

Passion for God.....Compassion for People
December 14, 2014

Clay City Church of Christ

P. O. Box 492
5719 Main Street
Clay City, Kentucky 40312
606-663-0388

<http://www.online-claycity.com>

Items to Remember:

Stanton Nursing Home Services are the third Sunday of the month, beginning at 2:30 p.m. The speaker for December will be Dan Newell Jr.

Stanton Nursing Home Birthday Celebrations are the first Saturday of each month at 2pm.

Church Singing takes place the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7pm. Please plan to attend and encourage others as well.

Ladies Group Meeting takes place the 2nd Friday of each month at 7pm in the multi-purpose room at the church building. This is a great opportunity for ladies to learn together and fellowship. Please make plans to attend.

Birthdays this Week: Randy Strange (20th)

Anniversaries this Week: Gary & Kathy Chaney (20th)

Our sermon airs each Sunday at 8:30 a.m.WSKV – 104.9 FM

Please Lift Up In Prayer:

Sharon & Donald Olinger, Correne Hatton, Inez Estep, Ellaray Campbell, Joe Slone. Those undergoing medical tests, those going through personal trials, unspoken requests, the elderly in the church, those who have lost loved ones, and those on the church prayer list.

.....*the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

James 5:16

Our men and women serving in Afghanistan and other war torn areas.

Greater love hath no man John 15:13

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- The Church food pantry is a way to share with those in need. It is accessed weekly by members of our community. Please donate as you can.

Pantry Item of the Week: Canned Fruit

Elders:

M. C. Rice 606-663-5646

mackrice45@gmail.com

Daniel Newell..... 859-498-7941

danieldaisy@bellsouth.net

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Worship Services:

Sunday Morning Bible Study.....10:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

Sunday A.M.: Blessed are the Poor in Spirit Mack Rice

Sunday P.M.: What is Life? Daniel Newell



Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.

John Adams

Persuasion is often more effectual than force.

Aesop

Privileged to Serve

Announcements and Sick..... Jody McCoy
Songs of Worship Charles Rice

Prayer:

A.M. Prayer before Worship..... Homer Rice
A.M. Closing Prayer..... Shane Burgher
P.M. Opening Prayer Lonnie Dale Stewart
P.M. Closing Prayer..... Joseph Newell

December:

Communion:

Reading..... Lonnie Dale Stewart
Serving..... Kyle Lucas & Rob Little
Communion to the Sick..... Shane Burgher & Jody McCoy
Collection..... Dan Newell & Walter Rice
Prepare Communion..... Pauline Rice
Van Driver Shane Burgher
Cleaning Outside Dan Newell & Shane Burgher

This and That

In the beginning God made all things pure. There were no polluted streams, smog, or litter. A pronouncement was made that everything was good and very good. In the process of time, man became impure through sin. Our sinful ways have negatively impacted nearly every facet of God's creation.

The epistle of James speaks of "Pure" religion, "Pure" wisdom, and "Pure" hearts. God seeks purity in people. Jesus told his apostles they were "clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. John 15:3" Paul instructs Timothy to "keep thyself pure. 1 Timothy 5:22" This begins with thinking true, honest, just, pure, lovely thoughts (Philippians 4:8).

When learned and obeyed, God's word will make us pure again. Peter says we may purify our souls in obeying the truth. 1 Peter 1:22, and we can purify our hearts by faith, Acts 15:9. The Church of Christ at Clay City teaches God's word each Sunday and Wednesday. Will you worship God with us regularly and, with us, seek to be pure through an application of God's word??

Daniel Newell

ō . . . these people draw near with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but have removed their hearts far from Me, and their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of menō (Isaiah 29:13).

WORDS ARE POWERFUL THINGS, BUT THEY SHOULD NEVER BE USED TO COVER UP THE CHANGES THAT WE NEED TO MAKE. When what is going on is not good, the temptation is for us to cover up our wounds with the bandages of fine-sounding words. We may even ōdraw nearō to God with our mouths and ōhonorō Him with our lips. But if our hearts are far removed from God, then our words will not be accepted by Him as a substitute for real worship. We may mislead other people who can't see the true condition of our hearts, but God will not be misled. He is not looking for verbiage but for hearts willing to be transformed. And if our hearts are not willing to be turned toward Him, then no amount of ōimage managementō will get us where we want to go.

It may be that we underestimate the amount of transformation that is actually possible. Discouraged by our past efforts to become what we want to be, we give up and lower our expectations. Not convinced that God can make any real difference in our ōdysfunctionalō behavior, we content ourselves with talking as if He had made a difference. Doctrinally, we may go so far as to believe that the Christian doesn't have to live a life qualitatively different than the non-Christian: since salvation is by grace and not by works, the Christian is different only in being forgiven.

But while it is true that salvation is indeed by grace and the perfection of our holiness must await the resurrection, it is also true that our transformation begins in this life. Writing to the Christians in Rome, Paul said, ōTherefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of lifeō (Romans 6:4). And in the same letter, he said, ōDo not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mindō (Romans 12:2). God's purpose for us goes far beyond words and images and outward reputations. He intends nothing less than to actually turn us around!

ōFaith means being grasped by a power that is greater than we are, a power that shakes us and turns us, and transforms and heals us. Surrender to this power is faithō (Paul Tillich).

Gary Henry – WordPoints.com