

“Christ, Our Theme, For 2016”



FEBRUARY 2016

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH, PASTOR



Pastor & Mrs. C
"Old-Fashioned Sunday"

THE CHRISTIAN'S LOVE LIFE

Introduction: Here in *John 21*, we discover that the Apostle Peter and the disciples are backslidden. How do we know this? Because they have stopped following Jesus, and have gone back to doing what they were doing before they came to Jesus. The most convicting question I have ever been asked is found here. The question is, "*Lovest thou me more than these?*" My pastor used to ask me this every time he saw me. He would ask, "Son, do you still love Jesus?" Wow! What a question! Curtis Hutson was preaching for me a short time before he went to be with the Lord. He made this statement, "The problem has never been that God does not love us. The problem is that we don't love God." Yes, it is so true.

Matthew 22:37, "Jesus said unto him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

I want you to consider four points in this article.

FIRST: CONSIDER THE POWER OF INFLUENCE.

JOHN 21:3

"Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, we also go with thee."

I wonder if Peter would have said, "I'm going to a prayer meeting," would they have said, "We also go with thee." I wonder if Peter would have said, "I'm going to church," if they would have said, "We also go with thee."

The story could be told over and over. In every church someone gets backslidden and says, "I'm going to another church." Someone else says, "We also go with thee." I have never known a backslider to leave God's will that did not take someone with him.

SECOND: CONSIDER THE PULL OF THE WORLD.

JOHN 21:15

"Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?" The key to understanding this passage is the phrase, "*more than these.*" Jesus knows what Peter is doing, and seeing, and trusting in. He knows what Peter thinks is the most important part of his life. Look at what he could see.

1. His boat—represented his job and his finances.
2. His friends—who were in the same boat as he was in.
3. A fire and food—comfort in this old world.

With all he could see, smell, and sense, Jesus asked, "*Lovest thou me more than these?*" Never allow the world to pull you away from the Saviour.

THIRD: CONSIDER THE PRESENCE OF THE SAVIOUR.

JOHN 21:7

"Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord..."

Continued



I am troubled by Christian music. Songs are written to God, but they reveal a lack of reverence, veneration and awe of Him. By nature much of today's Contemporary Christian Music is sensual, breathy, shallow, and adolescent. Through the indefinite "Him, He or You," it provides room for the music publisher to sell a song to either a religious singer serenading the Lord or a wedding singer serenading bride or groom.

Josh Groban's song "You Raise Me Up" was nominated for best male pop vocal performance, but we have heard it used in a multitude of ways. I have heard of its use in churches, although it never identifies who raises him up when his heart is burdened or stills his restless heart. Few songs can be heard at the worship service at 7:00 PM and then on American Idol at 9:00!

If the Lord be God, say so. Use definite words. Are you singing to the Lord Jesus Christ? Are you singing to your friend, your mate, your comrade?

Isaiah walked into the courts of the Lord and saw the thrice-holy God. He saw Him high and lifted up. He saw that His train filled the temple. He saw too that he himself was unclean and that his nation had been defiled. He saw God!

Would to God that through our music we would make a heavy and dark mark on this world concerning our view of God! He is neither the "man upstairs" nor an ordinary potentate. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords who is known through His Word, the Bible. Will we take the same care of His great name through our music?

My heart aches when I think of the music of my flock. Do they brag of music directly opposed to the Word of God? Do they espouse the music of today's world, the sounds of this world that are packaged as "Christian"?

Their music needs to change, but first their view of God must change. When they see Him as He is, their music will change; and yours will as well.

If you have been forgiven, would you now seek the approval of the Holy Spirit regarding the values of your music and its revelation of God? Would you allow God's Spirit who is to draw you into all truth to make a comprehensive evaluation of your media?

It would be a sad day in the life of your church or mine if an unsaved man walked into our church service and surmised that his unregenerate values and view of God were consistent with ours! It would be a tragic day if we sought to make the Lord Jesus Christ palatable to an unconverted culture!

The almighty God summed it up quite simply.

"Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy [your values]: for I the LORD your God am holy [your view of God]. -Lev. 19:2.

A FIRST-GRADE TEACHER CAN'T BELIEVE HER STUDENT ISN'T HEPPED UP ABOUT THE SUPER BOWL. "IT'S A HUGE EVENT. WHY AREN'T YOU EXCITED?" "BECAUSE I'M NOT A FOOTBALL FAN. MY PARENTS LOVE BASKETBALL, SO I DO TOO," SAYS THE STUDENT. SHE REPLIED, "WELL, THAT'S A BAD REASON. WHAT IF YOUR PARENTS WERE MORONS? WHAT WOULD YOU BE?" "THEN I'D BE A FOOTBALL FAN."

YOU'LL NEVER BE AS LAZY AS WHOEVER NAMED THE FIREPLACE.

Presidents' Day Trivia By The Numbers

Mitch Tullai, an Army veteran and former history teacher, coach and administrator at St. Paul's School in Brooklandville, Md., is the author of "The Presidency Once Over Lightly: A Potpourri of Facts, Figures and Features About The Men Who Served in the Nation's Highest Office." Ahead of Presidents Day on Feb. 15, he offers the following tidbits:

- At 43, John F. Kennedy was the youngest elected - but at 42, Theodore Roosevelt was the youngest to take office (after William McKinley was assassinated). At 69, Ronald Reagan was the oldest to be elected.
- The president who held the office the longest was Franklin D. Roosevelt, at just over 12 years. William Henry Harrison, on the other hand, only served 31 days before his death.
- Harrison gave the longest inaugural speech: 8,443 words, delivered outdoors in bad weather in winter, which led to his illness and death. George Washington's second inaugural address, at 133 words, was the shortest.
- Eight presidents were born in Virginia: Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, Harrison, John Tyler, Zachary Taylor and Woodrow Wilson. Seven were born in Ohio: Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, McKinley, William Howard Taft and Warren Harding.
- Taft weighed in at about 340 pounds, and Madison at less than 100.

The moment Peter recognized the Lord was right there looking at him, he knew at least three things:

1. That he was in the wrong place,
2. That he was doing the wrong job,
3. That he was not wearing the proper clothing.

“... *for he was naked...*” It always amazes me how dress standards change when you stop looking at the Lord. Don’t kid yourself—you knew you were in the wrong place, and that you were doing the wrong things before anyone told you. The reason many avoid fundamental, old-fashioned churches and strong preaching is that they are reminded about what they are not doing.

FOURTH: CONSIDER THE PURPOSE REAFFIRMED.

JOHN 21:19

“Follow me.”

In Matthew 4:19, three years before, Jesus told them, “...*Follow me...*” The Bible says, “*They straightway left their nets and followed Him.*” Here they are, with all their knowledge, right back where they began. What had occurred? Their passion and love for Christ had become cold. Their fire had gone out because they had neglected to feed the flame.

Conclusion: I am reminded of *Revelation 2:4*, “*Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.*” May I ask you a question: was there a time that you knew that you loved the Lord Jesus? Was there a time that you had full assurance of your relationship with Him? Was there a time that you knew you trusted Him as your personal Saviour—you knew that if you were to die, you had a home awaiting you in Heaven? What happened? What changed you in such a way that you found yourself back into that old life? Was it family, friends, or maybe finances? Jesus is calling you right now and asking you, “*Lovest thou me more than these?*” If you say yes, then He will say, “*Follow me.*”

Prayer of Salvation

If you were to die today, are you 100% sure you would go to Heaven?



If not, would you be willing to pray this prayer with me?

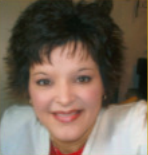
“Dear Jesus, I’m asking you to come into my heart and forgive me of my sins. I’m trusting you, Jesus, as my Saviour. Thank you for saving me. Amen.” (Romans 10:9 and 10:13)



Prayer of Service

“Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?” (Acts 9:6)

 <p>Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Sunday, February 14th, in our morning service, we will be dedicating to the Lord: Miss Charlotte Lydia Baker The precious daughter of Chris and Ann Baker.</p>	 <p>A PASSENGER ON AN ELEVATOR SAID TO THE OPERATOR, “I GUESS YOUR JOB HAS ITS UPS AND DOWNS, HUH?” “I DON’T MIND THOSE,” THE OPERATOR REPLIED. “IT’S THE SUDDEN JERKS I CAN’T STAND.”</p>
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	<p>Kim Kline’s Easy White Chicken Enchiladas</p>	
4 ounces cream cheese, softened 1/2 cup sour cream 1/2 cup green salsa	2 (6 oz.) packages seasoned cooked chicken cubes 1 cup shredded Mexican-style cheese blend	6 (8 in.) flour tortillas 1 1/2 cups white cheese sauce, or queso dip
<p>Preheat oven to 375 degrees Lightly spray an 8x8-inch glass baking dish with cooking spray. Stir together the softened cream cheese, sour cream, and salsa until blended. Fold in chicken and shredded cheese. Spread a small amount of white cheese sauce onto the bottom of the baking dish. Evenly divide the filling among the tortillas, and roll into firm cylinders. Place into prepared baking dish and cover with remaining sauce. Bake in preheated oven until golden and bubbly, about 30 minutes. Allow to rest 5 minutes before serving.</p>		

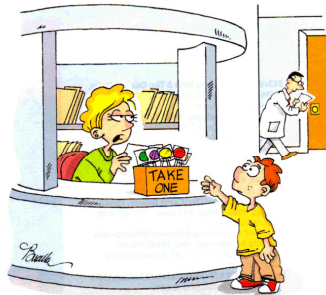
A GUIDANCE COUNSELOR SAID TO TWO CONCERNED PARENTS, “I WOULDN’T WORRY ABOUT CAREER OPTIONS FOR YOUR SON. IF HE BECOMES A CAB DRIVER, HE’LL BE RICH.” “WHY IS THAT?” THE MOTHER ASKED. “HE CAN’T FIND THE SHORTEST DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO POINTS.”

Something to 'CROW' about!

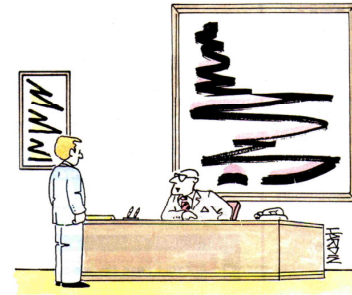
1. Heritage Baptist Church has had someone saved and baptized every week for the last ten (10) years in a row! An entire decade! Wow!
2. The buses are still rolling!



"You have to miss the meeting because you sprained an ankle? That's seriously the best you could come up with?"



"I'm sorry, but your parents' insurance doesn't allow for you to grab a sucker on the way out."



"IN MY RISE TO THE TOP, I FORGOT WHAT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT IN LIFE. LOOK INTO IT AND HAVE A REPORT ON MY DESK BY FRIDAY."



Heritage Highlanders February 2016 Schedule

Saturday February 6
Sewing with Mrs. Kubic

Proverbs 31:24

Saturday February 20
Presidents' Day

Proverbs 1:5

Saturday February 13
Valentine's Day Love Notes

Saturday February 27
Soulwinning

John 3:16

AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY. AN ONION A DAY SHOULD TAKE CARE OF EVERYONE ELSE.



Mrs. Francie Taylor

Telling The Truth

"Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful"—Proverbs 27:6.

Every woman who chooses to commit adultery has a friend somewhere. Every woman who dresses provocatively has a friend somewhere. Every woman who lives carnally has a friend somewhere. Are you the kind of friend that sees something wrong, but looks the other way? How are you helping your friend, and what kind of friend are you?

It takes a great deal of "iron in the spine" to be the kind of friend that would be willing to warn when warning is needed. No one wants to be seen as a busybody or a meddler; however, when it comes to hazardous behavior, the silence of a friend does more harm than good. Which would you rather do—warn your friend that she is headed for a cliff, or be silent and meet her broken body at the bottom after she goes over the edge?

Women today are being bombarded with false messages, leading to defective decision-making and rampant discontentment. As friends, we need to be more spiritually sound than ever. When we are mute on a subject, it may be misinterpreted for either agreement or indifference. Once a person takes the first step down a wrong path, the absence of input from godly friends may be misinterpreted as approval.



Manners And The Gentleman

The Christian gentleman sees his life as a ministry to others. He carries himself for the glory of God and interacts with those around him with the grace of the Lord Jesus and by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. His mission is to make those around him be at ease and feel important. The admonition of **Philippians 2:3**, ***“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves,”*** is practiced in his life.

