

**University Heights Church
of Christ**
445 Columbia Ave.,
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-6257
www.uheightschurch.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is immediately followed by a short worship period)

First Friday of Each Month

Singing: 7:30 PM

LEADERSHIP

Elders

Garry Banks, David Collins,
John Thompson

Evangelist

Adam Litmer

Deacons

Troy Antle, Richard Brundige,
Matt Thompson, Adam
Litmer, Bill Morelan, Jim
Parsons, Pat Seabolt, Adam
Daniels, Jamie Powell

Adam's Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday (8:30-4:00)

Update

James said his mother (Cassie Neal) came through her back surgery just fine. She's in very little pain and doing well. It seems the surgery was quite successful!

Just Take A Look At That List!

It seems that even when I'm asked to take a name off the prayer list it never gets any shorter. Looking through those names we find people recovering from surgery's, mourning the loss of loves ones, dealing with long term health concerns, and battling diseases. When one name is removed another one (and sometimes several) seem to immediately take its place.

Such is life. Though he was suffering tremendously when he said it, Job's statement that *man who is born of woman is few of days and full of trouble* is surely not far off the mark (Job 14:1). Trouble, in one form or another, hits us all countless times throughout life. When it comes my way I take solace in the knowledge that my brethren are praying for me.

So don't forget this prayer list. It truly means something when righteous people are praying (James 5:16b). I wish the list were shorter but it's never too long. If you need to be added, or know someone who does, do not hesitate to let me know. Saints are ready to pray for you and yours!

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Paul Atkisson, Barbara Matheny, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Vina Krissow, John Bennett, Robert Brundige, Donald Dawson, Gail Stein, Sandy Childress, Susie Burton, Jacob Profit, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Jannett's mother and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Doris Baker, Bernard Larch, Burnice Richardson, Ruth Poynter, Janice Parsons, The Spivey family, the Dillard family, Donna Barnett, Cassie Neel

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The Relationship Between Hope And Purity

Adam Litmer

In 1 John 3:1-3 we read, *"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall see be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure."*

What is your greatest hope? What is the one thought, the one anticipation, which gives you the strength to endure through any hardship you face in this life? Is it not that Heaven waits at the end of the road? Is it not that eventually you will see Jesus Christ as He is and be transformed to be like Him? For the Christian, there is no greater hope than this.

John says that it is the Christian's hope that inspires their efforts to live pure lives. Indeed, that Christ was and is pure motivates Christians to conform to His image. John's message in these verses challenges us to examine our lives to see if purity is found there. Our goal is to be pure as Christ is pure. This means that our goal is to live sin free lives.

Perhaps at times we satisfy ourselves with being "mostly" pure. Maybe we have a sin or two that we just aren't quite prepared to rid ourselves of yet we comfort ourselves with the thought that we're not as bad as the people we work with or live around. James makes an interesting statement concerning the sins of the tongue in James 3:11. He says, *"Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water?"* Have you noticed that whenever you add any pollutant to pure water it is the purity that is destroyed, not the pollutant? For instance, a tall glass of the cleanest water becomes polluted when just a single drop of black ink is added. The same is true in our lives.

None of this is to say that salvation is the result of our own meritorious works (Ephesians 2:8-10) for then we would have no need for a Savior. It is to say that the wonderful hope our Lord so graciously provided ought to mean so much to us that the very manner of our lives is brought into conformity to his. His life was one of perfect purity and our goal is to imitate Christ.

No Other Foundation

John Thompson

Having a house to sell, I called a building inspector to go over the house and give me his report on what needed to be fixed. He showed up on time and began his inspection without delay. He looked at everything from basement to attic, including the plumbing, the electrical, the windows, the doors, roof, walls, everything. Time passed, and then more time passed. I just wanted him to hurry up and finish. I could tell by his mutterings and his questions and the number of notations he was making in his notebook that he was finding a lot more problems than I was expecting. As anticipated, the final report was not pretty.

He began his report with the blanket statement, "I simply cannot give this house a passing grade. It has too many things wrong with it making it unsafe for anyone to live in it. I am at a loss as to how you folks managed to get by without the house falling in on you. I cannot force you to not live here any longer, but neither can I give the ok for you to sell it to someone else. It is unsafe because the foundation is inadequate; the house is simply not built on a proper foundation. The materials in the walls don't fit together, that is, there are visible cracks and undue wear and tear due to materials that should be cemented together constantly rubbing against one another causing excessive friction. The windows, doors, plumbing, electrical, and virtually all else are not up to code. I know you have done a lot to make your house to appear attractive to prospective buyers, but to actually live here is a disaster waiting to happen. Your house does not pass inspection. It is not safe for you to sell it to someone else, and I strongly recommend that you and your family move out and find a safe residence in which to live."

The church is a spiritual house and is so presented in the New Testament. Like any physical building, the church also must begin with the proper foundation. If the foundation fails, then anything built upon it will crumble

sooner or later. That foundation is identified as Jesus Christ. *For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.* (1 Corinthians 3:11) The church must be built upon the foundation of Jesus. But, what does that mean? There are a myriad of churches within the "Christian" community all believing they have Jesus as their foundation. What exactly is meant by laying a foundation that is already laid, which is Jesus Christ?

The first major problem within the church at Corinth, which Paul was inspired to address in his first letter to them, was the problem of division. In chapter 1 and verse 10 he made his appeal that they be in agreement, that there be no divisions among them, that they be united in the same mind and same judgment by "the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." The starting point for Paul's inspired argument against division within the church at Corinth was the authority of Jesus. That which Jesus authorized formed the foundation. Paul deplored the fact that Christians at Corinth were claiming to be followers of him and of others resulting in division and quarreling among them and he proceeded to declare how very careful they needed to be in building upon the proper foundation.

Any religious system, whether it be a single congregation or a conglomeration of different entities claiming to fit under some all-inclusive umbrella, in which division prevails simply cannot have a single foundation. Denominationalism is such a system. Jesus never authorized two or more different, competing religious practices. For example, Jesus never authorized two or more of the following practices regarding observance of the Lord's Supper: on the first day of every week, or once a month, or once a year, or at weddings, or simply at the discretion of the one partaking. Denominationalism, by its very nature and by its very definition begins with the premise that division is not only permissible, but is preferable.

The New Testament picture of the church as a spiritual building will continue to be explored. Spend some time reading and studying 1 Corinthians.