

It's The Things On The Inside That Matter

By Mike Riley

Shopping for a good watermelon is difficult because no matter how good it looks on the outside, it's hard to tell what it's really like on the inside. We can tap it, thump it and squeeze it, only to take it home and discover that the inside is not edible.

On one occasion when Jesus' disciples did not wash their hands before eating, the Pharisees became extremely irritated because it violated one of their man-made traditions (Mark 7:1-8). Jesus immediately challenged them by saying:

"All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition" (Mark 7:9).

He went so far as to call them "hypocrites" (Mark 7:6) and explained that what comes from the inside of an individual is what "defiles" him, not the other way around (Mark 7:14-23).

If we're not careful, we can become so absorbed with looking good on the outside, that we forget what really counts. In fact, when we get to the place where we think "we've arrived," we may become proud of ourselves and judgmental toward others. Harboring bitterness, clinging to critical attitudes, and thinking too highly of ourselves are the kind of defiling things that make us guilty of Jesus' charge of being a "hypocrite."

The point is this: It's the things on the inside of our heart — our thoughts and attitudes that really matter to the Lord (cf. 2 Corinthians 10:5; John 4:23-24).

Edifier

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Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."

Dates to Remember

February 26th

Noon Fellowship

March 5th

Mission Sunday

March 12th

Daylight Savings Time

March 13th thru March 19th

Happy Birthday

Koh Stapp March 12th

Dennis Sheldon March 30th

Sunday Worship:

9:30 am Bible Study

10:20 am Worship

12:30 pm Afternoon

Wednesday Night

7:pm

Will Vann, Preacher

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The 7 "UPS"1

By Mike Riley2/18/2017

1) Wake Up!

Decide to have a good day.

"Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

[Psalms 118:24](#)

2) Dress Up!

The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

"The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart."

[1 Samuel 16:7](#)

3) Shut Up!

Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking.

"He who guards his lips guards his soul."

[Proverbs 13:3](#)

4) Stand Up!

For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything.

"Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good..."

[Galatians 6:9-10](#)

5) Look Up!

To the Lord.

"I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me."

[Philippians 4:13](#)

6) Reach Up!

For something higher.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path."

[Proverbs 3:5-6](#)

7) Lift Up!

Your Prayers.

"Do not worry about anything; instead pray about everything."

[Philippians 4:6](#)

Those to Serve

(B) Calvin Burks (FV) Jack Wall

(O) Doug Pruett (A) Jeffrey Burks

1st prayer Vernon Houts

2nd prayer Mike Mallett

Announcements: Keith Stifflemire

Singing: Judd Wall

Prayer List:

Naomi Wall

Letha Sheldon

Mildred Lovell

Janese Lancaster

Ruby Jones

Loyd Crownover

Pray for our Nation

Our Troops

Law Enforcement

Rescue Personal

News From Kenya

Dear brothers,

Let me take this time to give thanks to the God of heaven who has blessed us beyond what we deserve. As we started this year with a great work and this is how it has been.

January

16th Jan. -14th Mar. Eight weeks preachers classes.

7th -10th Leadership Seminar Benga church of Christ **[Well attended by the brethren working towards maturity of the Lord's church]**

8th -10th Ligodho church of Christ planted **[One baptism and one restoration]**

12th - 15th Luanda church of Christ gospel meeting **[One baptism]**

17th - 20th Mau Mau congregation Gospel meeting planted in Tanzania

17th - 20th Goyo church of Christ Gospel Meeting **[One baptism and one restoration]**

22nd - 25th Koiwalelach church of Christ Gospel Meeting **[Lead to the restoration of one congregation in Rift Valley]**

28th - 31st Umuri church of Christ gospel meeting

28th -31st Ebenezer church of Christ Gospel meeting **[Four restorations]**

February.

4th - 7th Ndisi church of Christ Gospel meeting **[One baptism]**

6th - 10th A new school of preaching was started with ten students **[Bomet school of preaching]**

4th - 7th Koinani Junction church of Christ gospel meeting **[Three restorations]**

11th - 14th Aroroin church of Christ Gospel meeting **[One restored]**

11th - 14th Namwacha church of Christ gospel meeting **[One restored]**

18th - 21st Togomda church of Christ Gospel meeting

18th -21st Siriat church of Christ Gospel meeting

We also bought Bibles in Kalenjins language for the Rift Valley people and in fact there is demand for the local Bible languages. Also the school we started in Momet Rift Valley is of great help for even after the first week of its beginning we have heard of reports that several people who has been worshiping with the drifted congregations are coming back to the faith.

We love you all and appreciate your zeal for the Lord's work.

In His love and care,

Benard and Dorothy Kagaga.