

Are You Faithful?
Bobby Dockery

In his book, *Among the Missing*, Robert Nash tells the remarkable story of Anna N. Fellows. One day in 1879 her husband came home to discover she had left him without a word. For 20 years there was no word or trace of Anna. Then one day her husband came home to find her in the kitchen fixing supper, as if she had never been gone. She refused to explain where she had been, and somehow they settled down to try to revive their home life. But after three years Anna left again—this time she never returned.

No one would think of using the word faithful to describe her behavior. Obviously, her husband got far less of her loyalty than he had a right to expect.

But this is the way many people treat God! They disappear and reappear in their service to Him whenever it suits them. They vanish from the worship of the church for weeks on end then come back and sing, “Oh, How I Love Jesus,” as if they really meant it!

Faithfulness means giving our Lord the preeminence, the precedence and priority in all things! He expects and has the right to expect no less!

- via the *Lake Hills Letter*, weekly bulletin of the *Lake Hills Church of Christ in Chattanooga, TN*.



The Worker

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Involvement

*I am only one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything,
But I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
And what I ought to do,
By the grace of God, I will do.*

These pointed words were written long ago. I do not know who wrote them, but I do know that they speak the truth. Too often Christians are frustrated because they are “bombarded” with appeals to do this, or get involved in that. Often because of feeling guilty (whether real or imagined), the response is to draw back and not get involved in anything because we cannot be involved in everything.

Brethren, this is not a feeling we should have in church. God wants us to use what abilities we have to do what we should do. When we study I Corinthians 12 and Romans 12, we have a clear picture of what the Lord sees us doing. We do not all have to do the same thing or be involved in everything in the body of Christ. But we do all have to do something. The challenge in our lives is to find what part of the body we are so that we can fulfill our work.

Someone says, “I can’t do that.” Alright . . . But what can you do? Let’s quit focusing on what we cannot do and take a clear look at what we can do, and let’s do it with all our might. We need to be like those of Nehemiah’s day who, when rebuilding the temple of God, were successful, “for the people had a mind to work” (Nehemiah 4:6).

We often sing, “There is much to do, there’s work on every hand.” That is so true. Then comes the chorus, “Here am I, send me.” It’s a good song (based on Isaiah 6:1-8) and we need to work while it is day, for the night will come when no man can work (John 9:4).

The greatest challenge in the Christian life is not grand and glorious programs, big numbers, and promotional gimmicks. The greatest challenge is faithfulness. Being faithful to what I have been called is my mission in the church, and we have been called to reproduce. We are to be bearing fruit in the Kingdom (John 15). The fruit of a Christian is another Christian. Faithfulness results in fruitfulness. Let’s not let opportunities pass without taking advantage of them.

Edwin Myers

- via *The Encourager*, the weekly bulletin for the *Calvert City Church of Christ, Calvert City, KY*.

Leadership

Elders Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey
Deacons Clint Smith Jr, Robby Stocksdale
Joe Sweeney
Pulpit Minister David Wright
Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Schedule of Services

Sunday
Bible Class 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 PM

Panama Missions

Evans Campbell Pablo Sanchez

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125

Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org Email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org

Those Privileged to Serve

| AM Service | | PM Service | | AM & PM Services | |
|----------------|-------------------|--|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Song Leader | Michael Hawkins | Song Leader | Robby Stocksdale | Announcements | Clint Smith Jr |
| Opening Prayer | Leon Stocksdale | Bible Reading | Clint Smith Sr | Lord’s Supper | David Blackwell |
| Scripture | Grover Blanton | Selection | 3 | Offering | Greg Blanton |
| Sermon | David Wright | Prayer | Hank Tincher | Usher | Harold Tincher |
| Lord’s Supper | | Sermon | David Wright | Count Offering | Harold Tincher |
| Message | Irvin Williams | Closing Prayer | John Keaton | Assist Count | Art Patrick |
| Attendant | Jeremy Montgomery | Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Romans 12:11 | | | |
| Attendant | Haydn Blanton | | | | |
| Closing Prayer | Joe Sweeney | | | | |

If unable to serve please call: Art Patrick 502-819-9481 or Harold Tincher 502-409-3511

Visions of Their Own Minds

David Wright

Searching for someone who preaches the truth is like looking for an icicle in July. Most false prophets rattle on for 30 minutes or so without ever opening the Bible. Determining that such men are merely expressing human opinion is fairly easy. Other false teachers, however, tell Bible stories and cite numerous scriptures. This preaching style can be very deceptive. The frequent biblical references give an impression of authentic Gospel teaching.

In his great prophetic book, Jeremiah addressed this very issue: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes; they speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. They say continually to those who despise the word of the Lord, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No evil shall come upon you.’ [...] Behold, I am against the prophets, says the Lord, who use their tongues and say, ‘Says the Lord’” (Jer. 23:16-17, 31). The false prophets known to Jeremiah invented dreams and visions from the Lord and then passed them off as genuine revelations. “Says the Lord” was equivalent to “The Bible says.”

The quotation of scripture is no guarantee of healthy teaching. But how is a person to distinguish between false teaching and the truth? Following the suggestions below should help us identify that midsummer icicle:

Check It Out. The people of ancient Berea compared Paul’s preaching with the scriptures (Acts 17:11). When someone is preaching, follow along in your own Bible and do more reading at home.

Look at Context. Even the devil quoted a scripture (Matt. 4:6). But by ignoring context, he twisted its meaning. Carefully read the passage before and after any text to clarify its meaning.

Ask Questions. Jesus, the embodiment of truth, received questions from both friends and enemies. Beware of a preacher who is defensive about his teaching.

Watch for Humility. False prophets tend to have inflated opinions of themselves (2 Cor. 11:20-21). Their arrogance slips out in innumerable ways—boasts about position or personal possessions, self-promoting illustrations, degrading remarks about others, and so on.

Sermon

Luke 12:13-21

My Last Day (a.m.)

More Glory than Moses (p.m.)

¹²And what I am doing I will continue to do, in order to undermine the claim of those who would like to claim that in their boasted mission they work on the same terms as we do. ¹³For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. ¹⁵So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds. ¹⁶I repeat, let no one think me foolish. But even if you do, accept me as a fool, so that I too may boast a little. ¹⁷What I am saying with this boastful confidence, I say not as the Lord would but as a fool. ¹⁸Since many boast according to the flesh, I too will boast. ¹⁹For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! ²⁰For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. ²¹To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that! But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. 2 Corinthians 11:12-21

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The next Monday Night for The Master meeting is Oct 21st at 6 p.m. Please sign the sheet if you plan to attend. We will be addressing post cards for our upcoming gospel meeting.

Our Fall Gospel meeting with Brother John Board from E-town is November 1st thru 3rd. The lesson theme is “Reaching the Lost”. Times are: Friday and Saturday 7 p.m., Sunday bible class 10 a.m., worship at 11 a.m. Flyers are available on the table.

Clint and Debbie Smith’s fellowship group will meet Sunday October 20th after the morning worship service. The menu will be Pasta or Italian and salad. Please sign the sheet on the table if you plan to attend.

Our Senior Saints are invited to eat dinner together at Bob Evans in Clarksville at 6:00 on Friday, October 18. If you plan to go, please sign up in the foyer so that an accurate number can be given to the restaurant.

Our young people are invited to go to the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky, on Saturday, October 26. Please sign up in the foyer if you plan to go. The church will cover part of the admission cost, but each teen or child will be expected to pay \$10. The trip will be made even more special by Caleb Hambelton’s visit for the weekend. The estimated time of departure (which is subject to change) is 10:00 a.m.

Ray and Sue Linne thank everyone for the cards on their 70th wedding anniversary.

Congratulations to Erin Sarver, Jerry Montgomery’s niece, who had a baby girl, Madeline Kate. She weighed 7lbs 8oz, mom and baby are home.

Prayer List: Chandra Akers (Marla), MARTIN BONNEY, JAYNE CRAVENS, Jerry Crick (Ann), Todd Cunningham (Hank), Esther Davis (Marian), JANICE DIMMITT, MYRNA DIMMITT, PATTY DIMMITT, MILDRED ELLIOTT, Zachary Ferguson, Elma Fielder (Marian), Lillian Foster, Diana Fulks (Norma), FRANK & MARY HARRIS, DOUG & JUDY HAWKINS, Pricilla Hudkins, ALLENE HUSTON, RON IVERSON, Bernie Jackson (Harold), Elise Jackson (Christine), Alice Jenkins (Ann), Charles & Marlyn Jenkins (Ann), Arletha Kenty (Nathan), Josephine King (Polly), MERLE & JOYCE KNUCKLES, FRANCES LAWTON, SUE LINNE & Rhea, Shelly Marshall, POLLY MCCLINTOCK, JERRY & SONJA MONTGOMERY, CAROL MOUSTY, Gary Peyton (Jean), Jerrie Phillips, CHRISTINE RHOTON, Cindy Roeder (Christine), Wendell & Betty Smith (Polly), Lynn Sullivan (Ann), THRESA TEMPLE, FERN TINCHER, Fulton Wilson (Ann)

Military Service: Matt Bartram, Stephen Blanton, Scott Viers, Zach West, Jeremy Whitlow