

Readings Today: AM: James 1:21-24 The Image in the Mirror

PM: Psalm 21:1-6 Praise for Deliverance

Elders:

Bob Alley Jerry Brinkley
Cary Ashton Gary Watt

Evangelist:

Steve Wolfgang

Deacons:

Curt Frechmann Bryce Cann
Loren Hueter Greg Jones
Dave Malcomson Eric Paige

Worship Service Schedule

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:00 A.M.
Worship Service 9:55 A.M.
Worship Service 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:30 P.M.

Phone (630) 968-0760

Web Address www.dgcoc.org 889



**Downers Grove
church of Christ
1236 63rd St
Downers Grove IL 60516**

HIGH LIGHTS

**"THE LORD SHALL BE THINE
EVERLASTING LIGHT"**

April 26, 2015

The Image of You

Religious people like to present themselves in a way they hope to be seen. Most often it is in a way that they see themselves. They stand before us showing a resolute dedicated individual, unwavering in support of the Gospel. While to others their stand for gospel teaching is not so firm and sometimes seems to be against what the Bible even stands for.



For sure each Lord's Day the image of correctness is seen by all when the congregation is assembled, provided for all to see. Songs, prayers, giving, reading the Bible, are all done in line with what the image wants you to see.

Incongruities of the image may appear when the assembly is dismissed and the sun rises and a different group of people are to be confronted. A new image sometimes appears, one not so religious nor prayerful. One that joins in the careless morality of topical discussions regarding TV shows, or murderous movies with overt sexual agenda and connotations, or even perversions of decency that would have caused a moral outrage the day before.

The image carried to the congregation sometimes is not the same as the weekday image. What is done creates the image. The Sunday image carries a "woe" with it that is mentioned in the Bible. Matthew 23:27-28 cries out this woe to hypocrites who show one face here and another there. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness." NKJV

Our image is important and if it is carelessly presented may direct all thoughts of your conduct to be considered the same. Careless dress and language would present a person of careless morals. "Sloppy is that sloppy does" is an adage that still has its sting of truth to it. A clean inside is hard to see if the outside is so carelessly presented. We each see ourselves differently because we are seeing a reflection of who we think we are. Our actions define our image and James 1:23-24 tells that we should always be doing what the Word of God shows us to do. —Bob Alley



A pint of example is worth a gallon of advice.

Prayer should be our first response, not our last resort.

A life lived fully for God will leave a lasting legacy.

Order of Worship Today

Morning services

Evening services

Greeting and Announcements
Song Leader
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Contribution – Leader
Contribution – Prayer
Lord's Supper – Leader
Cup – Prayer
Assist
Assist
Assist
Speaker
Closing Prayer

Jerry Brinkley
Eric Paige
Jonathan Hill
Trent Dutton
Cary Ashton
Cannon Whitby
Cary Ashton
Jim Kolze
Ramon Rodriguez
Nick Pippenger
Blair Elam
Steve Wolfgang
Curt Frechmann

Jerry Brinkley
Singing
Jerry Brinkley
Tom Hill

Jim Kolze
Blair Elam

Mark Ames
David Ashton

Greeters —Bryce Cann and Trevor Copeland

Welcome to our Visitors: Please fill out a white visitor card - and give it to a greeter at the close of services.

Wed. Evening 4-29-15: Song–C. Ashton; Speaker: W. Purcell; Prayer—B. Jaros

Does Excitement Make It Right?

Many churches these days are competing to see who can offer the most interesting, entertaining, and exciting experience. Their driving question is "How do we attract and keep more people?" Thus, we see plays, concerts, puppet shows, sports, clowns, raffles, and more. Some get jazzed up at worship like they are a preteen girl at a Justin Bieber concert.



In the Bible it would be hard to find a group of men more excited and devoted to their religious beliefs than those prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel. After they prepared their altar they called on their god to send fire (1 Kgs. 18:26). Elijah mocked them, which drove them into a frenzy. "So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them" (1 Kgs. 18:27). Of course, there is no answer because Baal is not real (1 Kgs. 18:28). In the Philippines each Easter season people crucify themselves. Don't believe it, check this out. Do you suppose this is pleasing to God? The only difference between them and prophets of Baal is the name under which they practice.

Excitement about something does not make it right. The emotionalists will refuse to accept the Bible as a standard for religious discussion. They wouldn't "trade their feelings for a million Bibles." Furthermore, they seem to feel that they are above human reason and argument. Logic and consistency mean nothing to them. It becomes almost impossible to reach them with truth, because their emotions are too overwhelming to be offset by argument.

"Excitement" is not the gospel call to the lost. Nor do we read of churches in the New Testament touting how "excited" they were to draw sinners to Jesus. Instead, the gospel call of the New Testament is a call to surrender self in faith, repentance and baptism for salvation from sin. Then, to obey Christ in everything as one takes upon himself the yoke of Christ, Matt. 11:28-30; Acts 2:36-41; 2 Ths. 2:13-14.)

The church has never been by the authority of Christ engaged in the recreational business, but has been engaged in the saving of souls. Recreation and entertainment are matters of social and domestic responsibility. Worldly pleasure and the church have never been associated in the mind of God.

Let us ignore the modern trends in the world that will lead us away from the simplicity of the New Testament. Let us refuse to fasten to the church any institution of a worldly nature. Let us cling to the truth and the love for it we should manifest, rejoicing in the Lord's handiwork, the true tabernacle, ever looking for the coming and claiming of our blessed Lord from the courts of eternal glory! —*Steven F. Deaton*

News and Notes

Prayer List

Our Members:

Those coping with on-going health and mobility difficulties:

- Jean Freeman.
- Steve Richardson has a serious heart condition.
- Sal Scarpitti is in Provident Healthcare and Rehab facility, 3450 Saratoga Ave. Downers Grove, 60515 (630-969-2900) room 10A and he welcomes visitors.
- Mary Brown has been confined to home for some time and enjoys visits, cards and calls.

Prayers for Loved Ones

- Blair Elam's mother, Helen, (Elaine Petry's sister) coping with multiple medical issues is in a facility that deals with Alzheimer's patients.
- Walter Purcell's brother-in-law, Louis Woods, dealing with serious health issues.
- Mary Hall's sister in Wis. Sula Maxey, and her bro-in-law in Alabama, Joe Basham, dealing with health issues.
- Theresa Clark's father is in rehab.
- Juanita Saladino's mother is in hospice care in KY.

Edification Group

Group 4 will meet today at 5:15 PM in the library.

Travelers

Those that are away traveling or recently returned. The Alleys will be away next weekend in VA. Walter Purcell returning from a vacation trip to California. The Watts are going to Texas leaving Tuesday and expected back next Saturday

Children's Bible Study

This class meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 5:30 P.M.

Tuesday Ladies class

This class meets Tuesdays at 10 AM in the library.

Moving Away

- Teresa Clark is moving to San Antonio TX at the end of May.
- Masha Burke and family are moving to California at the end of May.