

## Reminders—

Pray for: Janice White, The Ledgerwoods, Samuel Southall, Fleming family, and others with ongoing health battles or trials and our brethren who are travelling. (... *fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.* Phili. 2:2)

The men meet on the first Sunday of the month to discuss our work and duties. There is a sign-up sheet at the back for items needing their attention. The next meeting will be April 7 at 8:45AM.

### We need your help—

Are you willing to help keep various Scriptures on our signboard, out by the road, for one month? Sign-up!

Are you willing to help prepare the Lord's supper for one month? Sign-up!

- Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board at the back

Our articles appear in *Arkansas Weekly* every other week (March 13, 27). Often, past and current articles are available at our website. If you use the internet, check our website from time to time to see what is new, both so you can learn and also so you can refer friends there for further study of the topics found there. We're paying for the newspaper articles and website—let's maximize their use!

*We assemble each Sunday at 10AM, 10:45AM, 5PM & Wednesday at 7PM*

Church of Christ—Quail Valley  
4104 E. Harrison St.  
Batesville, AR 72501  
Office- (870) 793-6700

Evangelists:  
David Halbrook 569-4491  
Lenoard Westbrook 612-8409

# The Exhorter

Acts 11:23 *Exhorted them all... cleave unto the Lord*

Church of Christ--Quail Valley

March 17, 2013

[WWW.QVCOC.COM](http://WWW.QVCOC.COM)

## ***HOW DO YOU RECEIVE THE TRUTH?***

*Paul Adams (The Ellettsville [IN] Bulletin Feb. 2013)*

There are many reactions to hearing the truth. Paul asked if some regarded him as an enemy, because he spoke the truth. (Galatians 4:16) It is especially important to have the proper reception when the truth applies to a situation in your life. While there are many negative examples, consider a few good ways to receive the truth.

**As The Word Of God.** *“For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.”* (1 Thessalonians 2:13) The Bible stands in clear distinction of all the writings of men. It is THE truth, THE word of God. *“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”* (John 17:17)

**Ready To Change.** *“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”* (James 1:21) God's word is not just to be heard. The truth is to change us. *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* (James 1:22)

**Ready To Share With Others.** When the Apostle Paul learned the truth he saw the urgent responsibility to teach others. *“Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.”* (Acts 9:20) The truth is meant to be heard, believed, obeyed, and then shared. *“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”* (2 Timothy 2:2)

When you hear the truth preached, How will you receive it? It is easy to get angry at the messenger or ignore the message. Instead we must be committed to receiving it as the word of God, being ready to change, and ready to share with others!

## ***ALL OUT OF LOVE***

*Phillip Stuckey (The Bonaire Exhorter; Feb. 2013)*

The band Air Supply once put out a song called, “All Out Of Love.” Sadly that is the state of far too many marriages today. It seems that more and more people have just “fallen out of love” with one another and have decided to end their marriages. While this concept of falling in love and falling out of love is readily accepted in our day what does God say about love and marriage?

Let us first consider husbands. When you got married did you realize that you were agreeing to God’s command to love your wife? That’s right! It is commanded, it is not an option. Paul told the men in the church at Colossae, “Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them” (Col 3:19). He told the men in the church at Ephesus, “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, (Eph. 5:25) and again, “In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself” (Eph. 5:28). In other words, husbands are to regard their wives as they do their own selves (Gen. 2:23; Mt. 19:5). This should compel you to treat your wife with much esteem and consider her in the decisions you make, the words you use, the way you act towards her.

You are to respect and cherish your wife. Peter commanded, “Likewise, husbands live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered. (1Pe 3:7). You are to provide for them (1 Tim. 5:8) and to take the leadership in the home (Gen. 3:16; 1 Cor. 11:3). Indeed God has decreed, “For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior” (Eph. 5:23). You are to have only one wife and to her you are to be faithful in all marital duties until death (Gen 2:24; Mt. 19:3-9; 1 Cor. 7:2-5). Read these verses again carefully. Which one of them is optional for the husband concerning his duty to love his wife? Husbands, if you love God, you will strive to please Him in fulfilling your duty to love your wife. You will do this according to His good and wise counsel and not the fickle cares of your heart or the ungodly counsel of this world.

What about wives? In like manner, God commands you to love your husband. It is commanded, it is not optional. When you married you agreed to keep God’s command to love your husband. The apostle Paul wrote to Titus to instruct the older women to, “train the young women to love their husbands and children” (Tit. 2:4). You see this love is something that can be taught and learned. Your love for God should compel you to love your husband and to treat him with much esteem and

consider him in the decisions you make, the words you use, the way you act towards him.

You are also to respect your husband. Again Paul penned, “let the wife see that she respects her husband” (Eph. 5:33). Though this flies in the face of the feminist logic and rhetoric of today, God commands it of the wife that would be worthy to be His child. You are to be submissive to your husband (Eph. 5:24; 1 Pet. 3:1). Paul by inspiration wrote, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord” (Eph. 5:22). In fact, we read the wife should “be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled” (Tit 2:5). We submit to employers, the government and many other institutions. Most of us readily accept this, but why is it, that when it comes to marriage, many women balk at the very idea of submitting to their husbands? Let no one forget that God commands it of the wife who would be godly (1 Pet. 3:1-6). Wives are also to be faithful in their marital duties (1 Cor. 7:2-5), and God expects wives to be faithful to their husbands for life (Rom. 7:2-3; 1 Cor. 7:10).

Husbands, you must love your wife. Wives, you must love your husband. It is not too much to ask and it is for your good (1 Jn. 5:3; Mt. 11:30). When you made the decision to enter in to the marriage relationship, you made the decision to accept God’s conditions that regulate that relationship. Love is not optional with God. All of these duties we have noticed are part of loving our mate. When we don’t love as we should we are, to that degree, being hateful. That will not do with the Lord. John wrote long ago, “If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother” (1 Jn 4:20-21). Are you all out of love for your spouse? If so you should repent and begin loving them as the Lord has said.

---

### ***WHAT RUINS A GOOD INFLUENCE?***

- \* Inconsistency (Romans 2:21)
- \* Appearance of evil (I Thess. 5:22)
- \* Avoiding people (I Corinthians 7:12, 16)
- \* Being unreliable (Acts 15:38)
- \* Having an uncontrolled tongue (Ecclesiastes 5:3)
- \* Being conceited (III John 9-10)
- \* Always complaining (Jude 16)
- \* Avoiding opportunities to make peace (Romans 14:19)
- \* Never admitting when wrong (Proverbs 12:15)

Brethren, what kind of influence are WE having on the world, on our children, and those who love us? (Matthew 5:16)

[[http://caneyvillechurchofchrist.com/sermons/?page\\_id=105](http://caneyvillechurchofchrist.com/sermons/?page_id=105); Sept. 23, 2012]