

Brady's "Squared-Off-Edge-of-the-Paper"

Hi-Ho, Hi-Ho, It's Off to Work We Go

Chores are the worst. I mean don't get me wrong. I firmly believe they're absolutely necessary—both for the upkeep of a home and for a child to turn out anywhere close to normal. But that has never stopped me from hating them. In fact, if you were to ask my parents, even to this day they would tell you that any time I was given chores, whether it was outside working in the yard with Dad or inside cleaning up the house with Mom, my first question would always be, "Will I be done after this?" In fact the only thing that would ever get me through my chore was the prospect that I would be done soon. But what about jobs we get from God? What attitude should those receive?

Mary was a young, Jewish, soon-to-be wife. Her life was at a very exciting point with a new marriage and new life coming soon. And it was at this point that God decided to call upon her to become pregnant as a virgin. For a woman in her position, this was utter social destruction. Goodbye reputation of purity. Goodbye means of earning a living (which was already next to impossible for women). And most likely goodbye husband (although God helped her out there). For the next nine months she would carry a child, but for the rest of her life she would carry the social stigma. So... what was her response?

"Behold the bond-slave of the Lord; may it be done to me according to Your word." (Luke 1:38, NASB) And if you drop down just seven verses, you can read one of the most beautiful songs ever written which Mary sings to God because of His gift. (Yes, His *gift*.)

Sometimes the biggest and most life-changing opportunities that God wants to give us seem like the most damaging to our lives. We can be called to some pretty uncomfortable, scary and even dangerous places when we follow God. It just comes with the decision to follow Him. And if we truly want to go where He leads, we have to decide now what our attitude will be. "Behold the bond-slave of the Lord." Are you ready for your chores?

Sermon Notes: "God's Prescription For Marriage" Lesson #3

I. Scripture Reading Today: Ephesians 5:22-33.

A. Review: No perfect people to marry. Lower E_____.

B. A Spirit Controlled Life/Marriage: Ephesians 5:18-21.

II. First, The Bible Teaches that Wives are to R_____ your husband.

III. Second, The Bible Teaches Husbands V_____ down by choosing to lay down their lives for their wives.

IV, Conclusion: The way of the cross.



We are continuing to talk about marriage on Sunday Mornings. In a book entitled "Keeping Our Troth," the author discusses Five Stages of Marriage and how to survive each one.

- Romance:** The initial stage of falling in love. This is the total delight and abandon a couple feel in each other. Love seems to thrive in this stage.
- Power Struggle:** At this point, couples begin to be impressed with their differences. Each person struggles to maintain his/her identity. Doubts creep in to eat away the love. Absolute Commitment to one another is needed.
- Shifting Gears:** Each person begins to come to grips with how much he or she contributes to the marriage problems. The partners begin to accept one another with their special gifts and imperfections.
- Mutuality:** Meeting in the middle is the key. Relationships begin to change radically; compassion replaces alienation, letting be replaces needing to control. Partners learn to cope with conflict in constructive ways.
- Co-Creativity:** When a couple no longer needs to spend energy keeping illusions alive or keeping themselves together, they surge with new energy and creativity. Agape Love dominates the marriage.

UPCOMING EVENTS	
May 24th	Men's Softball Game @6:00PM
May 30th	Memorial Day Picnic @NW Park
June 4th	Men's Softball Game @6:00PM
June 6th	Baccalaureate
June 7th	Men's Softball Game @6:00PM
June 13th	Fellowship Groups Meeting
June 19th	Senior Saints Picnic@Nelsons
June 20th	Father's Day
June 20th	Youth Work Camp@OVU

AREA EVENTS*	
May 23rd	Spring Sing @ Ward Street Church of Christ
June 11,12	Men's Retreat at Kent, Ct
June 13th	Bridgeport C of C One year anniversary

* See the bulletin board for more information

Welcome To Our Worship

If you are visiting with us today, you are our special guest. We ask that you fill out the PRAYER REQUEST CARD in the packet you received as you entered and please drop it in the collection plate. We hope that you are encouraged and grow closer to God as a result of being here today.

