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

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)

Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the people of Israel, "You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. He had 700 wives, who were princesses, and 300 concubines. (1 Kings 11:1-3) Without a doubt, some of the time he was apt to speak the proverb he was actively recruiting some of his 700 wives and 300 concubines. And his foreign wives did to him exactly what his proverb said would happen. And his wives turned away his heart. ⁴ For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father. (1 Kings 11:3-4)

Actions really do speak louder than words, don't they?

NOTE

The college/young adult class begins TODAY. We will be studying 1 Timothy-Titus. I encourage you to attend if you are in college or consider yourself a young adult.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

The Banks' family, Richard Brundige, David Seabolt, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Louis Harrod, Paul Atkisson, Jake Spivey, Robert Brundige, Susie Burton, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Janett's mother and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Burnice Richardson, Ruth Poynter, Larry Sells, Evelyn Damron, Tony Tyree, Andrew Westphal, Jennifer Dunbar, Jean Gartland, John Blessing, Alleen Terrell, the McDonald family

University Heights Messenger

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The Powerful Example of Faith in Younger Christians

Matt Thompson

August is perhaps the month that members at University Heights look forward to the most. It is the month when our young Christian friends in college return to campus and once again fill the seats that have felt so empty since May. Twenty-two years ago, I was one of those college students attending University Heights. One of my most vivid memories was watching Jim Parsons stand at the podium and listening to him explain how the college students were an encouragement to him and the rest of the congregation. While I certainly appreciated his words and felt welcomed by them, I never understood them the way he intended until I myself became one of those older members being encouraged. It is my hope that our young college students will read this article and gain a better understanding of how you are an encouragement to the rest of the congregation here at University Heights.

We understand the temptations you successfully navigate and it encourages us to see your faith remain strong. The older members of the congregation have been in your shoes. We have lived through the temptations that you face on a daily basis and know how difficult they are to stay strong against. And yet you do. Your faith leads you to seek the way of escape which God provides (1 Cor. 10:13). We see your faith, we see your strength, and it encourages us to remain strong against the temptations we face. "And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you." (1 Peter 5:10)

You are strong, faithful role models for our children. Whether you realize it or not, the eyes of the young children in the congregation watch every move you make. They know your names and burst with pride when you acknowledge them simply by saying hello or calling them by name. They see your constant attendance at bible studies and worship services and tell themselves that when they are in college they will do the same. You have an impact on our children in a way that even we, as parents, cannot. The strong, positive, faithful influence you have on our children is

another way in which you encourage us. "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

Your energy and enthusiasm for Jesus Christ helps to recharge our batteries. The willingness and eagerness you have to discuss Jesus and your faith with anyone and everyone helps us to do the same. We see how you persevere through your classes, studying, and tests, and still appear to have a boundless, never-ending zeal to share your faith in Jesus with others. Seeing this helps us to put the earthly cares of our jobs behind us and focus on God's grace and Jesus' sacrifice. We remember that God's people must zealously pursue good works. "who gave Himself [Jesus] for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works." (Titus 2:14)

Your faith gives us confidence that the work of Christ's church will continue strong. We are encouraged when you actively participate in bible class by asking or answering questions; when you take on leadership opportunities within the worship service; and when you come to Friday night singings or congregational meetings. We see your faith and it gives us confidence in the next generation of Godly leaders in the church. Every generation of Christians must remain strong against the wiles of Satan and the temptations that he hurls. When your faithful courage shines through, it gives us confidence that you will continue to remain strong when you are Elders, Deacons, the wives of Elders and Deacons, and faithful members of the church. Just as Paul identified strong faith in Timothy, we see it in you. "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well." (2 Timothy 1:5)

When you hear older members say that younger Christians are an encouragement to them, it is important for you to understand why that is. These are just four of the many reasons as to why you are such valued members of our congregation. We only hope we are as much an encouragement to you as you are to us.

Actions Speak Louder than Words

By John Thompson

Who, besides infants, has not heard and who does not understand the truism that actions speak louder than words? One who says he loves his wife, then verbally abuses her even in public, will never convince anyone that his love is genuine. One's actions are the more weighty evidence of one's true character and will ultimately expose one's hypocrisy.

Let's consider wisdom. There are many wise people in the world. In each generation there are those people to whom others turn for advice, counsel, and comfort.

As their reputation grows, more and more people may turn to them more and more often; that is, until their actions prove them not to be so wise after all. Do actions that are not consistent with wise words nullify the truth of the words? Not at all, but they certainly lessen the ability of wise words to influence others for good. Why should you take my advice when you see me not taking it myself? Are you likely to listen to me in the future?

When you impart wisdom to another you, to some degree, judge them. By offering a wiser course of action, you are communicating that the proposed course of action is lacking in some way. Romans 2:1-3 reveals the terrible danger of talking wisely but acting unwisely, of condemning the unrighteousness of others while being equally unrighteous oneself. Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God?

Now, let's consider Solomon. And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all other men, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol, and his fame was in all the surrounding nations. He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were 1,005. He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of the wall. He spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of reptiles, and of fish. And people of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom. (1 Kings 4:29-34)

Although it is impossible to know exactly when during Solomon's reign he spoke his proverbs, presumably they occurred over several years. But we do know at some point during his reign he no longer pleased God and the reason involved behavior that was the exact opposite of many of his proverbs. My son, be attentive to my wisdom; incline your ear to my understanding, that you may keep discretion, and your lips may guard knowledge. For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps follow the path to Sheol; she does not ponder the path of life; her ways wander, and she does not know it. (Proverbs 5:1-6)

That is what Solomon said, but what did he do? Now King Solomon loved many foreign women, along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite,