

Nicodemus may have believed, but he needed to be born again, of the water and the spirit. He needed to be baptized and leave the religious group he was a part of in order to be in a right and faithful relationship with God. How about us, will we walk just as Jesus walked to the religious sinners? Addressing their needs forthrightly and lovingly, will we call on them to repent of their sins, be baptized and leave the religious group they are currently a part of in order to enter into a right and faithful relationship with God?

Second, consider the fierce and ferocious sinner. The difficulty of talking with the religious lost is one thing, but having to be in the room with those who have proven themselves to be hostile and rebellious toward authority is quite another. Jesus teaches us that their souls have worth too. Consider how he dealt with Saul of Tarsus. Saul was very hostile toward Christians, both killing and imprisoning them. Obviously, it would be difficult to reach out to a person like that. Jesus had to humble him first in order to get him to listen, Acts 9:3-6. There are many around us who have lived in rebellion, disregard for authority of both God and man, and, as a result, they have made poor choices. Some have been humbled. How many of us would be like Ananias, Acts 9:10-14? He had heard about the things Saul had done and was rather reluctant at first to go to him and teach him, BUT the Lord told him to go, Acts 9:15. How many of us would be reluctant to go? How many of us would keep this type of person at arm’s length? If opportunity came to us to go into prisons, county jails, juvenile detention centers, etc., how many would sign up and go with zeal? We would, in order to walk “just as He walked”, 1 John 2:6.

Third, consider the social outcast sinner. A less than ideal family is found in John 4: A woman who has been married and number of times and was living outside the marriage bond with yet another man. Many speculate that the reason she came to the well at that time was because she was marginalized by the other women who made up that city. She may have been outcast, even within her own people. Whether or not that was actually the case, the reality is all too real. Those with checkered pasts are usually kept at arm’s length. Those with multiple marriages, multiple relationships, multiple children with multiple fathers, for example, may not receive the warm welcome that a young married couple with two children and a well paying job would receive. Jesus tossed tradition and customs of gender and race aside, and reached out to a “Samaritan woman” who worshiped incorrectly and was living with a man outside of marriage. Jesus did not see a Samaritan woman who was incorrectly worshipping and living in sin. He saw a human being whose lifestyle needed to be corrected and a soul that had worth. He addressed the issues of her lifestyle forthrightly and with love. We would do well to follow in his footsteps, and learn to balance conviction of truth with compassion. We would do well to walk “just as He walked”, 1 John 2:6.

Finally, consider the Publicans and Sinners. Jesus made a habit of reaching out to those who were broken, unclean, and undone. No greater example of this is when, in Matthew 9:10, we find him openly sitting with a group of publicans, and with people that the Holy Spirit labeled as “sinners”. These are two groups of people who were despised and held in contempt by the religious elite. However, Jesus in no uncertain terms said that this was why he had come to the earth, to find these people who were broken, unclean and undone; to show them mercy, and to remove their sins, Matthew 9:12. He then explicitly said to the religious snobs to “go and learn” about mercy. We, as current day followers of the same Jesus we read about in Matthew 9, would do well to follow in His footsteps of making a habit of reaching out to the spiritually broken and unclean. That means many of us will have to leave our comfort zones and cliques, and sit down with people who God would regard as sinners, not to endorse their sin, but to lift them out of it. That will take faith, courage, and zeal. We will need those characteristics if we are going to walk “just as he walked”, 1 John 2:6.

What most of us tend to want is the ideal: a family who comes into our building to attend church on their own, who hears the Word and are willingly baptized and faithful. What Jesus teaches us is that we are to go into the world, not wait for them to come into our buildings. The New Testament teaches us that most folks are sinners and we need to go into less than ideal situations and touch their lives with the gospel. Some will believe and some won’t, but are we willing to not only say we are Christians, but actually BE Christians? Are we willing to “walk just as He walked”?, 1 John 2:6? **MJG**

“Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word,

WEST SIDE WINDOW

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The Sinner Who Can’t be Helped

