

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Ben Grant

Assisting: Cam Christian
Ricardo Alvillar

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Jacob Clark

Those serving Wednesday

Opening Prayer: TBD

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Tyler Christian

Pantry Item

Powdered Milk

Sermon Notes *God's Watchmen*

I. They must _____

II. They must _____

III. They must _____

September 1, 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 46 Issue 8

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Ignorance Is Not Bliss (cont'd)

I wanted to continue some thoughts concerning ignorance of God's Word. This serious situation causes and perpetuates a multitude of problems. Some problems are individual and others are church wide. When enough individuals are ignorant of God's Word, the church as a whole suffers.

The initial problem of many Christians not having an adequate understanding of the Bible is the infiltration of false doctrine in the church. Perhaps this is the greatest curse of ignorance in the church today, or in any day. The account given in Matthew 22:23-32 illustrates this truth vividly. The Sadducees were in error on the resurrection. Jesus told them, "*Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God*" (Matt. 22:32). Paul pointed out to the Athenians that they engaged in ignorant worship (Acts 17:23). Many today engage in ignorant worship because of their ignorance of God's will concerning what constitutes true worship (cf. John 4:23-24; Matt. 15:9). Like the blind leading the blind, many are falling into error because of their ignorance. In 2 Peter 3:3-10, some "scoffers" were in error concerning the judgment of God. Peter corrected their error. He noted in verse 5, "*For this they willingly are ignorant of...*" In verse 8, he said, "*But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing....*" Ignorance of God's will is wreaking havoc on the Lord's church. Ignorance is causing many, even whole congregations, to be "*carried about with every wind of doctrine*" (Eph. 4:12).

Ignorance of the Biblical text causes immorality to be tolerated in the Lord's church. It is true that many do not care about morality, even after having been taught correctly.

However, there are many who are just ignorant. Ignorance leads to immorality. Why do people, even in the church, socially drink, smoke, dance, dress immodestly, curse, gamble, etc.? In the context of Ephesians 4:17-25 it clearly connects ignorance with immorality. Paul spoke of those in Romans 1:28, who “*did not like to retain God in their knowledge.*” The result of such is spelled out in verses 28-32. People do some of the most horrible and immoral things because of their ignorance of God’s will.

Ignorance stymies discussion with others about the Bible, perhaps their only connection to Jesus and eternal salvation. First Peter 2:15 tells us that we are to “*put to silence the ignorance of foolish men,*” but many Christians cannot do this because of their own ignorance. First John 4:6 says, “*...Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.*” Sadly, many do not know “the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.” Some are so woefully ignorant, they would not know error if it was a dump truck and ran over them in the street! In 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Paul wrote about the Christian warfare. What are Christians to do in this spiritual war? Paul declared in verse 5, “*Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*” The original language is very strong. It carries the sense of utter devastation. Many do not like it, but the Lord’s church, as the pillar and ground of the truth (I Tim. 3:15), has the God-given responsibility to demolish and destroy error. Anything that would “exalt itself against the knowledge of God” should be cast down. Many Christians do not possess enough Bible knowledge to be able to accomplish this. It is a shame when the church can not give basic Bible answers to basic Bible questions and be able to refute basic and common error!

It is very difficult to carry on a conversation with many about the Word of God, because of their ignorance. Paul spoke about this saying, “*And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ*” (I Cor. 3:1). Have you ever tried to carry on a spiritual conversation with a spiritual misfit? It is practically impossible because of their utter and sheer ignorance of the Word of God. Sad indeed!

-BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance week of 8/25/24	Daily Bible Readers: 13	Chapters Read: 425
B.C.: 37	A.M.: Worship: 62	Wed.: 32

Family News and Notes

Amy Sparks received disappointing news regarding her health. She will have some tests this week. **Jan Keen** will have surgery for cancer in October. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Drew Perrin** in the passing of his wife, **Paula**. **Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** dad, is in hospice care. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers, also remember her brother **Kevan Wain**. Wade Hedgepeth’s brother, **Dwight**, has some health challenges.

Pray for our world leaders at this time and the upcoming elections. Pray for all active duty military members and their families. We have 4 active duty members here at Cape Fear.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez**, and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Sep 1	Sep 2	Sep 3	Sep 4	Sep 5	Sep 6	Sep 7
Eze 10-12	Eze 13-15	Eze 16-18	Eze 19-20	Eze 21-22	Eze 23-24	Eze 25-26

Events

Mens’ Lunch: Friday, September 6th at Golden Corral @ 11am
Gospel Meeting: October 20-23 with Brock Shanks.
New Quarter: Begins today. This quarter is on Men & Women of the Old Testament.
Cleanup Day: October 5th. 9-noon. Sign up on small table in foyer.

