

Is it Wrong?

There are obviously things that Scripture says are wrong. "Sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these" (Galatians 5:19-21). But there are other behaviors about which we are not given such an obvious answer.

The Problem with Only Asking, "Is It Wrong?"

Have you ever heard a person ask "Show me in the Bible where it's wrong!?" This was apparently the mentality of some people who stirred up quite a bit of trouble in the Corinthian church. They seemed to believe, since Christians are not under Law but under grace that, "All things are lawful." Paul was quick to reply, "But not all things are helpful" and, "Not all things build up" (1 Corinthians 10:23). These people believed that if the Law of Moses had been done away with, they had complete freedom to do *whatever* they wanted to do. Paul rebuked them and said there were other questions that needed to be asked rather than just, "Is it lawful?"

Christian living is not about rule-keeping. There are more questions that need to be asked than just, "Is it against the rules?" Christian living is about walking by faith (2 Corinthians 5:7), walking by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-26), and walking in the light (1 John 1:7). Which means we are called to a higher standard and we have to ask more mature questions than just, "Is it wrong?" or, "Is it lawful?" or, "Is it against the rules?"

What Other Questions Should We Ask?

Before engaging in a particular behavior, here are some questions we should ask ourselves:

- **Is it wise?** – see the book of Proverbs
- **Is it helpful and edifying to others?** – see 1 Corinthians 10:23-30; Romans 14-15
- **Is it loving?** – see 1 Corinthians 13
- **Is it selfless?** – see Philippians 2:1-11
- **Is it God-glorifying?** – see 1 Corinthians 10:31-33
- **Does it reflect purity and holiness?** – see 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Ephesians 5:7-21

This really is not as complicated as it might sound when you consider that Jesus summed it up with a few words in Matthew 7:12.

So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.



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

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

March 26, 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: *Faithful Love (Romantic 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)

Find us on Face Book

www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc

Scripture: Romans 4:13-25

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Next potluck: April 16th. Theme: **Easter**
- Ladies Class: 10am, Tuesday, March 28th at the building. We hope to be discussing chapter 6 of **Struggle, Seek, Grow**, about Rahab, which has been postponed from several weeks ago. Due to illness, appointments and people away on trips, and the weather, we may not be able to have ladies' class for a few weeks. Watch this space and check out the big calendar in the auditorium.
- Midweek Bible study @ McElhaneys Thursday nights at 7pm. Coffee and dessert is usually served. All contributions gladly accepted!
- Men's Revival, Inner Man: the Uprising, Saturday, May 6th. Arthur has lined up speakers from Newark, NY and Endwell, NY.



- Arthur and Sandy had a relaxing and refreshing time in the mountains around Sevierville, TN with Don and Judy Myers and Don's brother Bobby and his wife, Rose.



PRAYERS...

- Pray that we can all stay healthy and that there is a **spirit of unity** among us here at Valley Cities church.
- 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 as she has her radiation treatments over the next couple of weeks. She has seven more to go.
- Darlene's husband Doug will soon be tested to see if he is compatible to donate a kidney to his brother, Mark, who is experiencing renal failure. Pray for Mark, as he is very poorly.
- Darlene's sister, Vicki Joyce, of AR will be having a needle biopsy after having an irregular mammogram and ultrasound. Pray for a negative result.
- Jill Wright from Kittanning needs to have a needle biopsy of the thyroid. She has a node that doctors are saying appears to be benign, but is causing swallowing problems for her. Pray that the node is benign.
- Ruthie Albro wore a heart monitor from Monday to Tuesday to determine if the tachycardia episode she suffered a while ago is anything she needs to treat. She has an appointment to see her cardiologist soon.
- Pray for comfort for those from war-torn or famine-stricken countries who have no homes and are starving, without clean water or safety.
- Emily Barry has been told that the large node on her thyroid could still be cancerous, albeit slow growing. Please pray for her as she decides whether to leave it alone and monitor it with ultrasound twice a year or remove it for swallowing ease and have it biopsied.
- 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.