

**Readings Today: AM: Luke 14:7-11 Avoid Self-Righteousness**

**PM: Psalm 22:25-31 Praise to God**

**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](http://www.dgcoc.org) 898



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

**HIGH LIGHTS**

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

**June 28, 2015**

**The Evil of Sin**

In the course of human events things happen both good and bad. When the good happens there is joy in abundance. Cheerfulness is spread and good things seem to continue and multiply. Smiles bring smiles, good deeds bring blessings.

As an example, helping a person with a disability brings a feeling of caring and wanting to do even more. How much greater the feeling when the person with a disability wants to help you.

Also there is that chance that someone, even a brother or sister in Christ brings evil into your life against you. A personal sin that hurts you and should be ended. The Bible is all about goodness and the evil of sin, and how it should be dealt with.

As happiness is spread so it is with the evil of sin. As happiness is encouraged, sin is to be discouraged. Going directly to the person that has sinned against you is detailed for our learning in the book of Matthew chapter 18. If the sinning person repents (turns away from or quits) the sin and asks for forgiveness you are to grant that and remember it no more.

But, that is not the end of the teaching. What if the person doesn't repent and continues in the sin. We are then taught to separate ourselves from them as a fellow Christian.

However, what if you just forgive them anyhow? Just forgive without seeking repentance. The person sinning remains as an unrepentant sinner and the sin tolerated and others become aware of this condition.

If this sin is not to be repented of why should another, maybe not as serious a sin as the first. But then, if these two sins are not required to be repented what of a third and beyond? The Devil is certainly nearby!

The person tolerating the first sin, by not requiring repentance has not followed God's plan (Lk. 17:3-4) and has provided an insidious sin to saturate those who claim to follow Christ.

God required repentance, Christ taught that we are to repent and seek forgiveness and so should we.

—Bob Alley



**To make a difference in the world, let Jesus make a difference in you.**



**A great sin can enter by a small door.**

**Not to know is bad; not to wish to know is worse.**

**Order of Worship Today**

**Morning services**

**Evening services**

Greeting and Announcements	Bob Alley	Bob Alley
Song Leader	Eric Paige	Singing
Scripture Reading	Jim Kolze	Bob Alley
Prayer	Justin Elam	Walter Purcell
Contribution – Leader	Jerry Brinkley	
Contribution – Prayer	Ramon Rodriguez	
Lord's Supper – Leader	Jerry Brinkley	Cannon Whitby
Cup – Prayer	Cannon Whitby	Ramon Rodriguez
Assist	Hunter Prince	
Assist	Tony Kelly	
Assist	Jonathan Hill	
Speaker	Steve Wolfgang	Ethan Riffle
Closing Prayer	Josh Holland	Curt Frechmann
Greeters —Trevor Copeland and Blair Elam		

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

Wed. Evening 7-1-15: Song-B. Brinkley; Speaker-P. Prince; Prayer-B. Jaros

## The Sin of Self-Righteousness by Steven Harper

Jesus rebuked the religious leaders of the first century often because they had a too-high view of themselves. When He was at the house of Simon [a Pharisee], a woman who was known to be a sinner came in and began to wash His feet with her tears, wiping them dry with her hair, and anointing them with a fragrant oil (Luke 7:36-38). When the Pharisee saw this, he thought to himself, "This man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner" (Luke 7:39). Jesus, knowing his thoughts, told a story of a creditor who had two debtors who were both unable to pay their debts (Luke 7:41-42). The point of the story was to show the Pharisee that though this woman was indeed a sinner, so was the Pharisee; neither this woman nor the Pharisee had the ability to pay for their sins and they were essentially in the same boat (Luke 7:44-48). The Pharisee's problem, however, was that he thought himself more righteous than the woman. He was so self-righteous he could not see his own sin!

This is reminiscent of the time when Jesus noted that some who were invited to a wedding feast would choose the best places and instructed them to instead seek the low places and allow others to exalt them, "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:7-11). The root problem of these individuals, we find, is that they thought too highly of themselves.

Those who find no fault with themselves [or who reject any suggestion by others that they have faults], but who find numerous faults in others, are guilty of blatant arrogance in that they see themselves as perfect in knowledge or [in many cases] righteousness and have no qualms about holding themselves up as the example by which they compare all others. God's word is not the standard and not even Christ is the standard; they are the standard.

Self-righteousness, by definition, is an attitude of contentment with one's own righteousness, especially when smugly moralistic and intolerant of the opinions and behavior of others. Do you notice that the focus of the self-righteous is self? Christ is not the center of his thinking; self is! He does not think about the background and environment in which others might have been raised; he has somehow come to believe that everyone should see things exactly as he does, no matter what their background.

I believe we would do well to heed the words of the writer of Hebrews and "fix our eyes" on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2). When we look at Jesus, we will not be looking at others and worrying about whether or not they match up with our own righteousness. We will not because we will not be looking at ourselves, either. Let Christ be the standard and realize you will never equal His righteousness here on earth. Without Him, we have no ability to attain true righteousness.

# 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.
- Juanita Saladino's mother is in hospice care in KY.
- Tom Hill's brother-in-law is in hospice care.

## Edification Group

**Group 4** will meet today in the library.

## Travelers

Those that are away traveling or recently returned. Donna & Brian Richardson will be away visiting relatives in FL, SC, and DE until late July. Steve will be joining them for part of the trip. Justin, Cary and Sharon Ashton along with the Cann Family are away this weekend. The Copelands are away until later this evening.

## Children's Bible Study

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

## Tuesday Ladies class

This class will meet again in Sept.