

"...having the eyes of your heart enlightened..." Ephesians 1:18

Group Meetings Today **"Teaching as Jesus Taught"**

Welcome Visitors!

You are our honored guests and we are pleased that you have chosen to visit us today. Our goal is to do everything according to God's word, including respecting its silence. This is a church of Christ; we are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church and we have no earthly "headquarters." The five elders oversee this work and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily aimed at our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don't understand something, please do not hesitate to ask one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not correspond to God's word. We are here to serve; please help us do that.

Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection plate. Thank You

Schedule

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM – Classes

Auditorium: How Jesus Teaches Us (The Gospel of Mark)

Ladies Training classes in rooms 13/14, 15/16 & 17

10:30 AM – Assembly

Speaking today: David Posey

Ecclesiastes: Anger

No Sunday Evening Class Tonight

Weekly Young Adults Class

NO CLASSTODAY

{Tuesday Class}

This class will resume in the fall

Wednesday, 7 PM

Auditorium: How Jesus Teaches Us (The Gospel of Mark)

Ladies Training classes in rooms 13/14, 15/16 & 17

Men's Saturday Morning Meeting

7 AM, second Saturday of the month (see Tyler Wade)

VBS: July 8-12

Information

Children's Classes

We have classes for children from 18 months and up. Please see the map in the hallway or ask any of the members which room is appropriate for you and/or your child. There are several Bible studies in progress on Sunday afternoon and evening. Check with David Posey if you have questions.

Restrooms

There are two sets of restrooms: one off the first hallway to the right of the lobby and another at the end of the first hallway to the left. Ask anyone and they'll be happy to point you in the right direction.

For Small Children

There is a special room for nursing mothers and a separate "cry room" at the rear of the auditorium. You enter them from the first hallway to the right, across from the restrooms.

Online

You can find copies of class material and archives of previous editions of the View and listen to sermons online at www.folsomchurch.com. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/folsomchurch>

View & Junior View

Be sure to pick up a copy of the View and Junior View; both are sent out weekly, plus there are some hard copies printed on Sundays and available in the foyer.

Disclaimer

The opinions, interpretations and views that appear in the View are those of the author alone and do not necessarily represent the view of the elders or other members of the church of Christ at Folsom.

Tolerance

BY DAVID POSEY

I posted this on our Facebook page on Friday:

“Tolerance is the last virtue of a depraved society. When an immoral society has blatantly and proudly violated all the commandments, it insists upon one last virtue, tolerance for its immorality. It will not tolerate condemnation of its perversions. It creates a whole new world in which only the intolerant critic of intolerable evil is evil.” *D. James Kennedy*

I have used the first line of this statement multiple times in sermons. The quote dates back many years (some attribute it originally to Aristotle) but it seems to be more relevant today than ever.

However, the quote needs some explanation because people define the word “tolerance” differently and even accuse those who use it of racism.

With that in mind, read this excellent explanation of the term by Candace Jackson on the *apologetics.com* website:

On a daily basis, I hear that Christians are judgmental and are not at all tolerant. But I think that the problem is largely a result of a misunderstanding of what it means to be tolerant in our culture. To clarify terms, philosophers distinguish classical tolerance from a modern understanding of tolerance by stating that according to a classical view of tolerance one should accept the differing views of other people and treat them fairly no matter what. Therefore, a person who holds to this classical view will continue to respect, uphold the dignity of, and value the other person no matter what he or she believes, understanding that each person has a right to argue or propagate his or her own ideas. However, the modern view of tolerance states that each person should always accept others (their ideas, arguments, beliefs, morals, and behaviors) as equally valid as anyone else’s, to the point that any judgment will be interpreted as intolerance. The latter is problematic for the following reason: the classical view of tolerance continues to uphold the value and dignity of the person, while the modern view seeks to uphold the value and accuracy of each person’s beliefs.

All people are created equal and have immeasurable value, but it would be foolish to say the same is true of all people’s ideas. Can we with all sincerity equate Jeffrey Dahmer’s beliefs about the value of human life to Martin Luther King, Jr’s or Gandhi’s beliefs? You may be thinking that if someone’s beliefs are that important to them then if you disagree with their beliefs you’re also devaluing them as a person. But the classical view (and biblical view) states that no matter what a person believes, feels, or thinks you are to love and respect him since he is made in the image of God. Notice that I did not say you have to agree with him, but that you are challenged (because you’re obligated) to not only tolerate him, but to love him. So, if calling Hitler’s or Dahmer’s actions wrong makes you judgmental or intolerant by the modern view of tolerance’s standards, then wear your judgmental badge proudly.

But what about the Scripture that everyone quotes about how Christians aren’t supposed to judge others? Matthew 7:1-5, “Do not judge so that you will not be judged. “For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. “Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your

own eye? “Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ and behold, the log is in your own eye? “You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.

Robert H. Mounce explains that the Greek construction for “Do not judge” carries with it the idea of ceasing what you are already doing (“stop criticizing others”). He goes on to say that judging in this context implies a “harsh and censorious spirit.” “If you insist on condemning others, you exclude yourself from God’s forgiveness. The admonition not to judge is often taken incorrectly to imply that believers are not to make moral judgments about anyone or anything. That this is not intended is clear from verses 15-20, which warn of false prophets who can be known by the fruit they bear. Jesus does not ask us to lay aside our critical faculties, but rather to resist the urge to speak harshly of others. The issue is serious in that God will judge us by the same standard we apply to others. [This] rather frightening truth should change the way in which we tend to view other people’s failings.”

In the Word Biblical Commentary, Donald Hagner adds: “One should not judge others more harshly or by a different standard than one judges oneself.” On a personal note there have been times that another Christian has confronted me about immoral behavior and what the Christian said was right, but his spirit was wrong. He was almost hate-filled in the way he approached me, and I have to admit that my obstinate nature tempted me to handle it poorly, but when it came down to it regardless of his “ungodly” attitude, what he said was right, and I couldn’t argue with it.

This is just a reminder to not mistake accountability for judgment. Furthermore, judgment in Matthew 7 refers to criticism and discrimination, emphasizing that God will judge us based on the standards by which we judge others. Therefore, be merciful to others and God will be merciful to you. Also note that showing mercy to others does not mean overlooking areas of their lives that need improvement; if you love them the best thing you can do is go to them and challenge them concerning areas that need to change. The same principle applies to our response to corruption in our culture. The Christian’s duty is, after all to destroy speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God (II Corinthians 10:5).

On a larger scale concerning our society, we are to hold one another accountable to uphold the values that would best preserve our society as a whole, even at the risk of being labeled judgmental or intolerant.

However, when we speak the truth to others, we are to speak it in love (Ephesians 4:15) so that our motives cannot be misinterpreted and we remain above reproach. It is to our detriment that the Christian reputation has been sullied due to our unloving approaches to social issues. However, it still remains that the Christian view of tolerance is more courageous and even confrontational whereas the world’s view of tolerance is cowardly and evasive, ultimately bearing no fruit and eventually leading to the decay of society.

Cultural Trends and Issues

From Culture Translator, June 21, 2019

Sexting's Slippery Slope?

What it is: A new national study found “youth who sext, compared to those who don't, were more likely to have multiple sexual partners, experience anxiety and depression, and drink alcohol, take drugs, and smoke.” Yikes.

Why it's maybe not what you think: Simply, if your child is willing to send and receive nude pictures, odds are they are

more likely to participate in other risky behaviors. Sexting isn't therefore the *reason* they are more likely to drink or experience depression, it's just a manifestation of their inclination to experiment and test limits. Ultimately, these are heart issues rooted in and pouring forth from their desire

to be loved, accepted, and valued. And sometimes—not always, but sometimes—our kids will deliberately engage in risky behaviors just to see if we notice, just to see if we care. The only way to know is to pay attention, be part of your kids' lives, and be diligent in having conversations about tough topics.

Chevron Shake

What it is: Have your kids asked you to drive them to the nearest gas station for a milkshake? No? Just wait!

Why it's kinda cute: Compelled by a trend on TikTok, teens all across the country are on a mission to find [F'Real Milkshake Machines](#) and post videos of themselves and their friends with them on social media. Sounds silly, but according to Dave Pell, “The apps most attractive (and addictive) to kids are the ones that get them off the couch and into the world for some harmless fun, gathering around a series of inside jokes, and leaving behind their own small mark.” If the craze hasn't reached your neck of the woods yet, it's probably coming. In this case, instead of technology and meme culture creating a barrier between you and your kids, go with them. Make a shake, get crazy, and actually drink it, instead of just posting a picture of it. Enjoy some harmless fun with your kids on a hot summer night and, for once, thank the internet for bringing you together!

“...not always, but sometimes—our kids will deliberately engage in risky behaviors just to see if we notice, just to see if we care. The only way to know is to pay attention, be part of your kids' lives, and be diligent in having conversations about tough topics.”

Apps/Websites

Game-streaming platform Twitch aims to sue those who streamed violent and pornographic content on their servers. In what's being called the first lawsuit of its kind, Twitch is fighting back against anonymous users who broadcast film of the Christchurch, NZ shooting, as well as graphic sexual content and pirated movies in a very public, very organized troll attack. Usually platforms like YouTube, et al. have avoided going directly after trolls so as not to disrupt the community dynamic of their product. If Twitch is successful in unmasking the trolls behind this attack,

it could set a big precedent that keeps this kind of content one more step removed from younger users.

Pop Culture

Film/TV/Streaming

TV show *Euphoria* has landed on HBO, and you're not gonna like it. You'll also be glad to know that it probably doesn't reflect your teen's life—or

anybody's. According to reviewers, the show is *bad*, like quality bad, but also bad, like it's crammed with scenes of graphic sex and self-harm that are aimed to shock teen and parent audiences alike. And since we know that promiscuity and wild promiscuity are on the decline amongst Gen Z, viewers might be left asking who the show is supposed to be for. {I have a question: should a Christian even be *paying for* HBO at all? dp}.

In Other News

The “sober-curious” movement continues to gain steam. There are a crop of sober-influencers and a hashtag, [#soberissexy](#). The number of drinkers worldwide is continuing to decrease, but the availability and acceptance of other substances (like vaping and recreational marijuana) might be part of the reason why. Ultimately, changing attitudes toward alcohol aren't guaranteed to protect your child from binge-drinking culture. But it could provide an easier starting point for conversations with your teen about the dangers of drinking to excess. And with more sober role models than ever, your teen might never develop an interest in testing their limits with beer and liquor.