

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: John Patchell

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Ricardo Alvillar

Assisting: Ron Austin
Ben Grant

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Sibio Farrington

Those serving Wednesday

Opening Prayer: Chad Futrell

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item
Pinto Beans

Sermon Notes

Giving God What He Asks

I. A Holy _____

II. _____ Service

III. _____ & Consequences

February 11, 2024

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!
Services are
archived on our
YouTube page!

Service Times

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

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

Volume 44 Issue 6

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Children's Church?

There always seems to be an effort on the part of some to try some new innovation not supported by the scriptures. Then, when confronted by sound brethren, they will try every way to give some “right” reason for doing a wrong thing. I recently saw this cliché on a church sign: “There is no right way to do a wrong thing.” How true! No matter how man might try to justify his innovations, there is no right way to do a wrong thing.

Those who try to justify choruses or solo singers twist and distort the scriptures by trying to say there is NO scriptural support for congregational singing. Those who teach there is no law under the New Testament totally distort the context of New Testament letters.

Some few years ago a great effort was made to bus kids to church study periods and worship services. There is certainly nothing wrong with trying to teach children the necessity to love and serve God. However, many began to bribe the children to attend by offering candy, gifts, and other incentives. Then, when many found themselves with so many young children disturbing the worship service, they invented something they called “children's church.” This took the children out of the worship assembly so the adults could “enjoy” their worship. Sound brethren soon showed how erroneous it was to divide the worship assembly of God's people. Many of the churches gave up “children's church” because it was proven they were in error. Finally, most of the bussing programs failed for several reasons: prohibitive costs, most children had to be bribed to attend, but most of all because it involved tremendous work on the part of brethren, and they just were not willing to continue the hard work. With the fall of the bussing programs came the end of “children's church” — for a while.

Now, years later, “children's church” has reared its head again in some congregations. The younger children are dismissed from the worship assembly so that they might attend a class while the adults and older children remain for the worship service. When confronted

about the innovation, the argument is that these classes are altogether different from “children’s church.” In other words, this is the “right” way to dismiss young children from the worship assembly. It is no matter that the approach is different, it is still wrong. Just as sound brethren argued against “children’s church,” the same scriptures forbid any kind of divided worship assembly.

Notice what the Bible says about the worship assembly. The scripture speaks of ALL the people being together, “*And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; ... And Ezra opened the book in the sight of ALL the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, ALL the people stood up: ... And ALL the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground*” (Neh. 8:4-6). Paul also shows how ALL the people were together for worship, “When ye come together therefore into ONE place, this is not to eat the Lord’s supper” (I Cor. 11:20); and “If therefore the WHOLE church be come together into ONE place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?” (I Cor. 14:23). Paul speaks of the “WHOLE” church coming together “in ONE place.” Paul was NOT speaking of all just being in the same building, but all assembled together at the same time. The Hebrew writer said we are not to “forsake the assembling” of God’s people together (Heb. 10:25). Neither should some adults be forced to forsake the worship assembly just to be glorified “baby sitters.” And, that is what happens.

Any dividing of the assembly is a man made innovation. There is no authority to send children to a “children’s church” or to some similar kind of class. No matter what the program, dividing the assembly is wrong, and cannot be made right. Not only are the children divided from the assembly; but the adult teachers who are caring for them are divided from and absent from the assembly while others worship.

The sad thing is that usually the very purpose for such is to “give mom a break.” Since when can mom take a break from teaching her children? Small children need to learn just how important worshipping God should be in their lives. They need to learn how to show the proper awe and respect for God (and fellow worshippers) while in the worship assembly. Young children need to be learning just what the worship assembly is about. They need to be taught to be quiet. Nothing is more disturbing than a child that is let cry or talk continually in the worship assembly. These are the problems some have tried to overcome with “divided assemblies.” All these things can be taught to children from the time they begin to crawl. If they can be taught to behave in a class, then they can be taught to behave in the worship assembly. If they have to be removed from the assembly, let it be to dust off their bottoms until they learn the proper behavior during worship.

All in all, the truth is: there is no right way to do a wrong thing.

- BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance week of 2/4/24 Daily Bible Readers: 20 Chapters Read: 425
B.C.: 40 A.M.: Worship: 70 Wed.: 37

Family News and Notes

Brittany Hunt, coworker of Julie Carver, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Paula Perrin** is continuing her chemotherapy. **Brother & Sister Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** parents are doing much better. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** father is doing a little better. **John Williams** is having trouble with inflammation in his neck. Wade Hedgepeth’s brother, **Dwight**, has some health challenges. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo for her cancer. **Linda Hernandez** is shut in at home.

Pray for our world leaders at this time. Active military: Pray for all 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. We have 6 active duty members here at Cape Fear. Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher**, and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Feb 11	Feb 12	Feb 13	Feb 14	Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17
Lev 26-27	Num 1-3	Num 4-5	Num 6-7	Num 8-9	Num 10-11	Num 12-13

Events

Silver Linings: Friday the 16th at 11:00am.

New Quarter begins March 3. “Miracles of the Bible” is the theme.

