

Our Ministries

Mountain States Children's Home

There is a list of supplies that the children's home would like to receive on the bulletin board at the top of the ramp. Some of the personal/ non-perishable items could be collected early and stored in the room next to the teachers' room. Next collection is in August.

Peru Ministry - Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru.

Food Pantry

Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library. Please bring your donations and leave them in this room. If you need help or know of anyone who is in need, ask one of the members to assist you. Feel free to take what you need.

Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336
509-783-4013

Website: www.kennewickcoc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ
Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting times:

Sunday:
Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am
Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday:
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd and 4th Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome.

Attendance 07/29: 52

Budget \$2400.33

Contribution 07/29: NA

August 05, 2018

Welcome to the Kennewick Church of Christ

THE HEART OF EVERY SIN

Let's be honest. We have a sin problem. Our world is plagued with ungodliness and evil. Our homes and communities are reeling from the effects of sin that has been allowed to go unchecked. We struggle with sin every moment of every day. It is a constant battle that we will never fully conquer. Scripture reminds us of this often. "There is none righteous; no, not one" (Rom.3:10). "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom.3:23). This passage reminds us of our past struggle with sin ("have sinned") as well as our present struggle with sin ("come short"). Every day experience reminds us of these Scriptural truths. This should humble us. This should cause us to realize that we are not above anyone else. Nobody else's sins are worse than my sins. We all stand condemned under the penalty of sin and we all need the saving blood of Jesus (Rom.6:23). However, there is a world of difference between acknowledging our struggles with sin and seeking to excuse our sinful behavior. Many seem to operate by the philosophy that since there is an ongoing battle with sin in their lives, that they cannot help themselves when they fall to temptation. It seems that the apostle John, by inspiration, was combating a similar mentality when he penned the epistle of 1 John. The first chapter of that epistle deals with the reality of sin in our lives. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (1 Jn.1:8). "If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us" (1 Jn.1:10). Acknowledging this reality does not give the child of God license to sin. "My little children, these things write I unto you, that you sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 Jn.2:1). Though we sin, we must strive to no longer live in sin. Struggling with sin and living in sin are two entirely different things! Many times we want to excuse our sinfulness. Some say they can't help themselves. Some say God made them that way. Some say that they are just being real. I say we are not being honest about sin in our lives. The heart of every sin is ME! You can't spell sin without "I" in the middle. Sin is an "I" problem. Try to think of any sin that we commit that does not have selfishness as its root cause. Why do we gossip? Why do we lust? Why do we steal? Lie? Cheat? Pass hypercritical and hypocritical judgment? It's not because we can't help ourselves. It's not because God made us that way. We sin because we want to! We sin because of the pleasure it brings us, even if that pleasure is fleeting (Heb.11:25). I know of those who will say that they don't want to keep committing the same sin over and over, yet they find themselves doing the very thing they claim they don't want to do. While I am not seeking to minimize their struggle, I am seeking to get us to accept responsibility. We live in a society that wants to blame all of our problems on someone or something else. If we do not own up to it, then we are not responsible for changing it. This is nothing new. Adam tried to pass the buck for his sin by blaming it on the serpent, on Eve, and ultimately on God! Blaming others may have made him feel better about his transgression, but it did not change the fact that he was responsible for his own actions. James reminds us: "Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am being tempted by God,' for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire" (James 1:13-14). When I accept responsibility for my sins, I can then seek out the help I need to overcome my sins. Thankfully we have been given the offer of pardon through the blood of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus Christ, we can lay our sins at God's feet rather than the blame.

Keep these Dates in Mind:

08/12 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
 08/26 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
 09/05 First Sunday Potluck
 09/11 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship
 09/12 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
 09/24 Game night 6:00p
 09/26 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p

Birthdays and Anniversaries for July

Christina Hopkins 8/2	Bill & Fran Henniger 8/19
Debbie Bolt 8/8	Merry Bunker 8/22
Danny Mendoza 8/13	Harvey & Lynette Jones 8/25
Clarence & Melinda Botts 8/13	Sue Minor 8/25
Ron & Ila Stephens 8/13	Eddie Petross 8/28
Maddison Reeser 8/18	Bonnie Simons 8/28
Eric Calzadillas 8/19	Barbara Oldham 8/31

¹⁴Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you. ¹⁵Blessed are the people who know the festival should. Who walk, O Lord in the light of your face, ¹⁶Who exult in your name all the a=day and in your righteousness are exalted. (Ps. 89:14-16)

Bible Studies

Adult Class – Fellowship Hall (S) – Mark (W) – Acts	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room	Ladies Class – Suspended until September
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Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Bob Childers, Shirley Childers, Amanda McCrickard, Kaleb McCrickard, Joshua Hickman, Vern Mast, Sue Aldrich, Lupe Mendoza, Marji Lindholm, Bill and Fran Henniger, The Johnson family, The Mendoza family, Helen Pierce, Sandi Gray, Norm Goldsmith

Please Keep Brent Bryant in your prayers as he continues to recover from burns sustained while working on his car. See Doris Pennington for more details.

