

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Liz Sturgill was discharged from the hospital and is doing better.
Jeff Sturgill was discharged from the Bloomington hospital with a sore on his foot.
Jesse Riddle is experiencing weakness but is able to attend Sunday AM services.
Delores Hendrickson was unable to attend services last Sunday but is doing better.
John Richardson is recovering from gall bladder surgery.
Two of Ken Roosa's cousins, Gary and Butchy Thurman, have cancer.
Shirley Cook's nephew in Illinois, Dale Pflum, is suffering from cancer.
Karen Sproles is doing better will have a nerve block injection in her knee soon.
Sister Audrey Goshorn, wife of brother Daniel Goshorn, a missionary we are blessed to support in Peru, will be having a C-section soon for delivery of their son, Levi. She will travel to the capital of Peru, Lima, for the C-section on December 2nd.
Nan Coons, wife of Darian and daughter-in-law of Eldon and Glenda Coons has been hospitalized with repeated infections. She will undergo a diagnostic procedure soon to try and determine the cause,

Pray For Our Shut-ins:

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, John & Terry Richardson

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See latest mission reports on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium.

Deepest Sympathy:

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our former gospel preacher Randall Jones, his wife Linda and son Zachary at the passing of Randall and Linda's daughter, Shannon. Shannon lost a long battle with cancer last week. Services were held in Bowling Green, KY on Saturday.

Prayers also for Joni McConnell, whose close friend passed away last week.

Assistance For A Needy Family:

Sister Christa Mathews, through her contacts at school, has identified a needy family in the community. The family consists of 4 children, boys ages 17, 12, and 11 and a 17 year old girl, all being raised by their grandparents. The congregation is supplying funds to purchase clothing and other items for the family. If individual members want to donate additional money for this effort, please see Christa.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, January 7th, following the AM services.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 6th at 5:00.

Radio Program:

Please remember to tune in every Sunday morning at 8:00 AM to WCBK 102.3 FM to hear our radio program which is entitled: "Preparing For Eternity".

God's Plan For Our Salvation

Hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).
Believing what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).
Repentance (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).
Confession (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).
Baptism (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3, 4).
Faithful Christian Living, after the above five steps (I Peter 2:11, 12; Rev. 2:10).

December 3, 2023

MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**540 E. Morgan Street
Martinsville, IN 46151
(765) 342-6027**



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study – 9:30 AM
Worship – 10:30 AM
Evening Service - 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study – 6:00 PM

Thursday

Ladies' Bible Study – 11:00 AM (March through October)

Radio Program:

"Preparing For Eternity"
Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

THE TRUTH ABOUT SO-CALLED “SAFE SIN”

“If you continue to preach and teach quoting all those Scriptures, the younger generation simply will not stand for it, and this congregation will have to close its doors.”

The belief that certain sins are to be expected and will not endanger one’s soul is afflicting both those within and without the Lord’s church.

According to my handwritten notes, I believe the two quotes that follow are from the pen of Mike Jackson. He says:
I like coming up with oxymorons. These are expressions or statements which are apparently self-contradictory but make a point nonetheless. Some examples are: ‘cruel kindness,’ ‘heavy lightness.’ And some on the lighter note include: ‘clean dirt,’ and ‘tough love.’ As a rule these words just don’t go together.

Well, today I shall add another one to the list — “safe sin.” Please let me explain. These are “good” sins (another oxymoron), acceptable sins — sins that are laughed about! If put to a vote, these would be removed from the list of sins altogether.

It is obvious the world in which we live would like nothing better than to vote certain “sins” out of the realm of sinfulness! Our government evidently decided long ago that it would become the expert on sin, and now it informs us about the so-called “social ills” of society. The psychologists and sociologists have influenced most folks more than the Bible; thus, sin has now become a disorder, a disease, a fault of one’s own heredity, etc. Never mind that the inspired Word of God says in 1 John 3:4 that sin is a “transgression of the law” — “lawlessness” (ASV) ! It does not matter to most people that they simply ignore the fact that the Bible declares “the wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23). And, since some one or some thing can always be conveniently blamed for one’s acts and condition, it would be unthinkable to think that “the soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezek. 18:20).

According to worldly wisdom regarding human behavior, changes must continually occur in the way folks think and act. It would be a total surprise to many subscribers of this false philosophy to learn that the Bible states, “for ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven” (Psa. 119:89). In other words, sin has always been just that, sin — and always will be! Nothing that man can do or say will change this Biblical truth. On the great Day of Judgment every soul will be reminded that Christ compassionately warned, “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day” (John 12:48).

The world has indeed “done a number” on most people’s thinking. How many people do you know who simply smile upon hearing a filthy joke? What about one eagerly listening to another tell of their sinful encounter? How often do you hear of someone referring to a person’s sinful action as “cute?” Or, one may exclaim, “It’s just the way that boys/girls are today.” Another person boldly declares, “We are living in 2023, not the 1930s or 40s.” Someone else says, “Society has changed,” as if such an explanation makes sin acceptable today. Even those who profess to be members of the Lord’s church have told this writer, “If you continue to preach and teach quoting all those Scriptures, the younger generation simply will not stand for it,

and this congregation will have to close its doors.” The wisdom of the world would have one believe that the passage of time changes everything, and that God’s Word is just not relevant today. Such is the devil’s lie. There is no truth in what Satan says (John 8:44). God never changes (Malachi 3:6), and His words/truths will never “pass away” (Mark 13:31).

From the beginning of time, sin has been the problem of man (Gen. 3:1-19, 22-24). It is sin that separates one from God. Isaiah recorded, “Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear” (Isa. 59:1-2). Sin will never change into righteousness and neither will the truth that “sin separates one from God” change! People who commit sins this world has deemed to be “normal” and “acceptable behavior,” “glamorous and exciting,” will one day learn “that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:21).

Listen carefully: no matter what one chooses to believe, there is no such thing as “safe sin!” The high price of sin is the devil’s best-kept secret! Sin is always costly, but the devil will attempt to disguise the high price that one will pay for sinful living. The price of living in sin is the loss of one’s soul (Rom. 6:23). Yes, one can live in sin! The apostle Paul notes, “Mortify [put to death] your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them” (Col. 3:5-7).

These words of the Savior will torment the minds of the lost throughout eternity: “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul” (Matt. 16:26)?

One will do well to never forget that God’s word is true (John 17:17). God’s Word also “abideth for ever” (1 Peter 1:25). Jesus Christ, the One who came to save the world (Luke 19:10), will at His next coming judge the world (Rom. 2:16). At that great day, every knee will bow and every tongue will confess, “Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Phil. 2:10-11). Let us purpose to glorify God and save our souls!

Keep in mind there is no “safe sin.” All will not one day be accountable to worldly wisdom, but all will “give account to him that is ready to judge the living and the dead” (1 Peter 4:5). -- Marvin L. Weir