

June 13, 2021

The Sunday View

"Sir, we wish to see Jesus." — John 12:21

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 six 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 at the entrance. Thank You

Schedule

The Lord's Day
Bible Classes for All Ages

9:30 AM

Assembly

10:30 AM

Livestream at 10:30 at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLEmwy2iYxrl7ZUgTizTVqA>

Speaking today: David Posey

Who Are We?

Selections from the book of Revelation

Young People's Classes Today

High School & Up: 5 PM Every Sunday

Contact David Posey for information at
(530) 558-5057

The middle school class will now be held on a monthly basis, instead of weekly. Contact Dan Stegall for information at (818) 209-9810

Weekly Classes

Zoom Class: Mondays @ 7PM

The character of Moses

Contact Jack Horak @ jshorak98@gmail.com

Wednesday 7 PM @ Building

The Attributes of God

Various Speakers

Saturday Men's Breakfast

7 AM, second Saturday of the month

Contact Tyler Wade @ tyler@ppldev.com

Additional Classes

There are some smaller classes in progress. If you are interested in participating in any of them, please contact David Posey

Information

Masks still required today, but...

Starting Tuesday, the new guidelines take effect — no masks required for those who have been vaccinated; that will take effect for our Wednesday night Bible class.

Website & Online Presence

Visit our website at www.folsomchurch.com for updates and material on current and past classes, and recorded sermons and classes. You will also find a directory of churches on page one. If you are a member of the church here at Folsom, see one of the deacons or elders to inquire about access to the password -protected members section. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/folsomchurch>

Classes & Home Studies

We have classes for children from 18 months and up on Wednesday night at 7 PM. 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.

View & Junior View

Be sure to pick up a copy of the View and Junior View; both are sent out weekly to our member list and hard copies are printed on Sundays and available in the foyer.

Prayer Requests & News Items

Send to David Posey at dpaulposey@mac.com or text at 530-558-5057

From the *LA Times*, today (June 10, 2021)

Time to unmask? It's up to you

Beginning Tuesday, vaccinated Californians will no longer have to wear face coverings

SAN FRANCISCO — With California's full economic reopening days away, there remains one question that has not been fully resolved in the minds of many eager to get back to normal life: To mask, or not to mask?

Beginning Tuesday, most of California's mask rules imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic — covering customers' trips to the store, the gym and restaurants — will disappear for those who are vaccinated.

There is growing evidence of the shots' power to prevent serious disease and blunt transmission of the coronavirus, and health officials are increasingly unified in their belief that those who are fully inoculated can safely resume many activities without wearing face coverings.

Here is the verbatim news release from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), dated June 9, 2021.

Guidance for Individuals

Masks are **not required for fully vaccinated individuals, except** in the following settings where masks are required for everyone, regardless of vaccination status:

- On public transit (examples: airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, subways, buses, taxis, and ride-shares) and in transportation hubs (examples: airport, bus terminal, marina, train station, seaport or other port, subway station, or any other area that provides transportation)
- **Indoors** in **K-12 schools, childcare** and other youth settings (includes a note that updated K-12 schools guidance is forthcoming, pending updates for K-12 operational guidance from the CDC).

Additionally, masks are **required** for unvaccinated individuals** in indoor public settings and businesses (examples: retail, restaurants, theaters, family entertainment centers, meetings, state and local government offices serving the public).

VBS

From Michelle Sanderson: Just a friendly reminder to please RSVP for VBS so we can plan accordingly. It will be the week of **July 26th-30th** and will be from **9:30am - 11am**. Please take note of the shorter time period for this year. VBS is offered to Preschool - 6th grade. 7th grade and up are welcome to attend and help out too! Look for a signup sheet in the hallway at the building and an Evite is ready for you too if that's more convenient. Just click the link and rsvp. In the comment section of the Evite, please be sure to add names, grades and if you and/or your 7th-12 grader are helping out.

Thank you!

Culture Corner

"Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." Romans 12:2

Growing Up and Glowing Up

For many teens, the pressure to "glow up" during quarantine was acute; now that COVID restrictions are lifting, that pressure is spiking again. According to Urban Dictionary, glowing up refers to improving one's physical appearance, individual style, and overall attractiveness. Social media abounds with tips, tricks, and models to help "encourage" glow ups — but this encouragement is wreaking havoc on how many teens and pre-teens see themselves.

As Sarah Tong wrote in *The Black & White*, "Before quarantine, I had never felt especially concerned about my physical appearance. It was only through this new overexposure to tips and tricks on glowing-up that I became increasingly aware of 'flaws' that I had never even noticed before. Although I had always been athletic and healthy, that no longer felt like enough. My main focus now was to achieve the model-tier beauty standard these videos advertised."

The pressure to glow up affects boys as well. As one parent commented to us, "Seeing my eleven-year-old boy be so self-conscious is scaring me." So what are some principles for parents of faith to help (pre-)teens navigate this sort of pressure?

First, God calls our bodies good, and they are good because they are made in His image (Genesis 1:27). Second, God calls us to stewardship—and getting enough sleep, exercising, and eating healthy foods are part of how God designed us to thrive. But third, what we see online can set impossible standards, which almost never represent the whole picture of anyone's life. Fourth, there can be a link between glow-ups and eating disorders. Our hope here though, as always, is just to help get the conversation started. Here are some questions you might ask your teens:

- Have you felt any pressure to glow up?
- Where do you think the line is between taking good care of ourselves and becoming image-conscious in an unhealthy way?
- Do the accounts you follow tend to leave you feeling better or worse about yourself?

