

Spiritual Maturity

We talked about the topic of spiritual maturity on Thursday night.

What does spiritual maturity look like?

How do you measure it?

Every one of us is measured on the scale of Jesus, so we all fall short (Romans 3:23). Understanding that principal is a good starting place for spiritual growth.

However, simply accepting that we are not as good as Jesus is not good enough, is it? Another aspect of maturity must be the realization that we still are called to a higher standard and that there is always room for growth. When it comes to spiritual growth, I find it helpful to remind myself that *I AM NOT WHERE I WANT TO BE*. In other words, I am working on it, because I need to work on it, and I can work on it!

Peter gives some powerful encouragement to that end, along with some very practical, personal challenges:

So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation — if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. 1 Peter 2:1-3

The reason that we are moved to confess that we are sinners is that we have tasted that the LORD is good. The reason that we are moved to profess that we will do better is also that we have tasted that the LORD is good. It is because we were dead in sin that Jesus saved us; and it is because Jesus saved us that we must grow in our salvation.

Even the world's best athletes, who are at the peak of fitness and ability, never stop training and seeking to do just that bit better next time.

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen.

2Peter 3:18

At family gatherings, youngsters usually like to hear comments from older family members about how much they have grown. We Christians, however, must wait till we see the Father face to face. Then we can expect to hear,

“Look at you! You’re all grown up!”

I can't wait to hear the next exclamation:

“...and don't you look just like your brother!”



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

Sept 17, 2017

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Home Bible study-7:00pm

ALL THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
GREET YOU.

ROMANS 16:16

Today's Sermon: *The Problem of Graceless Faith*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

aicoc.org (Antioch Initiative)

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Scripture: Romans 5:1-5

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, September 19th. 10am Patty will lead the discussion about Priscilla in chapter 12.**
- **Midweek Bible study Thursday nights at 7pm.**
- **Next Potluck: October 15th. Cowboy theme!**



- ✓ **NEW CHURCH BUILDING!** We have scheduled a building inspection tomorrow and are talking to the bank and a lawyer to help us work toward buying the building at 701 S. Wilbur. We are all sending letters out to churches we are familiar with or know members who attend there to ask for help with the purchase price.
- ✓ If you would like to be involved in helping the people affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, wildfires raging out west or the terrible earthquake that killed hundreds in Mexico last week, contact **Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort, Inc.** info@disasterreliefeffort.org
Send donations to 410 Allied Drive, PO Box 111180, Nashville, TN 37222-1180
- ✓ **Potluck today! Theme: Bountiful Harvest**



PRAYERS...

- Pray for all of our family members and loved ones who are yet lost or have strayed far away to come (back) to Christ.
- Pray for Darlene's sister, Vicki Joice, in OK. She continues to have problems with lymph edema. Pray that she feels well and has no further problems resulting from treatments.
- Pray for Lori Kashorek, that her lung cancer stays contained and there will be no more spreading.
- Emily Barry is planning thyroid surgery in November. She also needs an MRI as further examination concerning her irregular mammogram.
- Please remember Kiley and Thomas in prayer.
- Darlene is dealing with a few digestive problems and an achey throat. Pray that she feels better soon and is able to keep up with her music engagements as well as with her teaching job and hairdressing business.
- Kevan Barry is in Kuwait. Pray for his safety and for his family as they carry on at home.
- Kelly asked for prayer for her friend Sarah with her marriage. Also, another friend, Sarah Dunn, here in this area has a son, Joshua, who is near the end of his life due to cancer.
- Patty asked us to pray for her friend Richard Miller, who is having problems with his blood pressure.
- Continue to pray for the work in Tunkhannock.
- Continue to pray for the people of Texas and the people of Florida, as well as those out west who are impacted by the fires.
- Pray for success in teaching Bible truths to the contacts gathered through the door knocking campaign.
- Pray for our effort to buy a church building and that we are doing what God wants us to do in order to reach out to the lost.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry :

barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.