

August 28, 2022

The View

“Sirs, we wish to see Jesus.” — John 12:21

Welcome Visitors

Our goal at the Folsom church of Christ is to do everything according to God’s word, including respecting its silence.

We are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church; we have no earthly “headquarters.”

The five elders oversee this church and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily for the benefit of 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 the preacher or 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 when is passed.
We do not solicit donations from visitors. See page 4 for more information.**

Schedule

The Lord’s Day

9:30 AM Bible Classes

Auditorium: “Wisdom from Above”

Room 15/16: Old Testament Characters & Their Relationships)

Room 12: Young Adult Class: Proverbs

10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today: Scott Gardner

“When We Doubt”

Livestream at 10:30 <https://tinyurl.com/5f2cbm3y>

Bible Class @ 5 PM — Praying the Psalms (Auditorium)

High School Class, 5 PM @ David & Christie Posey’s home

Middle school class: monthly (contact Dan Stegall at 818-209-9810)

There are several on-going Bible classes in the homes of members. Check with David Posey or one of the other elders if you would like to join one of those classes.

Wednesday 7 PM @ Building

Bible classes for all ages

Auditorium: Wisdom from Above

Room 15/16: Old Testament Characters: Relationships

Room 12: Young Adults Class

Mark Your Calendars: November 13-16, 2022

“How We Got the Bible”

Mike Wilson, Santa Clara church of Christ

See schedule of lessons on page 3

NEWS, NOTES & QUOTES

What Counts with God?

Someone wrote, “Today I attended a small country church with my family. The preacher wasn’t famous, the singing was a little off-key, and nothing was flashy. But, the word was preached faithfully, the hospitality was warm, and God was honored. You don’t have to be awesome to be pleasing to God.”

Comment: I like this. There are many churches today where preachers — or “worship leaders” — are trying to be “awesome.” They dramatically “appear” on the stage, with smoke swirling about them, colored-filtered lights flashing and rock music blaring. What’s that all about? Whatever the motive, that doesn’t help people focus on God. Only the triune God is awesome. To churches who engage in this kind of activity, one author says, “You don’t think the world has infected your church? Cut out the music. Turn on all the lights — use normal light bulbs, please. Have a man stand in front of them and preach the Word. Try and sell that. See how many come back next Sunday.” — *John MacArthur*

Parenting

Spoiled children tend to have four primary things in common, though they don’t all have to be present at once:

1. They have few chores or other responsibilities,
2. There aren’t many rules that govern their behavior or schedules,
3. Parents and others lavish them with time and assistance, and
4. They have a lot of material possessions.

Several years ago an academic journal, using survey data from adults who had been overindulged as children, went so far as to refer to parental overindulgence of this sort as child neglect, given that it can hinder normal development.

See Proverbs 13:24; 22:15; 23:13-14. Some complain that this “rod” language in Proverbs is “old fashioned.” Maybe it is. But maybe that’s just what we need to get back to where we need to be. Instead of griping about older generation Christian parents who were “strict,” “fundamentalist,” or “overboard,” grown Christian kids should thank God their parents had the strength of character and conviction necessary to break the cycle of sin and say, “*This family will serve the Lord!*”

Gender Stuff: A Psychologist Really said this...

Psychologist Kerry McGregor from Boston Children’s Hospital actually said the following (see <https://pic.twitter.com/BIatsHFdkS>): “A good portion of children know as early as from the womb know that they are transgender.” She goes on to say, “sometimes parents might not understand but just be supportive.”

“Just be supportive” as Boston Children’s Hospital urges you to allow them to block your child’s puberty, cut off body parts, and sterilize them? Someone cleverly asked that if a child is sentient in the womb, then what does that say about abortion? But consistency is not important to those who call good evil and evil good (Isaiah 5:20). They arrogantly define what is right and wrong and if you don’t agree, you’re just a backward ignoramus. The real danger here though, besides the obvious, is the superior attitude of some people in the medical/psychological field that think they know what is best for your kids. Beware of anyone who says, “you may not understand, just accept our view of this matter.” *Yikes.*

This gender stuff is scary. A dad claims a doctor asked his 3-year-old if he’s a boy or a girl at a routine check-up. In another case, a prominent “trans-affirming” doctor says it’s okay to remove the breasts off of a teen girl because kids “most of the time make good decisions” and a girl can always get new breasts later if she wants.” How is this person still a “doctor”?

No Telling What You Might Hear

WHEN A PREACHER reads out of the Bible, I am sure that at least nine times out of ten the people who happen to be listening at all hear not what is really being read but only what they expect to hear read. And I think that what most people expect to hear read from the Bible is an edifying story, an uplifting thought, a moral lesson—something elevating, obvious, and boring. So that is exactly what very often they do hear. Only that is too bad because if you really listen—and maybe you have to forget that it is the Bible being read and a preacher who is reading it—*there is no telling what you might hear.* — *Fred Buechner*

“How We Got the Bible”

November 13-16, 2022

God Spoke — Sunday AM class period

The Concept of a Book — Sunday AM sermon

Transmission of the Text Down Through the Ages — Sunday PM Sermon

The Bible in the Middle Ages — Monday PM

An "English" Bible — Tuesday PM

The End Result: "the World's Greatest Book" — Wednesday PM

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water in his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you." "Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?" "I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The Cracked Pot



The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path. Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house." Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots. But if we will allow it, the Lord will use our flaws to grace His Father's table.

"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them..." *Romans 12:6*

Chinese Folklore