

August 8, 2021

Ministers

by George Slover

Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. (1 Corinthians 3:5-6)

On February 19, 1945 more than 70,000 American Marines from 3rd, 4th, and 5th Divisions landed on the beaches of Iwo Jima. Awaiting them were 22,000 Japanese soldiers ready to die. Among the Americans were the boys of Easy Company. Six of those soldiers would leave an image on the pages of history that has become a symbol of American heroism and courage.

The picture of the famous raising of the American flag on top of Mt. Suribachi has appeared hundreds of times in magazines, newspapers, and history books. However, the story behind the picture had an interesting twist and an important lesson. The flag that was in Joe Rosenthal's famous picture was nothing more than a replacement. The original flag was removed and preserved for safekeeping and these six soldiers raised a second flag. Furthermore, their climb to the top of Mt. Suribachi was without resistance from the enemy. When the picture was first printed in newspapers in America it was embellished with fanciful stories of how they reached the top of Mt Suribachi in the midst of a fiery battle. Such was far from the truth. While all six soldiers were indeed heroes as were all the men

who fought in the war, the raising of that flag on Suribachi was nothing out of the ordinary. The three soldiers who returned home deemed themselves ordinary men with a job to do.

In the scripture above Paul, the great soldier of the cross, views himself in the same way. He was an ordinary man with a job to do. "Who was Paul... but a minister through whom others believed?" Paul said, he had a mission and he fulfilled it, but it is God who gave the increase and deserves the honor! We too must remember our humble task. We are just ministers, just servants. Our mission is to hide behind the cross, to teach Christ crucified, and give the glory to God!

What Does God Expect?

By George Slover

"He has shown you, Oh man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8)

Many people ask the question: What does God expect from me? Consider some simple answers.

- 1) He expects us to keep all of his commandments! (Matthew 28:20)
- 2) He expects us to do what he wants at

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Bulverde is having their summer series "Gifts We Can Use For God" each Thursday through August 19.

Mark your calendar! Our next gospel meeting will be September 12-15 with Mike Walls.

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

all times. (John 8:28,29) Are you trying to follow the Lord's example?

3) He expects us to please Him instead of pleasing ourselves. Paul said, "... Nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me...? Are you unselfishly yielding to the will of God?

4) He expects us to please Him instead of men. Again Paul says, "Do I seek to please men? For if I seek to please men, In should not be the servant of Christ." (Galatians 1:10)

God has the right to tell us what to do because 1) he is God, and we are human, 2) he is the Creator, and we are the created, 3) He is Lord of All!

Devote this day and this week to pleasing God!

Jack Wilson is at home and undergoing physical therapy.

Doug Adair is struggling with back pain. His second opinion still recommended surgery.

Jerry Richardson is still undergoing cancer treatments.

Nancy Richardson is doing better but still dealing with breathing problems.

Karen Hallmark has improved but is still struggling with her health and her eyes, as well as asthma.

Dinah Williams continues to be homebound due to mobility issues. She had a small fire at her house and is staying at the Comfort Inn while repairs are being made.

Bobbie Gibbons is in the hospital with Covid.

Tyler Hairston has cancer and has exhausted all conventional treatments.

Dorthy Steadman is continuing to recover from her recent stroke. She is staying with Hank in Houston.

Audria Trammel is waiting for results from her biopsy.

Leta Ebeling has been having blood pressure issues.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

"praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,"
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

Prayer Requests

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

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