



THE VOICE OF VICTORY



The voice of him that crieth... prepare ye the way of the Lord... --Isaiah 40:3

Upcoming Events:

October 7:

Ice Cream Social
Following the
Sunday PM Service

October 21:

Bro. Jim Sumerson
Pastor from Haven
FWB Church
Preaching Sunday
PM Service

October 28:

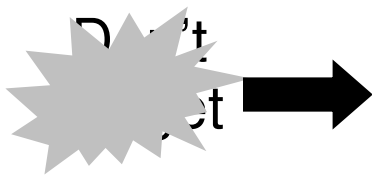
“Bringing in the
Harvest Sunday”
Don't forget to invite
family and friends to be
a part of our services

October 17:

Bro. John
Harrington
Preaching
Wednesday PM
Service

(A special offering
will be taken up to
support Bro. John's
Mission Trip to
Mexico)

There will be a picnic
and games on the
grounds following the
AM Services.
(No evening Service)



Visitation
7:00pm
EVERY
Tuesday

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MARK **YOUR** **CALENDAR:**

OCTOBER 28:
LAST DAY TO
BRING IN SHOE
BOXES

NOVEMBER 21:
THANKSGIVING
CANDLE LIGHT
SERVICE

(No Wednesday AM Service)

NOVEMBER 31:
LAST DAY TO
BRING COATS,
GLOVES, HATS,
ETC. FOR THE
MISSION

Voice of Victory
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● *The Pastor's Page*

Why Do We Do What We Do?

By: Bro. Jason M. Myers

“For the love of Christ constraineth us...2Co 5:14a” What was the apostle Paul saying when he said the love of Christ constrained him? Paul was making a statement to the church at Corinth as to what his motives were for serving that church and the church of Jesus Christ abroad. There were many “preachers” in Paul’s day, as we have in now our day, which are in the ministry for the wrong reasons. ***“Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: (16) The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: (17) But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. Phi 1:15-17”*** But Paul wanted his congregation to know without a doubt where his motives and ambition came from. We too must be clear in our motives and reasons for serving Christ.

The statement ***“the love of Christ constraineth us”*** with out question reveals to us that Paul’s motive for his work was nothing other than the love of Christ. Paul emphasized that because Christ cared enough about him to die a cruel death on the cross so that he and the rest of the world could receive pardon from their sins that he in return cared enough about Christ and his work to faithfully endure to the end. You see many people today get confused as to why they are working in the first place. Some work for the applaud of men, others for the glory of self accomplishments, others simply fill a position and some even work solely for the amount of money they can obtain in the name of the Lord.

The Greek word here for constraineth is “sunecho□” which means to hold *together*, to *compress* or *arrest*, to *afflict*. Paul was saying that the love of Christ held him to be faithful even in the tough times, being afflicted with the burden of the cross. Paul’s love for Christ arrested his desires to be submissive to the desires of his Savior. We must today evaluate the reasons why we do what we do. Are we working for God or man? At times we see people dropping out of the church and work of God when something doesn’t quite go their way, or when someone criticizes something they have done they fold their hands and quite working altogether. It’s easy to work when people praise what we do, when we can do no wrong in the eyes of our peers, but eventually conflict and criticism will hit. Every body at times gets their focus off completing their work for God and they move their attention to what everyone else is doing and how their doing it. They get critical and judgmental, and start verbally abusing their co-workers in the Faith. This is when people, even good people, get weary from the stresses of Christ’s work and say, “if they don’t like the way I’ve done it then they can do it themselves.” Then instead of the work going on it stops cold. Instead of Christian relationship strengthening they sour and dissolve. All the while lost souls are perishing in a devil’s hell. This is not the attitude Christ wants us to have, nor the work ethic he desires for us to keep. We must remember, we are not working for man but for Christ. There would be fewer arguments in the work of Christ if God’s people could just understand this point. We don’t need more fighters we need more finishers, we have enough complainers we just need more completers. We need some Christians today that will stand up and finish their course no matter how rough the road gets, but not only to finish, but to finish rejoicing with a Christ like attitude. Paul said ***“...we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. 5) For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know... 6) Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others...1Thess. 2:4-6”*** We must all ask ourselves today, what am I doing for Christ and why am I doing it.

Brothers and sisters please remember while in the work of the Lord, that conflict, criticism and hardships are all par for the course, but if we will remember for whom and why it is that we are working, we can then with a smile, face the skeptics and faithfully finish the work that our Lord has set before us. Knowing that our reward is not fully given in this life, but rather it is held in the hand of God, who awaits all his children to walk triumphantly through the Pearly Gates of that beautiful Celestial City called Heaven. Then, when we have faithfully completed our service here on earth, when we have fought our last battle, when we have felt the sting of death for the last time, it will be there in the Blessed City of God that our old adversary the devil will never be seen nor the endless pains of his presence be felt, only there will the troubles and cares of this world be over, and our peaceful eternity with Christ will just begin.



