see our love for God (Matthew 6:24), our love for family (Ephesians 5:25), and our love for one another (John 15:17). Our light shines in our *“faith and purity.”* Others can see our faith and purity, but we must also speak of our faith and the need for purity. In this way we “show” ourselves to be an example of those who believe.

Paul urges *“the young men to be sensible; in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us”* (Titus 2:6-8). Young men are often rash, undignified, and out of control. The young Christian man is to be *“sensible”*, the Greek word meaning “to be of sound mind, that is, sane” (Strong’s Concordance). In other words, do not be insane (crazy) by living unrighteously. Instead, young Christian men must be an example of good deeds *“in all things”*. Three specifics are mentioned. An example in *“purity in doctrine”* meaning purity in teaching – speaking the whole truth of God. Be an example by being *“dignified”* which includes concepts of showing honor to those it is due, having respect, and speaking the truth. The young Christian must also be *“sound in speech”* which includes honesty, keeping promises, abstaining from vulgarities, and more. This is some of how we let our light shine which others can see.

Finally Peter writes, *“In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior”* (1 Peter 3:1-2). The example of the wife will be seen in the home by the disbelieving husband. This also holds true for the faithful husband with a disbelieving wife. The spouse can be *“won”* (converted to become a Christian) as they observe your behavior. They will see if your light is shining or not.

There can be no pretense in the life of a Christian. We cannot live as the hypocrite for *“your sin will find you out”* (Numbers 32:23). We must live in righteousness in obedience to all that God says. Only then can we be the example to others which God demands.

“Let your light shine before men...” (Matthew 5:16)

By Charles Willis