

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

"Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling."

1 John 2:10

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)

3 Rooms: 13/14 – 15/16 – 17 – Ladies' Teacher Training

10:30 AM – Assembly

Speaking today: David Posey

"Philadelphia"

2 PM Class at the Building

Room 13/14

Minor Prophets

5 PM (building)

Fruit of the Spirit

Weekly Young Adults Class

Tonight at the Posey's: 5 PM

{Tuesday Class}

This class will resume in the fall

Wednesday, 7 PM

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

3 Rooms: 13/14 – 15/16 – 17 – Ladies' Teacher Training

Men's Saturday Morning Meeting

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

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.

Politics & the Christian

BY DAVID POSEY

In the 30-plus years that I have been preaching, I have never used the pulpit or a church bulletin to campaign for a particular candidate for public office. I'm not going to begin now.

However, I believe the view that Christians shouldn't be involved in politics at all is wrong-headed. While we are not "of the world," we are certainly *in* the world and a major part of our living in the world is political. I know many are discouraged by the present political climate; I, too, have been tempted to just opt out of the political process. But being completely *apolitical* does not comport with Christ's command to be the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world" (Matthew 5:14-16).

Caution is called for, though, because the Bible does not give us a command or example that would urge us to be overly concerned about who is in power. Paul, in his letters, never says anything negative about the Roman government; instead, he teaches us to submit to it (Romans 13).

However, the Bible teaches principles that, if followed by the majority, would serve to change society for the better. If we followed all of Jesus' and the apostles' teachings, there would be no slavery, bigotry, hate, abortion, euthanasia, poverty or any of the other social ills that dominate the conversation each election season.

There is a major difference in our world and the world in which Jesus and Paul lived and that makes politics a live issue for Christians. Our constitution gives us a voice in the governance of our nation though the right to vote. In the age that the New Testament covers, no such right existed. If Jesus and the apostles worked within the context of living in a nation like ours, I'm convinced there would have been some teaching about what principles to apply when one goes to the voting booth. They may or may not have told their followers to vote for a particular individual, but I'm confident that they would have urged us to apply certain core principles to our decision.

I say that because the "core principles" are found in the New Testament. Paul, for example, spells out what he terms "works of the flesh" (Gal. 5:19-21). In that list is "sexual immorality." If we are serious about applying biblical principles to our decision-making process, we will vote for candidates and propositions that take positions that are the least likely to promote sexual immorality. As a practical matter, then, I'll be more inclined to vote for a candidate that believes that the best approach to reducing teen pregnancies is abstinence, not one who condones handing out condoms in high school.

Another core principle is that of marriage. The Bible teaches plainly that marriage is only possible between a man and woman (Gen. 2:18-25, etc.) and that homosexuality is a sin (I Cor. 6:9-11). So, when the state offers me the opportunity to make my views known on these issues, I'm going to do so.

Perhaps the most obvious principle taught by the Bible is the principle of life. Throughout the Old Testament, the intentional taking of life calls for the most severe penalty; it is always a capital crime. God hates murder. In its simplest form, the Bible says "Thou shalt not kill." This is basic. Romans 1 speaks of those who are full of murder as those with a "debased mind" (vv. 28-29).

If we adhere to that principle, for whom will we pull the lever in the voting booth? It makes sense that the only logical choice is the candidate who supports life; today, we call that "pro-life" while others are termed "pro-choice." Pro-life candidates are the only ones who will support the rights of a child; pro-choice candidates favor the choice of the woman over the rights of the unborn child.

Before we send in our ballot or pull the lever, we should ask, what would Jesus do? No candidate will always do what Jesus would do. But they will do some of what he would do, and we ought to vote accordingly on those issues we deem most significant. I do not believe I can sit on the sidelines and let others determine which leaders we put into office when I have power to speak, through the privilege of voting. If you disagree with me on this, that's OK, too.

EGO ISSUES

Love to be Recognized

Diotrephes is described as someone who lived "to be first" (III John 1:9). The late A. T. Robertson once wrote an article about Diotrephes for a religious publication. He renamed him, updated his story using present day terms, and labeled him the "church boss." Dr. Robertson reported later that twenty preachers had canceled their subscriptions because they thought the article was a personal attack on them.

— Kent Crockett

I Am the Greatest

Former heavyweight boxing champion boasted, "I am the greatest." The apostle Paul boasted, "I am the least."

Looking Down on Others

A teacher told the children in her class about the Pharisee and the tax collector praying in the temple (Luke 18:10-14). She said that the Pharisee prayed, "God, I thank You that I'm not like other people," while the tax collector said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." The teacher explained how the self-righteous attitude of the Pharisee caused him to look down on the tax collector. At the end of class, she asked one little boy to close in prayer. He prayed, "God, I thank You that I'm not like that Pharisee."

Are you a chicken or a salmon?

A chicken lays one egg and cackles about it, while a salmon lays ten thousand eggs and doesn't say a word.

All of the above from Kent Crockett
Making Today Count for Eternity.

Quotes

"Anger indulged, instead of simply waved off, always has in it an element of self-righteousness and vanity. Find a person who has embraced anger, and you will find a person with a wounded ego."

Dallas Willard, *Divine Conspiracy*,
p. 149

What Do You Have?

Shamgar had an oxgoad,
David had a sling,
Dorcas had a needle,
Rachel had a string,
Samson had a jawbone,
Aaron had a rod,
Mary had some ointment,
and all were used by God.

When Your Kid Desperately Wants to be “Liked”

by Jonathan McKee, thesource4parents.com

Christina got her smartphone when she was 11—one year later than the average young person gets a smart phone in America. She immediately downloaded Snapchat, Instagram and Tik Tok, the three apps that most of her friends used, lying about her age to sign up with all three.

Mom and Dad never noticed.

Her parents also neglected to notice Christina charged her phone by her bedside every night, set on vibrate. At first the phone just kept her up an extra 30-45 minutes before she faded off to sleep; but soon she found herself waking up several times throughout the night to check

social media, not uncommon by any measurement. In fact 79% of teenagers bring their phones in their bedroom with them each night and fall into the same rut.

When her iPhone first pushed the “screen time” upgrade last fall sending her a weekly report of her average daily screen time. . .she was a little surprised:

5 hours 33 minutes.

Not as surprised as her parents when the school counselor called. “I’m concerned about Christina. She’s showing signs of anxiety. I know a counselor I’d like to recommend.”

From Culture Translator

The pressure to be liked

A decade ago when kids were texting three thousand-plus messages per month parents were concerned about their phone bills. Five years ago when kids began “Snapping” pics to each other parents were worried about their kids’ innocence. But now that social media follows the overwhelming majority of teenagers literally everywhere they go—school, church, the bathroom, to bed at night—parents are worried about their kids’ mental health and for good reason.

Anxiety, depression and teen suicide are at an unprecedented high, and almost every expert chiming in on the subject links this to screen time and social media. In fact experts like Dr. Jean Twenge dispute those who dismiss the connection between screen time and mental health. “Don’t believe them,” she says. Simply said, *the more time you spend online, the more unhappy and depressed you are.*

Is it surprising? We’ve handed our kids devices that remind them exactly how “liked” they are at any moment. This has never been good for their mental health.

Maybe that’s why Instagram began a test literally last week hiding the number of “likes” a user’s post receives in efforts to create a “less pressurized environment.”

Adolescence creates enough pressure already. Do we need a digital reminder?

So what can moms and dads do to help their kids feel better about self? Let’s look specifically at what parents can do. Let’s start with what we know. What are some of the facts you wish your kids understood about their own mental health and feelings about self?

Wouldn’t it be cool if our kids knew...

- Our identity is in Christ, and that takes the focus off of us and onto Him. Hence, the more we focus on Him, the less we *worry* about us.
- Too much tech time is linked to depression. Heavy users of digital media (over two hours a day) are twice as likely to be depressed as light users.
- Sleep deprivation increases anxiety and depression. Teens are four times as likely to be depressed when they are sleep deprived.
- When we are given the opportunity to empathize and/or serve others we become less focused on self.

See rest of article here: <https://tinyurl.com/y4nvmeed>

Movie Alert

“Good Boys”: August 16th.

Seth Rogen is back with *Superbad*—but with 12-year-olds. The gradual increase of over-the-top hijinks and portrayal of relatable situations pre-teens face may have your kids begging you to take them (*since it’s very appropriately rated R*).

Body Shaming Dinnerware (*what?*)

Could dinner plates trigger an eating disorder? Macy’s came under fire this week for selling plates from a brand called Pourtions. Supposedly the plates were meant to be funny, with “clever” labels marking the different portion sizes (e.g. a small portion is marked as “skinny jeans” while larger portions are marked as “mom jeans”). The plates were promptly, as the kids say, “cancelled,” and Macy’s pulled them from shelves after eating disorder awareness groups slammed the premise of the dinnerware that shames people’s food intake. While the whole affair might strike some as an overreaction, the truth is that it’s not yet a kind world out there for anyone with body image issues.