Film Review

FYI: The film adaptation of Lin Manuel Miranda's musical *In the Heights* is now streaming on HBO Max as well as in theaters. The movie looks like it will be a critical darling, with many rejoicing at the splashy, big dance numbers and enthusiastic performances featured in the film. We were able to preview the first 8 minutes of the PG-13 movie, which indicated there would be sexual innuendo and some language throughout. The plot of the Broadway original includes at least two main characters spending a night together, as well as a family conflict between a father and daughter.

From *Culture Translator*, June 11, 2021

Bits and Pieces

BY DAVID POSEY

“Just the right amount of wrong”

Recently I ran across an ad in a travel magazine that featured this sales pitch: “Come to _____ where there is *just the right amount of wrong*.” Guess what destination the ad referred to (*see below).

Morality & Maturity

Our eternal destiny depends, to some degree, on our ability to discern right from wrong (see Hebrews 5:14). Here are a few “rules” to apply to help us make proper choices.

We know or have reason to believe that an action is wrong when:

1. **It is specifically identified as right or wrong in scripture.**
2. **It violates a plainly stated *principle* in scripture.** For example, there are no texts that *specifically* mention, by name, drug abuse, spousal or child abuse, pornography (although the Greek word for “sexual immorality” is *porneia*), etc., but all of these are forbidden by some principle found in the Bible (e.g., pornography: I Thessalonians 4:3; Matthew 5:28; etc.).
3. **You are enslaved by it;** when something, even if not inherently wrong, dominates your thoughts, your time or your finances. I Corinthians 6:12; cf. Ephesians 5:15-16).
4. **Some thing (or some person) replaces God;** i.e., modern “idolatry” (see Colossians 3:5).
5. **You have doubts** about whether it’s right (Romans 14:23)
6. **It could lead someone to sin** (Romans 14:13-16; I Corinthians 8:4-13; 10:23-33).
7. **It demonstrates an inexcusable lack of growth and maturity** (Hebrews 5:11-14).

This is not an exhaustive list, but these guidelines cover most decisions we are faced with when trying to determine whether an action is right or wrong. They also keep directing us back to scripture. The other alternative is to allow culture to define right and wrong or to simply do what you feel like doing. But Paul warns us: “do not be foolish but *understand what the will of the Lord is*” (Ephesians 5:17).

I have a couple of additional thoughts on point number 7: A mature person is one who has reached an advanced state of mental, emotional and moral development. I Corinthians 14:20 says, “*Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature.*” And the writer of Hebrews rebuked those who had not reached the level of maturity that they should have, given the length of time they had been Christians:

About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. *Hebrews 5:11-14*

Typically, older teens, especially, want to be treated like adults. Parents, typically, say something like “*then act like an adult.*” Is it possible that our heavenly Father is saying the same thing to those of us who are adults, but are not progressing in the faith as expeditiously as we could? Instead of being a

Christian for 30 years, you can be a Christian for one year 30 times over. God expects us to grow (II Peter 3:18).

A mature person makes moral decisions very differently than an immature person. A mature Christian knows that all temptations come down to one: either obey God or obey self. And, a mature person always asks “why?” when confronted with a moral dilemma. For example, the debate about whether Christians “can” or “should” drink alcohol is likely to continue until the end of time. But a mature Christian asks “*why do I desire to drink; what value will it add to my life? Does this bring me closer to God and make me more fit for heaven?*” He doesn’t waste time judging others who choose differently; he simply asks that question as a check on his own motive and attitude.

Bearing the Cross

Someone on Twitter posted this:

“As a Christian, I can make one of three choices in life: I can choose to carry my cross, I can choose to drag my cross, or I can choose to sit and stare at my cross in self-pity. Regardless of my choice, my cross isn’t going anywhere.”

I was right with her until that last line. I’m not sure she understands what Jesus meant when he told us to “take up” our cross. Unfortunately, in our time, the saying, “*that’s my cross to bear*,” refers to our particular trials and difficulties that we face in life. But Jesus wasn’t talking about our personal burdens. Jesus was telling us that we must be willing to suffer — even *die* — for Christ (see Revelation 12:11). When Jesus “bore his cross” he died on it. That’s the cross Jesus talks about and you have a choice of whether to pick up that cross or not.

Wokeness

[If you are not aware of the definition of the current use of the term “wokeness” that’s OK. You can stop here.]

Someone said that the problem with “wokeness” is that you can’t nag people into good behavior. The “woke” culture, more often than not, majors in “virtue-signaling” and nagging others about their favorite “causes,” yet often not bothering to offer evidence for why other should get involved.

It happens in church, too. Some of us who grew up on the pew endured a lot of preaching when we were younger where it seems the primary approach was to try to shame (nag) us into good behavior. There was often a failure to answer the “why?” question. “Don’t go to dances!” they told us and most of us complied back then. But as we got older we began to ask the question, “why?” but we got no answer — just don’t dance. I sincerely believe we could have handled it if they broached the “lust” issue and taught us that certain kinds of dancing could promote it. I know that would have been a more difficult conversation back then but I wish they would have made the effort. In many cases, rules without dealing with the “why” is just another form of nagging.

* I’m sure you guessed: the city is *Las Vegas*