

Gospel Power



"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation..." (Romans 1:16)

The Gospel Power is published in interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Anderson church.

**Anderson
church of Christ**
5900 Highway 207
Anderson, Alabama

Visit Us On The Web

Anderson-church.org

Men Priviledged To Serve:

Sunday, May 25th

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Ronnie Phillips

Bible Reading .. (Psalm 105:23-45)

..... Larry White

Prayer

..... Scottie Goode

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Ronnie Phillips

Prayer

..... Brian Word

Presiding Jerry Dickey

Serving Ray Tucker

..... Jimmy Glass

..... Phil Pressnell

Closing Prayer

..... Aric Butler

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Chase Williams

Bible Reading (Psalm 106:1-12)

..... Mark McIntyre

Prayer

..... Michael Clemmons

Lord's Supper

..... Jerry Dickey

Closing Prayer

..... Jerry Best

Volume X

May 25, 2003

No. 21

You Are Invited To Join Us At Our

Vacation Bible School

June 2 -6

Monday – Friday

10:00 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

The Adult Class:

Day

Adult Class Speaker

Monday

Frank Richey

Tuesday

Randall Hammock

Wednesday

Norm Webb, Jr.

Thursday

Rodney Britton

Friday

Grant Caldwell

There will be classes for ages Nursery through Adult.

Sunday, June 1

9:45 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.

Gary Patton, Speaking

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

What's Not In Ephesians 6:4?

Tony Mauch

The Text: *“And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”*

The State is not in Ephesians 6:4. Educational institutions cannot be counted on, especially for moral teaching. In fact, you had better be watchful because some schools may even promote the exact opposite of your values. Your child might be encouraged to reject God as the Creator, reject the counsel of Scripture and explore their sexuality, even to the extent of homosexual conduct. Keeping a pulse on your child's education is more important now than ever.

The Local Church is not in Ephesians 6:4. As important as local churches can be in assisting parents in the great responsibility, God never instructed a group of Christians to raise my children to know the Lord. He instead charges every father with that responsibility.

An institutional mind-set about the church and her Bible classes is very easily developed. We may squawk, and rightfully so, at liberal churches usurping the parental role of providing entertainment for our children. On the other hand, if we depend completely on the local church to instruct our children in the Lord's way, have we not abdicated the responsibility God gave to us to “the institution?”

How many examples could be cited of children who sat in Bible classes Sunday after Sunday and Wednesday after Wednesday who no longer serve the Lord? And of those examples, what percentage do you suppose received very little teaching in the home? How many of them heard very little positive being said about the brethren or about serving them? How many prayers were prayed besides at mealtimes, if even then? (Whatever happened to families eating dinner together around a table instead of in front of a television?).

Bible classes should merely supplement the greater, daily, life-consistent, short-term work of parents in the home. Yes, it is short-term work. Eighteen years fly by seemingly in a moment. That means training children is an urgent work. The greatest spiritual influence is not the quality of their Bible classes or the talents of those who teach them, but the example and behavior of parents. The local church is no substitute for “...you shall teach them (God's word, His desires) diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up” (Deuteronomy 6:7).

Mom is not in Ephesians 6:4. Certainly, Mom can be an invaluable asset in rearing children to know the Lord. Timothy's mother and grandmother serve as a great example (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-17). If the father does not fulfill his God-given responsibility, then a mother who cares about the souls of her children must shoulder the responsibility. But our passage calls for leadership from the husband and father! He may employ the assistance of his helper, his godly wife, but the responsibility is still his nonetheless.

Does a perception exist that Bible study is not manly? Do some think “That's woman's work”? The example of Jesus, the ultimate Man, dispels such a notion. Fathers, step up to the plate! Read the Bible with and to your kids. Present its treasures to them as just that...a treasure-trove full of wisdom. Speak specifically of application. Warn them of potential dangers. Explain your trust in and love for God. Pray with them. Teach them to pray. Display contentment. Do not murmur. Rejoice. Paint a clear portrait of real manhood and womanhood (a Biblical definition). Show them a loving, honoring, self-sacrificing relationship between husband and wife.

