



aving studied on how the Lord wants us to be exceedingly honest, we now turn our attention to being exceedingly nice in Matthew 5:38-48.

IN NEED OF PRAYER : **Sheila Fox** is doing about the same. **Rachel Bartley** was able to have repair valve surgery on her heart and to get a pace-maker on Friday at Kentuckiana Hospital. **Jason Goode** is back at home and doing better. Your prayers are requested for **Jacqueline Crawford**, a little girl related to some of our friends at Pine Hill in Clay County. She is at Kosair Children’s Hospital

Pantry Item: We have some good stuff in our pantry now, but could use a couple of things to give people who can’t afford much a good Christmas dinner. If some could get us 2 turkeys, or the funds for 2 small turkeys that would be great. Also, bring some stuffing mix by the building.

WORK LIST FOR DECEMBER 20, 2015

Announcements:	TBA	
Opening Prayer:	Jim Stoops	
Closing Prayer:	Ronnie Branstetter	
Scripture Reading:	McHale High	
Song Leader:	Bobby Harlan	
Head Table:	Jarad Bartley	
Wait on Table:	Wendell Emberton	David White
	Chandler Clements	Kalab Sweezy
Ushers:	Jimmie Proffitt	Ray Cecil Lyon

Holiday Activities:

Tonight is our **Singing and ornament exchange** at fellowship. Any ornament will do, and we will have some extras for anyone who forgets or visits tonight, but personalizing the ornaments gives them that little something extra.

The **nursing home singing and caroling** is set for tomorrow night, the 21st at 6:45pm. We will sing some gospel songs and then do some Christmas Caroling.

Questions: Should we celebrate Christmas as the birth of Christ? What should a Christian’s attitude toward Christmas be?

Answers: We should always refrain from **binding** any religious observance which is not bound in the Scriptures. Certainly the birth of Christ, just as any other good event recorded in the Bible, is worthy of our study, is an appropriate subject for songs of praise, and is good for teaching. However, this is not the same as saying that a connection **ought** to be drawn between December 25 and the birth of Christ. It is easy to go to an extreme in either way, so let me list some things that should guide us in our study of this subject:

- 1) No one knows the day Christ was born, it’s not a big deal, but it probably wasn’t even near a cold December 25th. Just read the accounts in Matthew through John and see what you think.
- 2) We have authority to thank God for all good things (1 Thess. 5:18). This would certainly include the miraculous events surrounding the sending of Jesus to earth. Therefore, those beautiful songs about Jesus’ birth are good for use as spiritual songs **throughout the year**. It is regrettable that it is only seen as appropriate to sing them at one time during the year.
- 3) It is undeniable that the Scripture spends far more time talking about the death and resurrection of Christ as opposed to His birth. I find it strange, then, that Christmas is seen as a bigger holiday than Easter. Especially since we know when Easter time is, but don’t know when Christ was born! This just shows that Christmas is a cultural observance and not really religious in nature.

Let me summarize and give some guidelines from the Bible: We want everyone to have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. However, we cannot **bind** Christmas as a time to observe Christ’s birth because God didn’t bind it, we must stay within His authority (Col. 3:17). It is appropriate in general to praise God for sending Jesus to us; we can’t say Jesus was born on December 25th. We should have the spirit of giving at all times and seasons.

The special observance of one day as a special **religious** day (when God has not called it so) causes confusion. Proof? Consider Zech. 7:3ff. In this passage the people had made a day on their own in which they would mourn or fast for Jerusalem, which had fallen to the Babylonians 70 years before. But from a reading of the passage we see that God did not count this for their righteousness. It was just something they did. If you keep reading, you find what God really wanted from the people: justice, mercy, etc. Christmas is similar in that it is easier for people to set aside a day than live for Him each day. May we give thanks unto God for the greatest gift of all at this time and at all times. -Tim

December 20, 2015

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What Must I do?

- **Hear the Gospel - Acts 15:7**
- **Believe the Gospel - Mark 16:15,16**
- **Repent of Sins - Acts 17:30**
- **Confess Christ - Rom. 10:9,10**
- **Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins - Acts 2:38**

Then, as a Christian we must:

- **LIVE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH - REV. 2:10**

Birthdays

Calvin	Clements	12/21
Rocky	Evans	12/21
Hilda	Rhoton	12/21
Herold	Wilson	12/21
Ronnie	Branstetter	12/25
Travis	Page	12/25

Elders:

Veachel Harlan.....270-487-5727
Roger Deckard.....270-487-8544
Steve Carter.....270-487-8746

Deacons:

Larry Copas, Cass Thomas Froedge, Bobby D. Geraldts,
Kevin Deckard, Jimmy High, Ray C. Lyon, Michael
McPherson, Gary Rowland, Tony Harlan

Evangelist:

Tim McHenry, 931-258-3494, cell: 427-0520
12955 Clay Co. HWY Moss, TN 38575

Schedule of Services:

Sunday: Bible Study... 9:30am
Morning Worship...10:05am
Evening Worship... 6pm
Wednesday: Bible Study... 7pm

Listen to our Sunday Morning Radio Sermon on WTKY 1370 AM & 92.1, 102.7, 101.5 FM at 8:30am each week, and to our weekday 10min program after the Noonday news.