Michael J. Gors

My dad would frequently tell me “there is a difference between saying and doing”. We should not tell friends, family or others that we are going to do something unless we plan on actually doing it. The same is true for following Jesus. We know and acknowledge him as the King of all kings, but are we in submission to the King? We call him the Lord of our lives, but is he honestly ruling our hearts and minds? The apostle John reminded his readers that there is a world of difference between saying and doing. As the Holy Spirit directed the pen of the apostle in what we regard as First John, he had a clear message about the difference between saying and doing. Three times in the second chapter he writes, “He who says....”. He then writes, in contrast, of those who do not follow through or those who are not who they profess to be. In 1 John 2:4, John says that a Christian may say he is in the light, but his life proves he actually is living the darkness of sin. He shows himself to God to be a liar who is void of truth! In 1 John 2:9, John says the Christian who proudly professes that he loves God but hates his brother is actually in the darkness of sin. The Christian is not really who he professes to be. Now consider 1 John 2:6 in regard to the subject of the article. “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked”. Those of us who would contend that we “abide in Christ” are obligated to “walk just as He walked”. That includes how He walked toward sinners. As one reads through the New Testament, he should be cognizant of how Jesus walked in regard to sinners and then be honest and objective in asking himself, “Am I walking toward sinners as Jesus walked?”. Let’s look at a few scenes where we can see how Jesus walks and talks with sinners.

First, consider the religious sinner. Jesus came to seek and save the lost. Jesus considered some of the religious folks of his day lost. It is very difficult to approach a very devout and religious person, but what happens if they approach us? Are we ready to give an answer? Are we willing to give that answer? Jesus was both ready and willing to give an answer, and did so without compromise in the spirit of love. Nicodemus approached Jesus by night in John 3. Jesus had been the topic of discussion among Nicodemus and his colleagues. It was Nicodemus who wanted to know more. Apparently as they talked and debated about Jesus they came to the conclusion that there was certainly something unique about Jesus. The curiosity of Nicodemus was not enough for him to be saved. He needed to know more and be persuaded to take the next step. It is my fear that too many of us wearing the mask of peace and love would not have answered Nicodemus as Jesus did, forthrightly and lovingly. Nicodemus may have believed, but he needed to be born again, of the water and the spirit. a part of in order to be in a right and faithful relationship with God.

(cont. on page 4)

SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study —
9:30 am
Worship — 10:30 am &
6:00 pm
Wed. Bible Study —
7:00 pm

MINISTER

Michael Gors

DEACONS

Don Allison- Advertise-
ment/Communication
Kendall Clark- Benevo-
lence/Visitation
Rex Harper- Building &
Grounds
Lowell Huffman-
Bible Correspondence
Course and Widows/
Widowers
Volker Jaromin- Educa-
tion
Larry Reynolds- Evan-
gelism
Todd Stults- Finance,
Lads to Leaders &
Leaderettes

MISSION WORKS

Tanzania, Africa

Christopher
Mwakabanje
plus two preaching
school students

India

Scott Richards

Russia & India

Mark Reynolds

Memphis School of

Preaching

Armand Wine

New Hampshire

Laconia Church of
Christ

The Belanger family

WORSHIP FOR August 3

MORNING WORSHIP

Announcements: Brian Huffman
 Song Leader: Lowell Huffman
 1st Prayer: Kendall Clark
 Scripture: Jimmy Clark
Ephesians 3:17-21
 Sermon: Mike Gors
 Sermon Topic: **“Glory to God from the Church”**
 Closing Prayer: Volker Jaromin
 Sound Room: Jerry Hoyt

COMMUNION SERVERS

Prayer: Rex Harper
 West Side— Inside: Larry Terrell
 Outside: Matthew Terrell
 East Side— Inside: Jim Clark
 Outside: Sean Bobo

EVENING WORSHIP

Song Leader: Lowell Huffman
 1st Prayer: Joe Reed
 Scripture: Adam Gors
Proverbs 3:31-35
 Sermon: Mike Gors
 Sermon Topic: **“The Legacy We Leave”**
 Communion Table: Don Allison
 Closing Prayer: Larry Reynolds
 Sound Room: Jerry Hoyt

AUGUST 3RD DUTIES

Group Two is responsible for being greeters, securing the building and communion clean-up. See page 3 for list of names.

Communion Prep for August: Pat E. & Lonni

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Betsy Cartwright, lung cancer. Treatment ongoing. Lela’s friend
Bob Allison, Chemotherapy treatments. Father of Don Allison
Brandyn & Hannah Hoyt Graves and Brandyn’s parents and brother currently in Malaysia & Singapore for mission work. Hannah is the daughter of Jerry & Maria.
Brett Rutherford, missionary. Responding to treatment
Georgia Roberts, very ill. Friend of Marie McBride
Laura Niccum, Thyroid cancer with surgery scheduled Aug 15th. Cousin of Genny
Michelle Bohman, biopsy scheduled. Cousin of Genny. Michelle & Laura are sisters.
Lynn Morgan Davis, back surgery. Friend of Natalie.
Marjorie Barnes, complications from fractured hip. Grandmother of Jennifer C.
Nancy Shaw, breast Cancer. Recuperating from surgery. Sister of Janet Messer
Rhonda Parker, cancer. RL’s daughter
Sue Clendenson, Critically ill from fall. Sister-in-law of Marie.
Tom Harper, fractured hip. Recovering at home. Son of Rex and Kathy Harper

Shut-Ins:

Bill Gaw-Westminster Village
Evelyn Vannatter -Elmcroft
Forrest Hurst-Elmcroft
Lana Blanchard -Albany Health Care
Vada Zeek -Willowbend



Attendance for the Week of July 27, 2014

Sunday Bible Study	80
Sunday Worship am	119
Sunday Worship pm	74
Wed. Bible Study	64

Wednesday Devotions Aug 6th

Devotional: Mike Gors.
 Song Leader: Adam Gors
 Prayer: Sean Bobo

Looking Ahead

Aug 5, Men’s Fellowship Breakfast, 8a at IHOP
Aug 5, Ladies Breakfast, 10a at IHOP
Aug. 6, Speaker, Kristen Bobo will share details of her recent mission trip to Malaysia for the Ladies Wednesday Night Bible Class.
Aug 7, Chronological Bible Reading Class, 10a-12n, at the building
Aug. 7, Devotional at the Allison Home. Girls bring snacks, boys bring pop, 7p-9p
Aug. 9, Blood drive at West Side. 10a-2p. Free car wash if you donate blood.
Aug. 10-14, Cloverdale Church of Christ to hold gospel meeting. Mike Gors is the speaker. Info posted.
Aug. 16, Ladies “Learn-to” Class to meet at the building, 1p-3p. Ann Witty will speak on planting & care of trees.
Aug. 22-28, “Polishing the Pulpit” in Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Aug. 28, Ladies Deep Bible Study Class, 7p-9p, at the building.
Aug. 30, Ellen’s 90th birthday party at the building. 2p-4p

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Heather—Aug 3
 Alayna—Aug 13
 Joyce—Aug 13
 Tyann—Aug 16
 Teresa C—Aug 18
 Joan—Aug 20
 Lela—Aug 23

Fall Rally at Camp Indogan September 12-14

Paul Levasseur is Director for the week.



The article found on the 1st page and continued on page 4 is one that Mike has written for “Think” Magazine due to be published in the future.

The Weekend Food Pack program through West Side is back in swing at the Yorktown Elementary School, beginning this week. Principle, Heather Lucas, is the school coordinator and she, on behalf of the kids, their parents, and the school is very thankful and excited that we are going to sponsor this program another school year. Twenty children have already been chosen and will be given week-end food packs each Friday to take home. Their identities are unknown to us but they will know who we are for a sticker announces to each child that we are friends from West Side Church of Christ who care for them.

Items Needed this Week

For the food pantry: canned meat & soup
 Old towels for the car wash on Aug. 9th
 Red Box Tops for children’s home
 Also needed, volunteers for the car wash

Group Two Duties for August 2014

<u>Aug 3</u>	<u>Aug 10</u>	<u>Aug 17</u>	<u>Aug 24</u>	<u>Aug 31</u>
Kendall Jane	Bill W. Ginger	Chad Jennifer	Gary Kista	Kendall-Jane
Larry T.	Kathy	Sean	Elayna	Bill W.
Tena	Skylar	Lola	Case	Ginger
Gunnar		Betty C.	Lowell	
Cannon			Charlene	

Those listed will be responsible for that week’s activities.

Group Leaders: Kendall & Jane Clark