Dr. George Alquist, Jr. The Christian gentleman is keenly aware of the influence of his life and the example of his person in the furtherance of the Gospel. He realizes the admonition to, ***“adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things” (Titus 2:10)*** is his own personal responsibility. This task he takes upon himself willingly and eagerly. His concern for the testimony of Christ engages him in the pursuit of excellence as stated in **Philippians 1:10**: ***“That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.”***

The concern of the sincere Christian gentleman is that someone, somewhere, might be saved! The apostle Paul called the Thessalonians to witness such a concern in his behavior: ***“Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe” (I Thess. 2:10)***, and again, ***“For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you” (II Thess. 3:7)***.

In 1983 our fledgling church met in a storefront with the entrance on the street. One night while I was preaching, a man opened the door, stepped in, took off his hat and said, “Excuse me, but I just wanted to say to you people that my father always told me it was better to ‘see’ a sermon than to hear one, and I’ve been seeing a lot of sermons in this neighborhood lately. Thank you.” And with that he departed. He later accepted Christ as his Saviour and soon went on to Glory!

Incorporating etiquette, manners and chivalry into his life and his public display in polite society will enhance the Christian gentleman’s testimony, broaden his influence and increase his effectiveness as an ambassador of Christ.

“IN A NEWS INTERVIEW, TOM BRADY SAID HE WOULD NEVER GO INTO POLITICS BECAUSE ‘HALF THE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LIKE YOU AND HALF THE PEOPLE WON’T LIKE YOU.’ OR, AS THAT’S ALSO KNOWN, SPORTS.”

A TEENAGER TOLD A FRIEND THAT HE WAS GOING TO THE EAST COAST TO CONTINUE HIS TRUMPET LESSONS. “SOUNDS EXPENSIVE,” HIS FRIEND SAID.

“OH, MY GRANDPARENTS CHIPPED IN. AND SO DID MY NEIGHBORS.”

A FATHER LOOKING AT HIS SON’S LESS-THAN-STELLAR REPORT CARD EXCLAIMED, “AN F IN HISTORY? WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, THAT WAS MY EASIEST SUBJECT!”

“BIG DEAL,” THE SON REPLIED. “WHEN YOU WERE MY AGE, HOW MUCH HAD HAPPENED?”

A MAN ASKED HIS CO-WORKER, “DO YOU EVER THINK THE BOSS WILL REPLACE US WITH COMPUTERS?”

“NOT REALLY,” THE OTHER REPLIED. “WHERE IS HE GOING TO FIND A COMPUTER THAT GROVELS?”

How you can tell a preacher is a wolf in sheep’s clothing!

1. He loves the position he holds, but despises the preaching of the truth.
2. He preaches Jesus, but secretly doubts that Jesus is the only way to be saved.
3. He says he believes the Bible, but is not sure whether it is accurate.
4. He openly confesses he believes in the local New Testament church with pastoral leadership, but counsels with another pastor’s church members.
5. He says that he does not care who is lying or telling the truth, but he does give an ear to those who lie.
6. He privately states that he believes the Koran, the Book of Mormon, another New Testament of Jesus Christ, Watchtower Magazine, etc., are all cult publications, but will not say so to the congregation.
7. Has a college to steal the hearts of young boys and girls away from their home pastor.
8. He goes to conferences to see how many people can be influenced to their side of town.
9. He reads the pastoral epistles, but denies the requirements of the position of pastor.
10. He is loyal only to himself.



Some food for thought.....or.....
Seed From The Silo!

**High School Geography Class in Virginia
 Delves Into Islam**

A Virginia school district is defending its recent calligraphy lesson for its high school students....

Livid parents in Greenville, Virginia, attended a December 11 school district meeting to find out why children at Riverheads High School were encouraged to wear Islamic attire and write a statement of faith, also known as the shahada. The assignment was for a world geography class.

“Neither these lessons, nor any other lesson in the world geography course, are an attempt at indoctrination to Islam or any other religion, or a request for students to renounce their own faith or profess any belief,” the district said in a statement to Fox News....

School officials insisted the lesson was about “art” and not religion because student were examining the script’s “artistic complexity.”

The district’s statement added that students were also encouraged to wear a scarf to experience “an interactive lesson about the Islamic concept of modest dress,” the network reported. *WND.com (December 16, 2015)*

**California Teacher Tells Students to
 Sing Muslim Fight Song**

WND.com (November 19, 2015) reports that “parents at a California middle school are demanding to know why a teacher had students sing an Islamic ‘fight song.’

