

Tidings From Timothy

Faithfulness can be an elusive term. Some judge it solely by attendance. However, the idea of being faithful is all over scripture and we will examine just how important and broad it is this morning. Our aim is to learn how to be more faithful as the years go by.

I thank you for the feedback from Sunday night's lesson. I am trying to appreciate more and more the wonderful creation God has made for us and look forward to sharing more of it in Bible lessons with you in the future.

Lesson note: on July 16th we will have a special speaker from India come and be with us. His name is rather hard to pronounce but they call him "Cube".

VBS: There is a sign up sheet for teachers out front. Advertisements are also out front. The materials will be in this week. VBS is July 9th-12!

In Need of Prayer: We are saddened at the passing of **Anne Billingsley**, sister to **Bette Scott**. The funeral was Friday and we wish to thank food groups 1 and 2 for working with this. Please be careful and pray for those travelling this time of year on vacations and such. Get the whole prayer list at www.mtgileadchurch.net!

Singsings: There is a singing at Milestown in Clay county today at 2pm. We have an advert now up about the singing in August at Fountain Run. They are going to take the singing that Elbow used to have at that time of year.

FAITHFULNESS

People define "faithful" differently. Context is often the key. A dog is considered "faithful" when it is partial to, prefers, and is obedient to its "master/owner." A spouse is considered "faithful" when he or she doesn't cheat on their mate. A teenager is considered "faithful" when they can be trusted to carry out the parents' wishes even when the parents are out of town. But Christians are often considered "faithful" when they attend all the services of the local church on a regular basis- regardless of how they choose to live otherwise.

Think about your "faithfulness" and "trustworthiness" to God. Is it limited to consistent attendance at all services, or is there more to it? Are you only "faithful" to Him when He's "in the room and watching you"? Obviously, there is a problem here since the omnipresence of God indicates He knows everything we do (and think!). Can God "trust" you to do the right thing whether you realize He's present and watching or not? Do we expect God to continually "trust" us even though there have

been many lapses of fidelity in the past? These examples should cause us to think about the issue of faithfulness/trustworthiness a little deeper, and more seriously, than just check marks in an attendance book.

But let's take this subject of "faithfulness" a little further. Shouldn't our "faithfulness" to God also enable Him to trust us to:

-) Think about things the way He does? To look to His Word to determine the rightness or wrongness of something instead of bowing to societal pressures or our own understanding?
-) Feel about things the way He does? To have the same disdain for sin, compassion for sinners, and love of truth and righteousness?
-) Act in a way that is consistent with our profession of "faith" in Him? In brief, to act in a way that He would approve?

Please do not misunderstand. I would never discourage regular and consistent attendance at all worship and bible class opportunities of the local church- such is far too important and beneficial to our spiritual health and well-being. However, "faithfulness" is not defined simply by consistent attendance, and should not be viewed as such. Remember this oft-repeated simple statement, "God is faithful," [Deuteronomy 7:9](#); [Isaiah 49:7](#); [1Corinthians 1:9](#); [10:13](#); [2Corinthians 1:18](#); [1Thessalonians 5:24](#); [2Thessalonians 3:3](#). In every circumstance and in all applications, God is faithful. While we cannot match or reciprocate His level of "faithfulness" to us, and we certainly don't want to belittle or discount His grace, ought we not at least attempt to come as close as we possibly can to being "faithful" to Him?

JULY 2, 2017

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:

Birthdays

Jay Cooper	Rowland	06/25
Gail	Froedge	06/26
Teresa	Cloyd	06/26
Ben	Massingille	06/26
Ariel	Perry	06/27
Susie	Harlan	06/28
Amelia	Page	06/29
Linda	Dicken	06/30
Madison	Clements	06/30

Elders:

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

Deacons:

Larry Copas, Bobby Dale Gerald, Kevin Deckard,
 Jimmy High, Ray Cecil Lyon, Michael McPherson,
 Gary Rowland, Tony Harlan

Evangelist:

Tim McHenry, 931-258-3494, cell: 270-427-0520
 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.

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Mt. Gilead church of Christ

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⁵ "Behold, *the* days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. ⁶ In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell