

Those Serving Today:	
<u>Morning</u>	
Announcements:	Scot Parchman
Song Leader:	Chad Futrell
Opening Prayer:	Bill Rose
Lord’s Table:	
Presiding	Eric Austin
Assisting:	Calvin Austin
	Ron Austin
	Lee Sherman
Sermon:	Byran Hatcher
Closing Prayer:	Abel Abraham
<u>Evening</u>	
Song Leader:	Chad Futrell
Opening Prayer:	Brynn Hatcher
Sermon:	Byran Hatcher
Lord’s Supper:	Calvin Austin
Closing Prayer:	Kyle Pool
Those Serving Wednesday:	
Song Leader:	Kelton Fell
Opening Prayer:	TBD
Scripture:	Abel Abraham
Reading:	Ps. 150
Invitation:	John Williams
<u>Pantry item of the week:</u>	
Chicken Noodle Soup	

# Sermon Notes

## The Two Sons

### I. The Request

### II. The Answer

### III. The Lesson

Welcome,  
Visitors!

Cape Fear Church of Christ

3808 Village Drive

Fayetteville, NC 28304

Minister: Byran T. Hatcher

Phone: (910) 425-1108

Service Times

Sunday:

Bible Class 9:00am

Worship 10:00am

Evening 5:00pm

Ladies’ Class:

Tuesday 10:00am

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00pm

Website: capefearcoc.org

Elders: Wade Hedgepeth

Scot Parchman

Byran Hatcher

Preaching the Truth in Love!



### Does This Offend You?

By Kyle Butt

“I’m offended!” “That is offensive to me!” “You must not do that, because it offends me!” You will often hear statements such as these on television, the radio, or any number of media outlets. Those who use these types of sentiments throw them down like a gauntlet, daring you to continue. It is as if the fact that they are offended should cause you to stop whatever it is you are saying or doing that offends them. Somehow, “I’m offended,” has become the verbal alarm that signals some sort of mistake or misstep on the part of the speaker.

The fact is, however, just because a person is offended is not necessarily a reason to stop saying or doing something. Jesus often offended people, but that did not stop Him from preaching and teaching the truth. When a person takes offense at something, it often says much more about the heart of the one who is offended than it does about the person who supposedly “caused” the offense.

On one occasion, after Jesus taught about how the Pharisees had abused God’s Word, His apostles came to him and said, “Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?” (Matthew 15:11). It is almost as if the apostles thought like many people today. They seemed to be indicating that because Jesus had offended the Pharisees, then He should stop teaching those ideas or change His message.

Jesus understood that the hearts of the Pharisees needed changing, not His message or even the way He delivered it. He responded to His apostles by saying, “Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind” (Matthew 15:14). Surely we can agree that the Pharisees would have been further offended by Jesus’ follow up comments. Their offense, however, was misplaced. They were blind to the truth. They should not have been offended at Jesus’ message. Jesus’ message was the truth that God had sent to set them free (John 8:32).

At one time Jesus preached to a great multitude of His disciples. Many of His own disciples did not understand the message and “murmured” about Jesus’ preaching (John 6:61). Jesus then asked them, “Does this offend you?” (John 6:61). Many in our day would say that if Jesus offended the crowd, He was sinning and should change His message, change His delivery style, or re-word His statement to be less offensive. Jesus, however, responded by saying, “What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?” (6:61). What was Jesus’ point? If the people were offended with Jesus’ message that He was the bread that came down from heaven, just think how they would react if they saw Jesus ascend back into heaven, which was what He planned to do in the near future (Luke 24:50-53).<sup>1</sup> Not only did He refuse to quit preaching or change His message, He added something to the message that the audience would have had more problems accepting! Obviously, Jesus did not feel the need to stop preaching or change His message because His audience was offended.

It is certainly true that Christians should let their speech “be with grace, seasoned with salt” (Colossians 4:6). It is also true that Christians should avoid unnecessary offense (Matthew 17:27; 1 Corinthians 8). The Gospel, however, is exclusive and offensive to many people. Those with dishonest, sinful hearts will always be offended at the simplicity and straightforwardness of Christ’s Truth. As Christians, we should follow the example of our Lord. We must never be bullied into silence or intimidated into changing our message simply because a person or group is offended at the truth. (From Apologeticspress.org)

**By The Numbers**

Attendance 8/6/17

Bible Class: 66

A.M. Worship: 92

P.M. Worship: 63

Contribution: \$3,020.06

DB Readers: 13

Chapters Read: 307

Family News and Notes

**Prayer Requests**

**Brian Godfrey’s** grandfather, **Raymon Cilly** passed away at age 97. He has gone to Ohio for the funeral. Glad to have **Vicki Austin** back with us. **Alex Freshley** broke his collarbone and is heading to college next week. **John Williams** has some health issues he is going through, especially pain. **Eric and Jessica Rolshouse** are expecting! It’s a boy, due in November. **Tylia Landrum’s** parents, **Walter and Blanche Landrum**, are not doing well at this time. **Tylia** is also struggling with severe pain. **Rudy Gray** is declining in health and Lettie is doing her best to care for him. Both miss being here very much. **Linda Williams’** brother, **Willie “Wayne” Pipkins**, still needs our prayers. **Active military**. Pray for our active duty military members; they could be called to a conflict area at a moments notice. Remember to pray for their families as well. Please pray for **CCSOP** and all those dedicating their lives to proclaiming the gospel of Christ.

Also, please remember: **Margaret Langston, Vera West, Vicki Carver, Gloria Emerick, Carolyn Pierce, Rudy and Lettie Gray, Alice Morrison, Gay Mathis, Robbie Sprayberry, Francis Salaz, Tylia Landrum, Gwen & Sarah Jennen, John & Linda Williams, Tiffany Oliver, Gary, Brenda & Brent Pollard, Eddie Drews, Monica Uilom, and Thelma Adams**. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, both students and teachers.

**Special Recognition**

The men had a good lunch this past Thursday. It is such a joy to be around brothers in Christ! I was able to be at the last 2 lunches, but I begin teaching at CCSOP this Thursday until next June! Pray for this good work, and thank you for allowing me to take part in preparing men to preach the Gospel!

Events

**EHT:** Fall material for teachers is now available, please see Byran

**No Fellowship Meal** for August: we are going to cancel the August fellowship meal

**Teacher’s Meeting:** Saturday, August 19th @ 10am. This meeting is for all teachers or prospective teachers for our Bible classes.

**Cary Youth Day:** September 16th, 9am - 3pm. Parents meet with Byran for a very short meeting after services this morning.