

February 16, 2023

LOVE

With Valentine's Day this week, I began to reminisce on some of my favorite memories of Valentine's Day. Some of my favorite memories go back to elementary school. I remember each year decorating a brown paper bag with hearts and putting it at the front of our desk and then everyone would get up and hand out their cards to everyone. It was so much fun to go through the bag and see the different cards, but the one thing I couldn't stand was a repeat. Every year you end up with 5 of the same Barbie cards or 3 cards with the exact same wrestler on it. Having, "I love you" repeated in the same font with the same character just took away some of the excitement. Now, of course, that was my mindset in elementary school about Valentine's day cards. But did you know there are some people in history who truly did think that "I love you" shared too much would do more than take away excitement, but could cause damage.

In 1928, American psychologist John B. Watson released a book titled *Psychological Care of Infant and Child*. Upon research and writing this book, Watson had done some groundbreaking work on reflex conditioning and upon the books release was considered the perfect manual to raise your children to become proper citizens in the community. And boy, did he have some interesting points. For example, in his book he taught "Never hug and kiss children, never let them sit in your lap. If you must, kiss them once on the forehead when they say good night. Shake hands with them in the morning." Watson believed that how you nurtured your children early on was what ensured an efficient child. And although some of his research and results were true, the conclusions drawn from them were quite strange.

One more example of Watson's odd teaching was this, "If you tell your kids "I love you" every day, after a while it is going to lose its meaning and it will not be as special as it should be. It would probably be better to reserve those special words only for special occasions — just tell them once a month, or just tell them on their birthday and Valentine's Day. That way you don't wear it out and get tired of saying it and hearing it." Now, isn't that one of the most ridiculous things ever? I mean, could you imagine only telling your kids that you loved them a few times during the year. After all, that is when the words would truly become meaningless. That's when they turn into those repeat Valentine's Day cards that you get simply because everyone had to get enough for the whole class. In fact, saying I love you every day should have meaning every day when you see them every day.

As crazy as all this sounds though, it is surprising to see how many people believe this kind of teaching when it

comes to God. Take the Lord's Supper for example, there are many who say that if you partake of it every Sunday, then it is going to lose its meaning. They in turn hold off and reserve it for a few special occasions throughout the year. However, Paul says in **1 Corinthians 11:26** "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." Isn't that something that we should be proclaiming each and every week? It is something that we should be proclaiming each and every day as well with our lives. On top of that, the Lord instructed us to do this in remembrance of Him each first day of the week (**Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 11:17-34**). Not only is it done with the Lord's Supper, but this mindset spreads out to the very essence of God's love. Think about it, can having God remind you that He loves you ever lose its meaning? Or, can telling God "I love you" ever lose its meaning? I mean, what greater affirmation could be made?

Still there are others who say that they love God but do they Love God as He defines it? God Promised in Psalm 145:20, "The Lord preserves all who love Him,". He also promised in Romans 8:28, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose." He promises in James 1:12, " Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him." So we must ask ourselves, do I love Him as He expects me to?

Time and time again, we see that God extends His mercy to those who love Him and keep His commandments. (**Deuteronomy 7:9, Exodus 20:6, Daniel 9:4**) God told Israel in **Deuteronomy 10:12**, "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul," This same truth is repeated over and over in the New Testament as well. **1 John 5:2-3** says, "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome." **1 John 2:4-5** also says, "Whoever says "I know Him" but does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps His word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in Him" Jesus also told us in **John 14:15** "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." So now that God has defined it, the question we must ask ourselves is "Do I truly love Him? Or am I giving empty words?"

Andrew Spivey

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Review of Jesus and Peter
Wednesday Read – Acts 9:1-31

BIBLE STUDY



Questions for last week's reading of **Mark 6:30-56 & John 6:22-71**.

1. How do we know the crowd of 5,000 really wanted to hear Jesus?
2. Why is it strange that the apostles were amazed that Jesus could walk on water?
3. What miracle had the people seen the day before that should have caused them to believe?
4. How can people eat Jesus' flesh and drink his blood?
5. Why did many people leave Jesus?

LADS TO LEADERS

Lads to Leaders will meet every Sunday at 3:30 PM from now until convention time, **except** 2/19/23 (winter camp weekend) and 2/26/23 (CYC weekend).

EXCEL'S

Excel's is having a Pizza party on **Saturday February 25th at 6:00 pm** in the Fellowship room. Pizza will be provided. Please bring drinks and desserts. We will also decide on more events for the year. Please make plans to attend and enjoy the fellowship. For more details please see Marila Smith or Diana Stephenson.

THE YEAR OF LOVE

**Love is patient and kind;
love does not envy or boast;
it is not arrogant or rude,
It does not insist on its own way;
it is not irritable or resentful;
it does not rejoice at wrongdoing,
but rejoices with the truth.
Love bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.
1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

February 19, 2023

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Matt Ellis
Opening Prayer.....David Thompson
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Charlie Seals
Scripture Reading.....Brent Smith
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis
Opening Prayer.....Rick Gallagher
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Jim Cherry
Closing Prayer.....Ken Veale

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Charlie Seals
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis
Opening Prayer.....Jonathan Senn
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....David Johnson
Closing Prayer.....Adam Williamson

WEDNESDAY

February 22, 2023

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Charlie Seals
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis
Opening Prayer.....Bob Brown
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Carl Newby

Door Greeters – West Door.....T/J Cummins
East Door.....B/S Sever
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Julie Cummins

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ
 1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066
 Web Site: nashvilleroad.org
 E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Lena Baggett is home recovering from a ruptured disc. **Mary Ann Reinhart** has been diagnosed with cancer. **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals, is home now but continues with rehab. **James McCloskey** a former member has begun chemo treatments. Treatments will continue for about 10 months. **Mike Martin**, friend of the Jennings & Cato families, is now at Life Care Center in Old Hickory. He is improving some. **Paul Norman**, nephew of Carolyn Vester and cousin to Valarie Senn & Wanda Sherrill, has been diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer. **April Cothran**, a good friend of Celena Marshall has been diagnosed with stage 4 adenocarcinoma of the pancreas. She is taking chemo treatments.



PRAYER LIST

Vetrus Mee, Charter Senior Living of Gallatin; **Shelby Ross**; **Sandi Jones**; **Maxine Cothron**; **Gerald Miles**, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 305; **Frances Catron**; **Jean Deaton**; **Charlie Cliburn**; **Bryan Grissom** cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Larry Bailey** son of Tina Bailey; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Ricky Cantrell**; **Wade & Wanda Kennedy** parents of Diana Stephenson; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Lawrence Redding**, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **John Gregory**, brother of Bob Gregory; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Betty Billingsley**, sister of Wanda Proctor; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill.

SHUT-INS

Marilee Frederick, Gallatin Rehab, Room 220; **Joyce Savage**, NHC Place Sumner, room 322; **Jane Hughes**, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Melba Hill**.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	119
Morning Worship.....	162
Sunday Evening.....	82
Wednesday Evening.....	64
Contribution.....	\$6,705.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$6,961.00

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Ken Veale	Adam Williamson

Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066

Phone (615) 452-3431
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30. p.m.
 Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org
 Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister