

## WHAT CAN THE RIGHTEOUS DO?

Glen Elliott

In the wake of continuing violence in our nation's schools, we are left with unresolved questions as to the cause of such horrific assault against our young people. As Christians, it is important that we stand firmly on the bedrock of truth lest we be swept blindly into a debate centered on human wisdom. This is not a matter easily resolved and certainly not an issue that can be handled through the legislative process. This is about the heart and soul of our nation. Not many pundits are likely to mention the deterioration of the home as the chief cause of the social ills of our day. But, the question of David in the long ago is keenly relevant to our time. He asked, "If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?" (Psalms 11:3).

Things can be turned around one family at a time. It will not be an easy job; nor one that can be accomplished without the guidance and strength of the Lord. But, let's face it; the American family is in tatters and in desperate need of healing. As a society, we are increasingly moving in the direction of secularism. We have, for the most part, removed God from our schools and government institutions. Are we now turning to the world for answers? While there may be things which can be done by those who make our laws, the events of the recent past is not a call for government deliverance but a call for national repentance. We need to get back to teaching what we need to teach in the home. In an online article posted at FortifyYourFaith.org, Dan Flournoy mentioned the following ten things we should be teaching our children. As we embellish upon these principles for the next several weeks, please consider the implementation of such teaching in your own family.

In the first place, we should teach our children that they are the special creation of the Lord. According to the Genesis record, God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over all the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth" (Gen. 1:26). Again, in Genesis 2:7, we learn that God "formed man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." Our children need to be impressed with the fact that they are the special creation of God. How does such teaching fall into line with the godless theory of atheistic evolution? Chance existence is the default teaching in schools forbidden to teach Creationism. Again, the deification of the material world is at odds with what the Bible teaches about the role of man in exercising wise stewardship over God's creation. Most importantly, however, is the fact that we are created in the image of God. We are primarily spiritual beings who live in physical bodies for a short time but are intended to live on forever in the presence of our Creator. What better place to start than in turning the attention of our children in the direction of their Creator?



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838  
Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732  
April 8, 2018

### WELCOME!

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <u>Sunday</u>    | Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.<br>Worship- 10:30 a.m. |
| <u>Tuesday</u>   | Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.                |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | Bible Study-7:00pm                            |

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**All the churches of Christ greet you.**  
ROMANS 16:16

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### **Today's Sermon: *Bully Pulpit***

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

**[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)**

**[aicoc.org](http://aicoc.org) (Antioch Initiative)**

Find us on Face Book

**[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](https://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)**

**Scripture:** Matthew 25:14-30

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am. We will be studying Day 1 of the fourth chapter.**
- **Bill Colwell from World Bible School in TX will be here next Sunday to do a workshop presentation for the purpose of getting us involved in using that very effective resource for reaching the lost all over the world, as well as locally.**
- **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Regional Singing @ Horseheads, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 4:30pm.**
- **Housewarming Celebration- Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>- Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Speakers so far are Don Myers from Montgomery, AL, Larry Krause from Kittanning, PA, and Steve Connors from Horseheads, NY.**

**Next Potluck: April 15<sup>th</sup> NEXT WEEK! Theme: WORLD (WBS)**

**Bill Colwell's WBS workshop will start at 2pm following the potluck and run till 4pm. Please plan to stay for the workshop.**



- **Our baptistry has been used! Connie Altieri was baptized into Christ at 10am on Thursday. We welcome our new sister Connie into the fellowship!**
- A few of us plan to be at the building on Saturday at 9:30am to clean and organize for the workshop. Please join us if you can.
- **Arthur has started knocking on doors in this neighborhood to introduce us and hand them a leaflet asking them for ideas about how we can use our building for community events.**
- New gutters will be installed on the building any day now. We are waiting for word on that.

## PRAYERS...

- We pray that our **door-knocking**/leafleting campaign to introduce ourselves to the neighborhood produces fruit and Bible study opportunities.
- **Praise God for Connie Altieri's decision to be baptized!**
- **Dara**, Darlene's sister, is searching for employment, as both of her current jobs have been cutting back hours.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz**. She is being sent home from rehab because there is nothing more that can be done for her. Pray for her comfort as she is having trouble breathing. Also pray that she will reconsider Bible study and learn the truth while there is still time.
- **Lori Kashorek** continues with experimental chemo treatments, and we pray it will keep her lung cancer in check.
- Pray for **Vicki Joice** as she continues Herceptin treatments until June. She has 3 left to do. Also, pray that she doesn't become discouraged dealing with lymphedema on a daily basis.
- Sandy and Arthur's neighbor, **Erin Beiber** has metastatic breast cancer. She is doing well considering the extent of her illness. Pray that she will want to learn the truth about Christ soon.
- **Emily Barry** will have thyroid surgery on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April in Sayre. Also, Sandy and Arthur's niece, **Katie**, will be having the same kind of surgery in the near future. Pray for peace for both of them.
- **Patty and Ruthie's cousin Cathy's husband Bruce** has kidney cancer.
- Also, please pray for **their sister in law, Deborah**, who is suffering excruciating pain in her jaw.
- Patty and Ruthie's oldest brother, **Stanley**, who lives in FL, has lung cancer.
- **Ruthie's** friend and former colleague, **Nancy Black**, has had her foot amputated because of complications of diabetes. She is living at Elderwood in Waverly and is hoping to be well enough to return home soon. She is very grateful for prayers offered on her behalf.
- **Don Myers** back surgery was not successful, and he is in a lot of pain. He will have to have the surgery done a second time.
- **Connie** is looking for more work in the Sayre area.
- **Dave and Lynne Laton's daughter Natalie** has been diagnosed with Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma. She has started chemo, which requires a 3-4-day hospital stay each time. There was good news after this first round of chemo because the tumor had retracted and couldn't be felt.

**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.**