

October 10, 2021

## A sincere and humble concern for brothers and sisters in Christ

by Warren Berkley

*{This article is by Warren Berkley. The elders decided this was a needful topic at this time and chose the title}*

Romans 12:16:

“Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.”

We cannot hoard our faith. We owe an obligation to the rest of God’s creation to do all that is within our power to show them the way of truth and to keep them on that way once they have found it. To consider one another is no small task. We must bury our self interests and look outward. I refer you to Philippians 2:1-5 and quote here verse 5. “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.” It is a Christ-like thing that is demanded of us, but isn’t that what it means to be a Christian?

Verse 25 of Hebrews 10 cites one basic example of how we consider one another. We assemble with those of like faith, with those with whom we have associated ourselves together in a local congregation. “...not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” The more we grow and discipline ourselves to consider one another, the more we will recognize the joy and the necessity

of regular assembling. Some never realize the importance thereof. They miss the great joy of being a sacrificial child of God. Assembling with saints is not just a command. It is the lifeline of the Christian. It keeps our energies up. It keeps us edified and empowered to meet the temptations of the devil.

The final warning is in verse 26. “For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.” If we fail to become a Christian (v. 22), remain faithful as a Christian (v. 23), or reach out to help save others (v. 24), we have willfully sinned against God and have no hope. The tragedy is that, with the knowledge we have received from God through His word, there is no reason for us to fail. Many yet do fail and refuse the goodness of God. The only sin for which we cannot receive forgiveness is the sin from which we refuse to turn away. To refuse to become a Christian, stay a Christian, reach out as a Christian, and assemble as a Christian is all willful sin. The gospel call is a call to change. Become a child of God, even today, and then grow as a child should to complete maturity with the confident assurance that Heaven will be your home.

## 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

Our meeting with Mike Walls has been rescheduled for October 24-27.

Cedar Park has a gospel meeting scheduled October 17-20 with Brent Moody.

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

## Shortages

By Gardner Hall

(via Facebook, Sept. 27)

The world is concerned about shortages of workers, computer chips, construction material, electronics, food materials, etc. Christians should be concerned about shortages like these:

1. Workers in the kingdom (Matt. 9:37). The harvest is plentiful in many places, but the workers few. Yes, there is a “preacher shortage.”

2. Spiritually mature young men (1 Tim. 4:12). Many seem to be in perpetual puberty because of addiction to video games and even pornography. An increasing number of godly young women have few prospects for marriage because of this shortage.

3. Inwardly beautiful and modest young women (Titus 2:4,5). Too many are obsessed with outer beauty and even worse, with provocative poses for selfies on Facebook and Instagram.

4. Children in churches (Ps. 127:3) - Though some congregations are full of kids, others have almost none!

5. Men qualified to be elders (1 Tim. 3:1) - Increasing numbers of family challenges and worldly distractions have shrunk the pool of qualified men.

6. True humility (James 4:10) - The emphasis on “loving yourself” has produced several generations of self-focused narcissists.

7. Disciples with an other-worldly focus (Phil. 3:20) – Thus, the squabbles over politics, culture and traditions.

## Prayer Requests

**Jack Wilson** has improved some but still has limited mobility.

**Jerry Richardson** is still undergoing cancer treatments and is recovering from Covid.

**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** is home but still has very limited mobility.

**Don Simmons** is home and recovering from Covid.

**Danny Crumley** had covid.

**Sylvia Stinnett** had knee surgery.

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)

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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