

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Phil Byrd

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Scot Parchman

Assisting: Dale Wiles
Ron Austin

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Ricardo Alvilarr

Evening Worship

Song Leader: N/A

Opening Prayer: N/A

Sermon: N/A

Lord's Supper: N/A

Closing Prayer: N/A

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Scot Parchman

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Brynn Hatcher

Pantry Item

N/A

Sermon Notes

Moses and the Golden Calf

I.

II.

III.

IV.

V.

August 1, 2021

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304
Phone:
(910) 425-1108
Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!

Service Times

Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Scot Parchman
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

Deacons
Steve Pool
John Williams

Volume 34 Issue 5

The
Cape Fear Crier

"Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah 12:6

Erring Brethren

"Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins" (James 5:19,20). This passage shows it is possible for a brother in Christ who was living in or by the truth to err from it. The Holy Spirit calls the one who has left the truth "a sinner," and describes his condition as "death." In other words, a child of God who is no longer abiding in the truth is spiritually dead or separated from God (Eph. 2:1). When this happens, what should be done?

We must recognize that because the church is made up of people, there are sometimes going to be problems and even sin in it. Christians are people, and people sometimes make wrong decisions, some of which are transgressions of God's will. The Bible truth about Christians is: *"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us"* (1 John 1:8). Some saints to whom the book of James was originally written were sinning by respecting persons (James 2:1-9). Some in Rome were causing divisions in the church (Rom. 16:17,18). The church in Corinth had members who were carnal, and one brother there was a fornicator (1 Cor. 3:1-4; 5:1-13). In Thessalonica some members of the church were walking disorderly and not working (2 Thess. 3:10-12). Jesus clearly pointed out the sin that existed in the churches of Asia, and called upon the transgressors to repent (Rev. 2,3).

What these examples show is that man is weak and God's children sometimes sin. Is there anything the church can do to help prevent members from falling away from Christ? Yes, it can diligently teach the Bible to all members in order to strengthen them. It can give its greatest effort to exhort and encourage every member to be faithful to Christ, and it can provide an atmosphere of love in which all members feel like family. These are some basic, but essential steps, that the church (that means you and me) can take to try to provide for a healthy spiritual environment in the local congregation. But the

reality is that despite such actions, from time to time, members of the church are going to sin. When a child of God sins, how can the problem be resolved? The one who has sinned must confess his sin (1 John 1:9), repent and pray to God for forgiveness (Acts 8:22). If others know of the sin which he has committed, then he must confess it to them as well as to God (James 5:16). God promises to forgive all our unrighteousness if we truly turn away from our sin.

What about the case when a member of the church sins, does not want to repent, and continues to live in sin? First, **we must identify them.** We need to find out for certain they are living in sin before we put them on a "list of the unfaithful." Sometimes we hear rumors about other people, but when we begin to search into the matter, we find the rumors are not true at all. Surely we do not want to accuse anyone of leaving the truth without proof.

After we are certain that a brother or sister is truly not living in harmony with God's word, it is necessary that we **maintain a proper attitude toward such a person.** First, consider what would be the improper attitude to manifest in such a case. If we see that a member of Christ's body is living in sin, then it would certainly be out of place for us to rejoice because he has fallen away! There should be no joy in seeing one separated from his Creator and Savior. Also, it would be wrong for us to be indifferent to the spiritual danger of our brother or sister. If we just do not care about another's departure from his Lord, then our own heart is not right before God. In addition, when we see a member of the church living in sin, it would be inappropriate for us to approve of their action, support them in it, and defend their lawlessness. Yet, this is the very thing that some do today. Such action is wrong!

What would be the proper attitude toward brethren who are living in sin? Each of us should be *filled with sorrow* when we think about a member of God's family going astray as a sheep leaving his shepherd. Such should cause us to be *moved with compassion* to try to help them. When a member of our physical family dies, it is a natural thing for us to mourn over their death and our loss. The church is God's family (1 Tim. 3:15), so would it not be proper to be saddened and weep over one of His children who have died spiritually? Of course it would. We must *continue to love those brethren who are living in sin.* Three parables of Jesus about God's love for sinners are recorded in Luke 15: parable of the lost sheep, parable of the lost coin and parable of the lost son ("prodigal son"). If we are going to imitate the attitude that our Heavenly Father has towards those who are lost, then we will continue to love our brethren who have departed from the truth.

Finally, a proper attitude toward the erring would include understanding and admitting they need help, God's help and ours. They need faithful Christians to help them bear their burdens. "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:1,2).

- BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 7/25/21

Bible Class: 35

A.M. Worship: 52

Wed. B. C.: 43

Family News and Notes

Genny Davis suffered a minor stroke after leaving worship last Sunday. She is doing a little better and is at home. **Philip Patton**, classmate of Byran Hatcher at MSOP, passed away Thursday night. **Debbie Smith's** parents' are not doing well at this time. **Brent Pollard** has been moved to a nursing home in Athens, GA. Linda Williams' mother, **Mary Pipkens** and her brothers, **Wayne** and **Harry** all are in need of prayer because of serious health concerns. **Jack** and **Sondra Wain**, Kim Perkins' parents, are dealing with serious health issues. Her sister-in-law **Rhonda Wain** needs prayers as well. **Jamie Phillips** is caring for his mother and going through a hard time. **Claudia Farrington** is having a difficult time right now. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. Let's remember one another in prayer. Active military: Pray for our active duty military members; they could be called to a conflict area at a moment's notice. Remember to pray for their families as well.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Deborah Ross Alex Freshley, Frances Salaz, Tylia Landrum, Gwen & Sarah Jennen, John and Linda Williams**, the **Pollard** family, **Claudia Farrington, Rick Caldwell**, and **Thelma Adams**. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

August 1	August 2	August 3	August 4	August 5	August 6	August 7
1Sa 13-15	1Sa 16-18	1Sa 19-21	1Sa 22-24	1Sa 25-27	1Sa 28-31	2Sa 1-3
Ps 31	Ps 32	Ps 33	Ps 34	Ps 35	Ps 36	Ps 37

Events

Men's Lunch: Thursday at 11am @ Golden Corral

Ladies Bible Class: Tuesday 10:00 am, Room 203

Regular Bible Classes: Children 6th grade and under are in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning

Teachers' Meeting: Sunday, August 8th after morning worship.

Sunday Fellowship Meal: Sunday, September 5, after the morning worship.