Assembly Times

Sunday:
Bible Class: 9:00 a.m.
Worship: 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.*
Wednesday: Bible Classes: 7:00 p.m.
*Small groups at homes 3rd Sunday eve.
Staff:
Arnie Holmes Pulpit Minister
860.643.8540 arnierae@cox.net
Anthony Melakian Outreach Minister
860.432.8366 melakian@cox.net
Brady Easter Youth Minister
860.818.9553 Beaster05@cox.net
Pat Mosher, Church Secretary
860.646.2903 Mancchrist@aol.com

Our Shepherds

Charlie Brown—860-267-4289
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Peter Scanlon—860-643-0889
Email:scanpaudash@yahoo.com
Scott Stafford—860-643-6799
Email: sas1377@aol.com

PRAYER LIST

Our Manchester Family

- **Becky Todd** (waiting for heart transplant).
- **Those expecting soon** (Amanda, and Kim).
- **Beverly Bouffard** recovering from Surgery at home.
- **Don Nelson** fell last week (still a little sore).
- **Danielle Cummings**-Air Force deployment for a few months, and all the troops in Harms Way.
- **Richard Ginsburg** . Home recuperating

Our Family & Friends

- **Susan**-Chad Rosenberg's mother-surgery
- **Don Bennett** - Northside Minister
- **Chris Kelley**-Jean's son (cancer) finished treatments
- **Ethan**, Shannon McKay's friends son-cancer)

Those Traveling

- **Frank and Barbara Rohan.**
- **Don & Audrey Gipson-Florida**

Those looking for employment:

- Richard Chang.

Thank you!!!!

Our clothing donations to MACC began 7 years ago and have always been appreciated. With the present state of the United States economy our clothing donations are even more meaningful and needed. Thank you Manchester Church of Christ for your past and present effort to assist the Manchester Community. Kind deeds change lives. Thank you again,

The Manchester Church of
Christ Senior Saints.

Derrick & Jharna Bairagee

*Cordially invite you to our House Warming
Celebration*

May 29, 2010 1:00-5:00 PM-open house

74 Avondale Road Manchester, CT

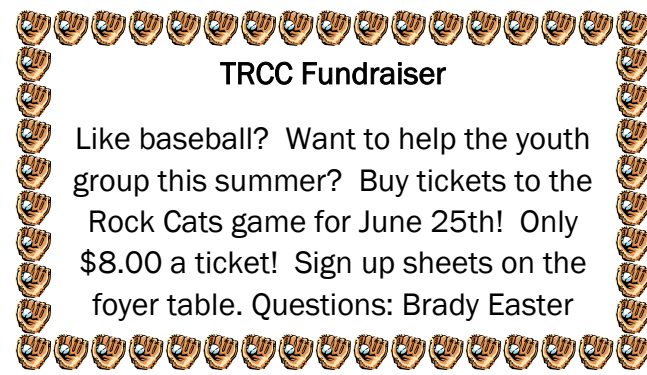
Please respond by May 24, 2010

860-670-2237

Gift cards will be appreciated from

Home Depot, Sears, or

Bob's Discount Furniture



TRCC Fundraiser

Like baseball? Want to help the youth group this summer? Buy tickets to the Rock Cats game for June 25th! Only \$8.00 a ticket! Sign up sheets on the foyer table. Questions: Brady Easter

WEEKLY RECORD 5/16/2010

Bible Class	223
Morning Worship	305
Evening Worship	112
Wednesday Evening	108
Offering to God	\$7,684.97

