

How to Please Everyone

Wendell Ward

A man and his grandson went on a journey, walking and leading a donkey. Soon they met a man who said, "How foolish for you to be walking. One of you should be riding the donkey." So the man put his grandson on the animal.

The next traveler they met frowned and said accusingly, "How dreadful for a strong, young boy to be riding while an old man walks." With that, the boy climbed off the donkey and his grandfather climbed on.

The next person down the road, however, said, "I just can't believe that a grown man would ride and make a poor little boy walk." So the man pulled the boy back aboard and off they rode on the donkey together.

That is, until they met the next fellow who screamed, "I never saw anything so cruel in all my life. Two intelligent human beings riding on the poor little scrawny donkey." They dismounted, picked up the donkey and carried it down the road.

Down the road a piece from there our trio met a couple of men traveling together. When the parties had passed, one of the men turned to the other and said, "Did you ever see two fools carrying a donkey before?"

How to please everyone? Don't even try! Just try to please God. "*For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ* (Galatians 1:10).

The sooner we learn we cannot live by the conscience of any other man, the better off we will be. Each of us must walk by the rule of faith that comes by hearing the word of God according to (Romans 10:17). We understand James 4:4 to teach that friendship with the world causes us to be the enemy of God.

When it comes to preaching the word, preachers must realize they too must also live by the word. To proclaim something that would just tickle ears and not be in harmony with "the God-breathed word" causes one, even if he were an angel from heaven, to be accursed.

We must not confer with men as to the preaching of the word. It has been certified already. Our job is to persuade men to obey it.

As our travelers soon learned, trying to please everyone only led to confusion. Confusion leads to doing something foolish, like carrying your donkey! Or worse yet, confusion leads to denominationalism!



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732
Sept 24, 2017

WELCOME!

<u>Sunday</u>	Bible Class- 9:30 a.m. Worship- 10:30 a.m.
<u>Tuesday</u>	Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.
<u>Thursday</u>	Home Bible study-7:00pm

All the churches of Christ greet you.
Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: *Are you Growing it or Stowing it?*

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: Matthew 25:14-30

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, September 26th. 10am Sandy will lead the discussion about the concluding chapter.**
- **Midweek Bible study Thursday nights at 7pm.**
- **Next Potluck: October 15th. Cowboy theme!**



- ✓ **NEW CHURCH BUILDING!** 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. Please help by sending a letter to places and people you know. We will be discussing when we will have a “giving” Sunday of our own.
- ✓ Jackie Lovobero had an upper endoscopy on Friday.
- ✓ If you would like to be involved in helping the people affected by recent hurricanes, wildfires raging out west or the terrible earthquakes plaguing Mexico and killing hundreds, contact **Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort, Inc.** info@disasterrelieffort.org
Send donations to 410 Allied Drive, PO Box 111180, Nashville, TN 37222-1180

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. She has had 5 radiation treatments and has 10 to go. 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. That will happen in the next week or two.
- 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, Florida, and Puerto Rico 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.