

Proper Conduct in the Family of God

Ronald D. Bryant
Part 1

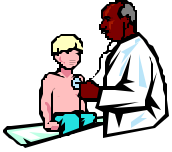
Paul, in his directives to Timothy, sought to equip, guide and encourage him in his ministry. Timothy had been called to a post of duty. Paul was not in doubt of Timothy, nor was he in his directives being critical of him. Central in those directives given, Paul stresses the necessity of “holding fast to the word,” “handling aright the word,” and “preaching the word”. He also stressed that Timothy was to give attention to his own conduct and character, and to the word taught. He specifically charged Timothy to be “an example of a believer”.

In I Tim. 3:15, Paul wrote, “But if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God. The pillar and ground of truth.” Paul clearly places the stress upon conduct. It is right that men should conduct themselves properly in the house of God. The directive would have included the place of meeting, the assembly; yet the word translated “house” is more correctly rendered “household” or “family”. They who are in Christ are to be holy and honorable and upright in their conduct. If the conduct, or character, of the people of God is suspect or unbecoming, their influence for good is greatly damaged, and the message they teach is suspect.

The household of God is not a mere collection of people, a crowd, or merely a social group; it is the redeemed, people who belong to God. As defined by God, His people are not like any other group of people. Companies, clubs, orders, nations, and variously designated groups exist, yet they are of God. Human organizations may have some members who are Christians, but as a group, they are not the household of God. The Christian faith is distinct from humanly devised and from mere human organizations. Household means family; God’s children are His family, and they exist to honor and glorify His name. Individually and collectively, they are called to conduct themselves as those who belong to God. Paul warns Timothy not only against false doctrine but also against false conduct.

Continue to remember in prayer:

Sick Margaret Kratz, Miriam Majors, Betty Jenkins, Jim Dorsett, E.V. Wimmer, Martha Keith, WJ Wood, Jonnie Charles, Mary Rose Michael, Milton Webster, Judy Monohan



- Emily Richey continues to be hospitalized at this time.
- Lyn Anderson, Marguerite Charles and Jo Musgrove have recently suffered bumps and bruises from falls.
- Dr. Daniel Hodges Sr. is home suffering from Swine Flu.
- Velda Gearhart will be having knee replacement surgery on Oct 9.

Happy Birthday this week

to :

???????

????????????????

?

?

?????????????????

?????????????????

?????????????



Happy Anniversary this week to:

- Eric & Michelle Earnhart—9/13
- Jeff & Rebecca Durham—9/17
- Mitch & Kristie Jearls—9/17



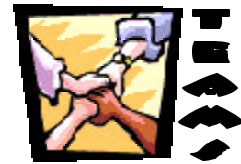
SEPTEMBER ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:

Cheetos and Ritz Mix 100 Calorie Snack Packs and sliced pepperoni. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them



Upcoming Events:

Team 2 and the WOW Group will be traveling to Safari Park on September 19. Pay Don your admission fee and reserve your seat on the wagon!



Teens



September Events
FHU Rush Weekend—9/11-13
TBS—9/20

WOW

Trip to Safari Park—September 19—Details on the board. Pay Don your admission fee to reserve your seat on the wagon!

College Addresses

Address removed to protect the privacy of the college students, see hardcopy of bulletin for addresses.

Be sure to send these college students a note of encouragement when you get the chance!!

Big thanks to all the ladies that came out on Thursday to kick off Ladies Night Out! Also thanks to the ladies that volunteered to host LNO for the rest of the season! Our Next meeting will be sometime in November!

September 2009

“If Any Man” (19)

Announcements Paul Mays
Song Leader (AM) Jeff Durham
Opening Prayer (AM)
9/6 Bob Martin
9/13 Collin Gregory
9/20 Richard Simms
9/27 Glenn Hartman

Preside at Communion Don Pettit
Serve Table Herb Baker Garrett Durham
Glenn Gabbard Ben Nikkel

Closing Prayer
9/6 Eric Earnhart
9/13 Jason Oldham
9/20 Tom Richardson
9/27 Mitch Jearls

Song Leader (PM) Eric Earnhart
Opening Prayer (PM)
9/6 Jerry Anderson
9/13 Jeff Durham
9/20 David Brown
9/27 Charlie Maness

Scripture Reader Ethan Rogers
Closing Prayer (PM)
9/6 Adam House
9/13 Jim Bush
9/20 Jim Harrington
9/27 Marc Laplante

Serve Table (PM)
Cameron Brown Bradford Durham

Song Leader (Wed) Josh Whitlow
Prayer (Wed)
9/2 John Black
9/9 Danny Guard
9/16 Charlie Gwaltney
9/23 Mike Durham
9/30 Greg Edwards

Open/Close Bldg Lyn Shrader
Greeters Guards/Reeds

Nursery Attend Grace Earnhart Evelyn Scott
Ushers John Black Roger Mays
Handouts Tanner Reed Noah Laplante
Jimmy Harrington Nathan Pelfrey

Prepare communion
Grace Myers Jessica White

Cards & Pencils
Conner Jearls Garrett Laplante

Last weeks attendance 9/6&9/09

Bible Class—1350 Worship Service—193
Sunday Eve.—140 Wednesday Eve.—135
Contribution—\$6011

We have been searching the treasure-trove of worthwhile study material that the phrase “if any man” provides. Occurring some 62 times in the New Testament, it provides us with a number of subjects, numerous warnings and many commands. We continue our study in the book of First John.

One of the more readily recognized statements made in this book is, “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. *If any man* love the world, the love of the Father is not in him” (I Jn. 2:15). John strongly cautions against worldliness. We often sing the song, “This World is Not My Home,” and yet how often we treat it as if it is. Love for the things of the world (lusts of the flesh and eye, and the pride of life vs. 16) will prevent us for obtaining that eternal reward of the next. John concludes his thought with these words and this chilling statement: “And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever” (I Jn. 2:17). Why, then, should we place our confidence, trust, time and hope into that which fades quickly, furnishes no hope eternally and will ultimately be destroyed?

The three avenues of temptation mentioned by John are seen elsewhere in Scripture. Eve was presented with these same avenues in the Paradise of Eden. “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food [lust of flesh], and that it was pleasant to the eyes [lust of eye], and a tree to be desired to make one wise [pride of life], she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat” (Gen. 3:6). Eve succumbed to these temptations and sinned. However, when Jesus was presented with these same avenues, He resisted (Mt. 4:1-11). Thus, He Who was “tempted in all points...like as we are” (Heb. 4:15) sinned not because He withstood Satan’s attempts. He did it with a steadfast display of the word of God (“It is written”). We, too, shall “be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked” (Eph. 6:16) in this same fashion. “Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (Jas. 4:7).

-Eddy

September 13, 2009 Number 3037