Forgive Me When I Whine

Today, upon a bus. I saw a lovely maid with golden hair;
I envied her—she seemed so happy—and oh, I wished I were so fair.
And suddenly she rose to leave, I saw her hobble down the aisle;
She had one foot and wore a crutch, but as she passed, a smile.
Oh, God forgive me when I whine; I have two feet—the world is mine.
And when I stopped to buy some sweets, the lad who served me had such charm.
He seemed to radiate good cheer; his manner was so kind and warm.
I said “it’s nice to deal with you. Such courtesy I seldom find.”
He turned and said, “Oh thank you, sir!” and then I saw that he was blind.
Oh, God forgive me when I whine; I have two eyes—the world is mine.
Then when walking down the street I saw a child with eyes of blue.
He stood and watched the others play; it seemed he knew not what to do.
I stopped a moment then I said, “Why don’t you join the others dear?”
He looked ahead without a word, then I knew he could not hear.
Oh, God forgive me when I whine; I have two ears—the world is mine.
With feet to take me where I’d go, with eyes to see the sunset glow.
With ears to hear what I should know; I’m blessed indeed, the world is mine.
Oh God forgive me when I whine. (unknown)

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Song Leader—Phil Stice

Elder's Prayer—Charlie Brown

Communion Thought—Jim Todd

Lord's Table

Offering

Scripture—Gary Yeats

Sermon “God's Prescription For Marriage”
Series #3

Scripture Ephesians 5:22-33

Announcements— Arnie Holmes

Closing Prayer— Matt Brissette

Children's Bible Time —Becky C./Casey C.

Toddler's Bible Time— Claudette & Grace G.

Evening Lesson: . Fourth Sunday Special
Programs

NEWS AND NOTES

- ◆ The Memorial Day Picnic is around the corner. Pick up an informational notice on the table in the foyer.
- ◆ Welcome to **Dwayne and Kim Mather**, who placed membership with us on Sunday. They have 3 sons: Ian, Jacob, and Nathaniel. Welcome to our church family.
- ◆ Today is the last Sunday that **Seth Bamberg** will be worshiping with us. He has finished school and is going to Pepperdine in the fall. We wish him the best in his college career.
- ◆ **Richard Ginsburg** is now home from the hospital and recovering.
- ◆ **Tina Chase** has asked for special prayers for her son **Julio Angel Villafane** who has been missing for several months. The family is very concerned! Julio is also Wandely Nelson's brother.

ANTHONY'S CORNER

“What if?” Has there ever been an expression so full of possibilities yet so bereft of probabilities as this one? Most of us have heard the phrase “what if” from people of all ages, from children to senior citizens, all assessing a situation from an angle of what could happen as opposed to what will likely happen. I hear it often within the realm of soul-winning. These “what ifs” often deal with the eternal fate of those in a remote area somewhere in the world who may never get to hear the gospel (“What if they never get to hear the gospel, will they still go to hell?”). Another “what if” concerns the scenario surrounding the person who wishes to obey the gospel in baptism yet is involved in a fatal accident on the way to the baptistery (“What if they die before they get to the church building? Can they still be saved?”) And we must not limit the proliferation of “what if” scenarios to those who have yet to obey Christ. For even those of us who would be soul-winners also at times get sucked into the whirlpool of “what if”. We may say something like, “I would love to bring _____ to Christ, but what if _____?” Just fill in the blanks here. We may be fearful of rejection, of not knowing what to say, of being made to look foolish, etc. We may even size up a situation and come to a conclusion best verbalized in this way, “What if I teach this person the gospel, he/she obeys, yet does not remain faithful to the Lord?” So based on a multitude of “what ifs”, we fail to do as we ought to do. Listen, these “what ifs” should never be used as an excuse for disobedience to God, whether we are speaking of our own disobedience or that of another. In Luke 12:47-48, Jesus speaks of the slave who knew his master's will yet was disobedient as receiving many lashes as opposed to the one ignorant of the master's will as receiving just a few. The point is that we cannot point to a “what if” scenario in order to justify disobedience to God. If we know his will, we must do it regardless of what others choose.

Special request of all members:

If you have photos of church members or church activities over the last 48 years, please bring them to **Janet or Phil Stice** at church, or send them electronically to pcstice@cox.net. They will be scanned and returned to you, and then later used for a 50th anniversary presentation.