



THE MESSENGER

OCTOBER 25, 2020

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting
TBA

Weekly Bible Studies
All temporarily being
conducted via Zoom. Check
our “friends” page on
Facebook for more
information.

Times of Service
Sunday
Bible study: 9:45 AM
Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM
Wednesday
Bible study: 7:30 PM
(Immediately followed by a
short worship service)
First Friday of Month
Singing
7:30 PM

Address and Contact
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“WHAT ABOUT THIS MAN?”

After Jesus restored Peter in a touching scene, John reports an interesting exchange. “*Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who had been reclining at table close to him and said, ‘Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?’ When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, ‘Lord, what about this man?’ Jesus said to him, ‘If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!’*” (John 21:20-22).

Peter is often viewed negatively here because it is assumed his motive in asking about John was selfish. That could be true. It could also be that Peter was concerned and curious about a dear friend. After all, Peter had just been told that he would be martyred. (John 21:18-19) It would seem odd for Peter *not* to be concerned about the manner of his friend’s death. While we can’t know his motivation for certain, it is not entirely necessary to cast him in a negative light. These could easily be the words of a concerned friend.

However, pure motives or not, Jesus used Peter’s words to remind him of something very important: Peter needed to follow Christ regardless of what anyone else was doing. Peter had to look back, taking his eyes off the Master, to see John following. Jesus told him to keep his eyes trained on Him. As brother John used to be fond of saying, “There’s a lesson here.”

Sometimes when my Jacob and Hannah are caught doing something they shouldn’t, they point at one another and say something like, “He/She was doing it, too!” Such behavior is not unexpected from children. Unfortunately, Christians act like children sometimes. I have heard Christians rightly rebuked respond with something like, “If you’re going to

Members Needing Our Prayers

Janet Brundige, Jackie Litmer, John Thompson, Mary and Emmett Weatherholt, Alexa and Charlie Lake, Bennie Poynter, Joyce Bolton, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson, Whitney Crouch, Rhonda Boyd (and family)

Others Needing Prayers

Alice and Lonnie Anderson, Rachel Knollman, Michael Hogan, Glen Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Demetrius Booker, Jen Victoria Poynter, Andy Kincaid, Terry Daniels, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, Valerie and Barry Boyd, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Cindi's niece, Dana, and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Mark (Carol's son), Ron Harmon

To Our Guests

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rebuke me, you'd better not forget about brother Smith!" or "I'm the only one! What about sister Martin?" All sin needs to be corrected, yet surely our Lord's, "*You follow me!*" is appropriate in such cases.

Other times Christians focus almost all their attention upon everything happening around them. They are focused upon the abilities, accomplishments, commendations, career opportunities, financial successes, and blessings of their brethren. Some brethren have even questioned why a brother or sister should be *allowed* to profit so extraordinarily. Jesus says, "If it is my will...what is that to you? *You follow me!*"

None of this is to say that saints ought not to be concerned with their brethren. It *is* to say that at the end of the day Adam is responsible for Adam and Adam needs to be taking care of Adam's business, not everyone else's. The next time we find ourselves asking Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" let us make certain the man (or woman) under consideration is the one looking right back from the mirror. *That* man (or woman) follows Christ and must never forget it.

Adam Litmer

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