Let them know that what you want for them more than anything, and I do mean anything, is for them to become Christians and to go to heaven when they die. Once they have obeyed the gospel of the Lord Jesus, further admonish them to live obediently, genuinely as Christians and to be an upstanding example for others to imitate.

What is the focus of your home? Dare you ask your children for the answer to that question! You might want to think about doing so for the sake of their souls' salvation and your own. These most precious souls need instruction in the good and right way before it is too late (cf. 1 Samuel 12:23).

~via *Abundant Life*, Irving, Texas.



Why Believe A Lie?

Dennis Allan

Religious confusion and its assorted contradictory doctrines proves that the devil and his servants are effective deceivers (John 8:44). Since God is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33, the many false doctrines taught in various denominations today do not come from God. It is no surprise that the same evil one who has been perverting and denying the words of God since the Garden of Eden is still sowing seeds of deception. He even finds pastors ready to serve as his accomplices in preying upon little lambs (Acts 20:28-30).

But why would anyone allow himself to be deceived? Paul offers an explanation of the motives for believing lies in 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12. The people deceived by Satan's craftiness "did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved." It is not sufficient to know the truth. We must love the truth. There are many people who study the Bible for curiosity, or

vanity, or for academic reasons, but who do not approach the Scriptures with the humility necessary to allow the Lord to change them and mold their character. They don't love the truth, and are thus easy prey for the devil.

Paul mentions one other factor: they "had pleasure in unrighteousness." When a person wants to find an excuse to justify sin in his life, he will not study the Bible with the honest and open heart necessary to understand it. You can often hear this attitude in the comments of those who want to defend their sinful practices: "Where in the Bible does it say I cannot...?" The proper attitude is not defensive of evil, but asks: "What does the Lord want me to do?" People who are determined to justify their sins will not understand the truth. Their minds are carnal and incapable of discerning the spiritual richness of God's message (1 Corinthians 2:14).

Why would anyone believe a lie? Because the truth often demands painful transformations that most people are unwilling to make. The way of the Lord is difficult and lonely, but it leads to eternal life (Matthew 7:13-14).

~via *Market Street Bulletin*, Athens, Alabama.

Remember:

- What?** Young Adult Home Bible Study
- When?** Tonight following our evening service.
- Where?** At the home of Curtis & Jamie Mosley
- Subject?** Restoration History



News and Notes

THE SICK: *Billy Haraway* continues at home and taking his treatments each Friday... *Eddie*

Hammond's father, Burl Hammond received word from the test he had done on the tumor he has and it is cancer. He is now at home ... *Henry Trousdale* is in the ECM hospital room, 276. He will be undergoing a series of tests the next couple of days... *Hubert Goode* continues at home ... *Eddie Hammond's cousin, Ricky Davis*, has cancer and is being treated ... Remember *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home ... *Marcia Cooper's and Brian Word's uncle, Paul McCafferty* who is at the SunBridge Nursing Home in Lawrenceburg ... *Mary Best's nephew, Shannon Johnson*, who is at home ... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, who is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski ... *Freda McConnell's father, Alton Wray*, who is at home... *Janice Glass' grandmother, Emma Ray*, who is at home.

ACTIVITY FORMS: Remember, if you have not already filled out an activity form, please pick one up today and fill it out soon. There are some forms on the table in the vestibule. Return it to *Phil Pressnell* or place it in the white box in the vestibule. We need to get all of these forms turned in as soon as possible.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight will be the time for Communication Group four to meet after our evening service. If you are in group four, plan to meet this evening. these forms turned in as soon as possible.

OUR GRADUATES: We want to express our congratulations to our high school graduates this year. They are *Christopher Rose* from *West Limestone* and *Chase Williams* from *Lauderdale County*. We wish the very best for both of these young men and hope that as they go through life that they will make decisions that will be for eternal and spiritual good.

Remember Our Bible Class Periods



Sunday at 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Elders

Michael Clemmons (256) 247-0836
Scottie Goode (931) 565-3391

Deacons

Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
Larry White (256) 247-0988

Evangelist & Editor

David A. Cox (256) 247-1049
Office-(256) 247-5539
E-mail address: dacox@hiwaay.net

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Anderson church of Christ
P.O. Box 66
Anderson, Alabama 35610

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