

## The Christian Filter

By Robert Guinn

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things,” (Phil. 4:8).

Is it True? The mind of a Christian is to be rooted in truth. If an action is deceptive in its presentation or design, it should be avoided and not dwelt upon. Remember, sin promises pleasure, but it is a passing pleasure which deceives many (Heb. 3:13, 11:25). How much time is spent worrying over things which are not true? Much anxiety is brought on by suspicion and false conclusion.

Is it Noble or Honorable? When you turn on the television, read headlines in the newspaper, or read articles on the internet, do they tend to focus on the shallow, cheap, pointless, reckless, and malicious deeds of the world? Yet, Christian minds are to be centered on respectable and dignified matters. Our actions should literally command a sense of respect.

Is it Just? A Christian is one that desires to do the right thing. The essence of their being is captured in the idea of not rejoicing in wrongdoing or unrighteousness but in what is true and just (1 Cor. 13:6). If the action, thought, and/or moment promotes injustice, Christians are exhorted to shun such behavior and handle the situation in an appropriate manner.

Is it Pure? Christians should be concerned with what is morally right. God’s people are to be holy, for He is holy (1 Peter 1:16). Those that are pure see things purely, but, to those who are defiled, nothing is pure (Titus 1:15). The Christian’s inward being is to be focused on the pure, bringing them closer to God (Matt. 5:8).

Is it Lovely? Our actions and thoughts are to be friendly and acceptable. These actions and thoughts call out love from one person to the next. This implies the idea of eliminating personal agendas bent on vengeance, bitterness, or harm to others. Rather than causing resentment, the Christian desires to instill charity, gentleness, and patience within their fellow man.

Is it Commendable or of Good Report? A Christian’s actions and thoughts are those which can be spoken well of. Not just in how they are viewed by others, but, rather, they consider if they could entertain such an action or thought in the presence of the Lord. Would you feel comfortable doing this knowing the Lord is watching? Be honest. Things need to be considered praise- worthy and excellent.

Do our actions and thoughts pass the Christian filter test?



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

April 28, 2019

### WELCOME!

#### Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

#### Tuesday

Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

#### Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

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**All the churches of Christ greet you.**

Romans 16:16

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### ***Today's Sermon: Have You Got Personality?***

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)

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**Scripture: Psalm 8**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class:** We will study Day 4 of Lesson 9 on the 30<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the building @ 10am.
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** April 29<sup>th</sup>, Paul will be continuing with our study of Ephesians, probably concluding the book.
- **Men's Revival- Putting "man" Back in the Hood-**June 1<sup>st</sup> here at Valley Cities. Featured speakers will be Paul Cowles, Erlvin Greene and our own Arthur Barry.
- **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Regional Singing-** the next one will be June 30<sup>th</sup> at Endwell.
- **Sojourners** here- July 8-18. We are planning a Gospel tent meeting in River Front Park at this time (12-14).
- **Athens Street Fair-** July 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. Plan to help with our church booth during this event. This will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> year to participate.
- **VBS –** August 10<sup>th</sup> here at the building with volunteers from Kittanning and Camp Hill churches.
- **Next Potluck:** May 19<sup>th</sup>.



### NEWS

- **Paul and Dawn Cowles** are in the process of buying a house in Waverly! Their closing is currently scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Pounding the Ground for Ultrasound** is a 5K and 10K walk/ run event on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. A prize will be awarded for the church group with the most entrants. The individual fee is \$25. So far, we have two people registered. Proceeds go to support Endless Mountains Pregnancy Crisis Center (First Look Pregnancy Center in Sayre).
- **POTLUCK TODAY! OUR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP ROCK! PLEASE STAY AND EAT WITH US FOLLOWING WORSHIP.**

## PRAYERS

- **Molly Rivera** is in Marshall, NC studying for a 2-week intensive equine therapy internship. Pray for safe travels back home on Saturday and success.
- **Emily Barry** will be relocating in ME, making the move on Wednesday. Pray for a smooth move for her and Aidan.
- Continue to pray for **Peyton** concerning the seizures she has been having.
- **Mark Elsbree**, Doug's older brother, needs prayer that he will be matched with a kidney donor **soon**.
- Pray for **Marilynn Patrick** who is battling metastatic colon cancer.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** – lung cancer. She has had to give up her job as school secretary.
- Pray for **Lori Kashorek** –stage 4 lung cancer.
- **Erin Beiber** - metastatic breast cancer. Erin is getting worse and her doctors say it's serious now.
- Remember to pray for **Ronnie Jones** (stroke) and **Don Myers** (back pain). Arthur spoke with Don the other day, and he really is not doing well. He needs our prayers.
- Pray for our **Bible classes**, both Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings as well as Ladies' Class. Attendance is low in all Bible classes.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at [barncat7237@gmail.com](mailto:barncat7237@gmail.com) or text or call (607) 261-0911.