THE FOUR F's OF CHRISTIANITY

- Forgiveness** (Matthew 1:21; Luke 19:10, John 1:29)
Why do we need forgiveness? Sin separates us from God (Rom. 3:23; 6:23; Isa. 59:1-2). Jesus died to reconcile man to God (2 Cor. 5:18-21) and to grant forgiveness of sins to those who repent and are baptized (Acts 2:38). Thank God for forgiveness.
- Father**
Jesus taught His disciples to pray, "Our Father which art in heaven" (Matt 6:9). Our heavenly father cares, loves and blesses us (Ephesians 1:3). Christians can talk to their Heavenly Father through Jesus any minute of every day. Thank God for being our Father.
- Family**
Christians are blessed with a spiritual family. Love, care and concern are rich blessings from those of "like precious faith." The family of God is the greatest support system on earth. We have a common bond in Jesus Christ. One day we will enjoy the great family reunion in Heaven. Are you ready for that day to come?
- Future**
Heaven is described as a reward and an inheritance. It's "incorruptible and undefiled, and that fades not away, reserved...for you. Heaven can be your future if you will live faithfully to the Lord from here to eternity.

THEY MINGLED WITH THE GENTILES

In Psalm 106:34-35 we read the following lament, "They did not destroy the nations concerning whom the Lord had commanded them, but they mingled with the Gentiles and learned their works." This text hearkens back to Israel's failure to destroy Canaan's inhabitants as they entered the promised land (Jud.1:27- 2:6). God has always demanded his people to be separate from those in the world (2 Cor.6:14-18). Ultimately, God said these pagan nations would be a thorn in Israel's side and their gods a snare to them. What did Israel learn from their mingling with the Gentiles?

They learned idolatry (v 36). Despite immediate and stern warnings from God, idolatry was a stumbling block for Israel from the time they left Egypt (Exo.20:5; 32:1- 10). Judges 1:11-13 tells us Israel "served the Baals," "followed other gods from among the gods of the people all around them and bowed down to them," and "forsook the Lord and served Baal and the Ashtoreths." From that time forward, Israel's history was marked and marred with periods of apostasy and idolatry.

They learned to devalue human life (vv. 37-38). They polluted the land with the blood of innocent children slain through human sacrifice (cf 2 Kings 16:1-3; 17:17). When one fails to view every man as being made in God's image (Gen.1:26-27; 9:6), any atrocity is possible.

They learned to commit fornication (v 39). Earlier in this chapter, the account of Phinehas is given (vv. 28 -31). Phinehas was the son of Eleazar who stopped the plague in Israel brought upon them because of their blatant acts of fornication (cf. Num.25:6-18; 1 Cor.10:8). Sexual immorality was always associated with idolatry, even in the days of the first century (cf. 1 Cor.6:9-11).

Now, seeing and understanding all these things, cannot the same also be said for the church? What are the results of our own failure to be separate from the world, in it but not of it?

We have learned idolatry. Paul equated covetousness as idolatry (Col.3:5). Too many members of the church are covetous. In our attempt to keep up with worldly associates, we pursue instant gratification to the detriment of the work of the church.

We have devalued human life. In a conversation some years ago, an elder's wife told me that terminating a pregnancy was a woman's right. Other elders were present and I was the only one who said a word against it! I know of a deacon in the church who helped his teenage daughter obtain an abortion. Some years ago, the Christian Chronicle published a feature article by a medical doctor who defended the practice of abortion, and that same publication published a letter to the editor from a (so-called) gospel preacher in Massachusetts who defended the same. Many members of the church support political candidates who openly endorse abortion.

We have learned to commit fornication. Our association with the world and its attitude toward divorce and remarriage has led many in the church to not only endorse unscriptural marriages, but to participate in the same and attempt to justify them with the Bible! Also, the world's attitude in creating "no-fault" divorces has led many Christians to believe that divorce for reasons other than fornication are acceptable to God so long as both parties remain unmarried. This attitude will never be reconciled with Matthew 19:4-6. Yes, brethren let us have no doubt – we have mingled with the Gentiles and learned their works. ~ Todd Clippard

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me.
 (Ps. 25:4, 5)