“A seventh-grade teacher at Spring View Middle School in Huntington Beach, California, deviated from the district’s official curriculum and had students sing ‘This Is My Fight Song.’ Parent and grandparent Nichole Negron and Susan Negron told KCAL 9 Los Angeles their seventh grader was told to participate in the activity.

“ ‘I believe that by singing the song, the children feel comfortable that maybe Allahu is the only god and maybe that they should start following him,’ Susan Negron told the network.... ‘I’m not okay with that.’”

“The two women went to the Ocean View school board...looking for answers. The teacher allegedly wanted students to learn about Islam through a ‘catchy’ tune.”...

“The school district sent an apology to parents and said it would continue looking into the incident, the network reported.”

What Kind Of Seed Are **You** Sowing?



The Obama Administration is pushing the legal theory that **having separate mens and ladies restrooms discriminates against “transsexual” individuals** and is **unlawful discrimination** based on sex, a category of discrimination **prohibited under existing federal civil rights law.**

← At left is the new mandated bathroom door signs.

Chinese Immigrant Mother: “Common Core Is Same Communist Core I Saw in China”

This is yet more evidence for the reason to remove your kids from the public indoctrination centers called public school and demand that your representatives abolish the federal Department of Education. A Chinese immigrant mother of three testified before the Colorado State Board of Education that what is being passed off as Common Core is actually the same communist indoctrination that she experienced as a child in Communist China.

Lily Tang Williams told the board, “Common Core, in my eyes, is the same as the communist core I once saw in China. I grew up under Mao’s regime, and we had the communist-dominated education—nationalized testing, nationalized curriculum and nationalized indoctrination.”

“I came to this country for freedom, and I cannot believe this is happening all over again in this country,” she continued. “I don’t know what happened to America, the Shining City on the Hill for freedom.”

She also warned against Americans comparing their children and their “education” to those being indoctrinated in China....

“Trust me to say this because I have lived under tyranny before and will never want to live in it again,” Williams concluded. “I took a long journey from tyranny to liberty. I don’t want to go back into tyranny.”

—Tim Brown for sonsoflibertymedia.com

Our Statement of Faith

We accept the Holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments as being the verbally inspired Word of God and being perfectly preserved in the King James 1611 Bible. We do not believe it can be corrected or improved upon in any way. It is the final rule of faith and practice. **Psalm 12:6-7, I Peter 1:23**

We believe in the triune God, who is eternally in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Matt. 28:19-20**

We believe in the deity of Christ— His virgin birth, His sinless life, His death for the sins of the world, His bodily resurrection, His exaltation at God's right hand, His personal, imminent, and premillennial return.

I Corinthians 15:3-4, I Timothy 3:16, Acts 1:11

We believe that all men are sinners and are guilty before God; in need of a Saviour. **Romans 3:23**

We believe that men are born again through faith in Jesus Christ; that they become the children of God, eternally saved; that the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer to guide and help him in his testimony and service.

Acts 16:30-31, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 1:13, John 10:28

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in Glory, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost in hell. We believe that all believers have a responsibility to get the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into all the world. **John 5:28-29, Luke 16:22-23, Rev. 20:11-15**

We believe that Baptist churches were the first churches of Christianity and that Jesus founded a Baptist church. **John 1:35-37, Acts 1:22**

Baptist Beliefs

- B**iblical Authority
- A**utonomy of the Local Church
- P**riesthood of ALL Believers
- T**wo ordinances - Baptism & Communion
- I**mmersed Church Membership
- S**oul-liberty
- T**wo officers - Pastors and Deacons
- S**eparation of Church and State

Baptist Heritage

- **John the Baptist**, Exalter of Christ
- **Meno Simons** (1496-1561), Dutch Anabaptist leader
- **Roger Williams** (1603-1683), Founded the first Baptist church in America in Providence, Rhode Island in 1638.
- **John Clarke** (1609-1676) was a Baptist preacher, medical doctor, and co-founder of the colony of Rhode Island. He was a driving force to get religious freedom into the charter of Rhode Island.
- **John Bunyan** (1628-1688), Baptist preacher who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*
- **Charles Spurgeon** (1834-1892), might be the greatest Baptist pastor
- **John Franklyn Norris** (1877-1952), founder of World Baptist Fellowship
- **Jack Frasure Hyles** (1926-2001), 10,000 baptisms per year

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