Youth Notes



Kids' Club Kick-Off

By Bro. Tony Patterson

Upcoming Youth Events:

Our Wednesday night children's group Kids' Club kicked off the new year with a bang on September 12. Our first night we had around 25 young people. They were all excited to find out what we would be learning about this year and to eat some pizza.

Each young person that attended that night also received a Back-to-School gift bag. The bags were packed with great back-to-school items such as rulers, pencils, pens, notebooks, and pencil sharpeners. It was just our way of saying, "Have a great school year."

It is our hope that if you have a child between the ages of 5 and 12 that does not already attend Kid's Club that you will encourage them to come and be a part of the fun.

And don't forget we have a class for teenagers as well that meets every Wednesday night in the Teen Room.

Kid's Club and Teen class both start at 7:00pm on Wednesday. The teens meet in the auditorium and then dismiss from there. The Kids' Club goes straight to the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm.

See there on Wednesday night!

This Month:

**October 13:
Lake Tobias
10:00am-6:00pm.**

**October 20:
Teen's to Corn Maze
10:00am-5:00pm**

Looking Ahead:

**November 1-3:
Get Acquainted Days
Southeastern Free Will
Baptist College
Cost: \$25.00 per person
Registration form and money
due by October 17**

**December 27-29:
Mid-Atlantic Youth Conference
Beacon Baptist Church
More Info to Come!**



Missions and Ministries

Satisfied with your efforts?

By: Bro. William H. Anderson *John 17:15*

We grew up being told that the United States was the Great Christian Nation, leading the world in Missionary Outreach and Support. That may have been true about 40, or even 20, years ago.

That information allowed our churches to relax and focus their attention on growing their respective Religious Organizations and local church programs. We converted our basic youth Biblical training from life training to entertaining programs; telling ourselves this new approach would attract more young people and families. We told ourselves it was needed to help our church attendance to grow.

Our Missionary Support was converted to Missionary Programs where anyone could be a Missionary, if only for a week or two, during their vacation time in the summer. We told ourselves it was the only way to attract more participation.

We shifted our focus from teaching and preaching Salvation through the Blood of the Lamb and the Story of suffering on Golgotha to more attractive topics such as "The Prayer of Jabez" and "God loves you for what you are". We told ourselves this was necessary to keep from scaring away prospective members from our church.

We put aside the King James Bible, saying it was too hard to understand and started using one of the "new" translations. I remember, as a youth, our church bought a whole bunch of books called "Good News". This new book was an NIV Translation of the New Testament with a "new" name, "Good News". We thought this was great. What our church elders failed to do, was verify the accuracy of this new translation before promoting its use in the church. The Religious Leaders said it was a "good" translation for the younger generation because it was easy to read. Besides, it was too much work to verify its accuracy.

Our churches became centers of "Self Love" and "Appreciation". We point at all of the new programs and the number of new members. Churches now steal members from each other by adding to or expanding their church programs, trying to out-do each other in membership numbers only. People who have never accepted, or even know of, Salvation through Jesus Christ are accepted as members. Their worldly views and ideas are accepted and implemented without benefit of seeking Jehovah's guidance and Blessing. We see this in the accepted practice of marriage ceremonies in the church without benefit of Christian Faith or Counseling. We even see this in the acceptance of

homosexuals as Sunday School teachers and church leaders.

Our loss of focus on Jehovah's work now manifests itself in our Religious Organizations and local churches.

While we worked on making our churches more worldly friendly, we removed the Shepherd from the gate. The wolves now move easily in and out of our pastures, without restriction or hindrance. These wolves, consisting of members, pastors, evangelists and biblical scholars, introduced sweeping changes; which have, in some organizations, totally destroyed both gates and fences. And, we did this with our eyes wide open and our spiritual beings blinded by our own sin and worldly desires.

2 Peter 2:1: But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

One of the most disturbing examples of this came from a christian pastor at a college auditorium, after a violent shooting on campus. After presenting a short, non-denominational, devotion the pastor announced that all present should take a minute and pray to whatever god they believed in. How can we still consider ourselves to be a "Christian" Nation when even our "Christian" Leaders are either ashamed or afraid to lift up the name of the Father (Jehovah), the Son (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Ghost? What about our great evangelists who will no longer preach about hell, the Blood, Sin or the name of Jesus because they don't want to say anything to offend anyone. That is Not preaching the Gospel of Jesus. That is Worldly acceptance!

What does your church do? Does it hold the Standard of Jesus, The Living Word, high? Or, do you just want to start a new program? What about your efforts? Do you talk about and live your life according to the Holy Scriptures? Do others hear and see Jesus through you? The Muslims are not ashamed or afraid to spread their prayer mats, five times a day, no matter where they are. We need to let those around us see and hear us pray to our Father, Jehovah, in the name of Jesus Christ. Until we become as steadfast and as Faithful to Jehovah as the Muslims are to their belief, we will continue to fall short of the Mission Jehovah has given to us; Preach the Gospel of Jesus to all creatures.

Isaiah 62:10: Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people.

