

May 28, 2023

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.**

Remember to send in your photos for the picture board to FolsomCOCphotos@gmail.com OR if you prefer, Adam, Betsy & Lisa are available to take your picture after the morning services on the next few Sundays.

Schedule

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM Bible Classes

Auditorium: "Love Your Bible" (Part II).

Young Adult Class (room 12): "A Study of Ruth, and 1 John: Trust & Love"

10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today

David Posey

"A Recipe for Living a Regret-Free Life"

Livestream at 9:30 & 10:30 <https://tinyurl.com/5f2cbm3y>

Bible Class: 5:00 PM @ the Building

"Praying the Psalms" (Auditorium)

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

Middle school class: monthly (contact David Sanderson (david.r.sanderson@intel.com)

or Seth Reagan (sethreagan@gmail.com)

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: Love Your Bible, Part II

Room 12: Young Adults Class: "A Study of Ruth, and 1 John: Trust & Love"

Articles published in the View reflect only the thoughts and opinions of the author alone, not necessarily the editor, the elders or any member of the church at Folsom.

What Should We Remember?

Memorial Day will be observed tomorrow in the United States. I'm resisting the temptation to scold people about turning it into "Hot Dogs and Ultimate Frisbee Day" but, for many, the day is more about hot dogs than memorializing those who have given their lives for our country. I wonder how many, even if they pray before they eat their hot dog, even thank God for their sacrifice? The bottom line is that we are free because many died to preserve our freedom. Unfortunately, many in our society today have forgotten that.

What kinds of things are worthy of memory? We all remember things we wish we could forget and forget things we wish we could remember. What should we remember? And what should we remember to forget?

Let's start with that last question. If you have been saved by grace, you should forget your past sins. Boy, that just rolls off the tongue so easily, doesn't it? Yet, is there anything more difficult for a Christian who really wants to serve the Lord? The apostle Paul recalled his sins and you can feel the regret and pain as he refers to himself as "the chief of sinners." Yet, no one writes more eloquently or frequently about the power of the gospel and the blessing of grace.

So, we must constantly remind ourselves to forget the past and "press on" (see Philippians 3:12-14). Since we can't forget completely, the best thing to do, when recalling past sins, is to remind ourselves of the grace of God which is greater than all of our sins put together. Read Romans 5. You should also remind yourself that your memory of those sins says something positive about you; it says you love God and realize that your sins are offensive to him. But also remember that a failure to let go of those past sins when they become paralyzing may indicate a failure of faith that God will do as he has promised (Romans 4:21).

We will also do ourselves a favor by forgetting the pain that others have caused us in the past. After all, what are you going to do? You can't get revenge; it's ungodly and dangerous: "The man who seeks revenge had better dig two graves," someone wisely said. More importantly, revenge is not permitted by God (Matthew 5:21ff) but reserved to Him (Romans 12:19ff.). And, what does anger do for you? It certainly doesn't achieve the righteousness of God (James 1:19-20).

OK, so what *should* we remember? On Monday, we should remember everyone who has given his or her life to keep us free. I don't want to turn this into a political rant, but recent events have reminded us that "power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely" (ascribed to Lord Acton). Governmental agencies and others think they are above the law and seek to limit our freedom. Men and women have died for that freedom; we should thank God

for them. But we should also thank those who put their reputation and careers on the line to preserve our freedoms and the freedom of the unborn and others who are powerless to protect themselves. That's worth remembering.

But, for Christians, there is one event that trumps everything else in the history of the world. This event dominates the Christian's perspective, whether he lives in freedom or under tyranny. Of course, I'm referring to the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. He was beaten and spit upon and abused in every way and then led off as if he was a criminal to Golgotha where He was nailed to a wooden cross. He was innocent of all wrong-doing; he never sinned, not even one time, yet He took the sins of the world upon Himself. That's worth remembering because even if we should lose all of our political and cultural freedom, we can still enjoy freedom in Christ. We can be "faithful unto death"

(Revelation 2:10) because heaven awaits us. That's only true because Christ died for us, and nothing else has the power to secure our eternal life.

I'm amazed and puzzled by the reluctance of some religion groups that call themselves "Christian" to practice the weekly observance of the Lord's Supper (see Acts 20:7). Yes, it's possible to do something so often that it becomes routine (remember the pledge of allegiance in elementary school every morning?). But the memorial of our Lord will never be routine among those who appreciate what Christ has done for them. It is the wharf and whoop, the center and circumference of the gospel, the good news upon which we base our hope. The resurrection, the forerunner of our hope, was only possible because Christ "learned obedience through the things he suffered" (Hebrews 5:8) and became "obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:8).

Our propensity to forget is a formidable obstacle to giving God the glory he deserves for what he has done in Christ. We need to work at it. Paul said the death and resurrection of our Lord are matters of "first importance" (I Corinthians 15:3) and, in I Corinthians 2:2, he said, "I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified."

In the weekly memorial called "the Lord's Supper," we recall our sin and focus on our Savior experiencing unbearable agony to save us from the agony of everlasting destruction. Remember the many who died to preserve our freedom. But especially remember the one who died to save our souls.

DAVID POSEY

"...for Christians, there is one event that trumps everything else in the history of the world. This event dominates the Christian's perspective, whether he lives in freedom or under tyranny."

Culture & the Christian

Social Media Warning (Again)

The Surgeon General has issued a warning on the dangers of social media for teenagers.

Why the alarm bell is reaching a fever pitch: People have been wary of social media's impact on developing brains for two decades—so why are highly-visible tone setters, like the Surgeon General and the [American Psychological Association](#), issuing big, sweeping statements now? Part of it could be because we are getting more quality data on how social media shapes a young person's brain. One newer study that's been getting some buzz suggests that individuals who received their first smartphone at a later age have better mental health as young adults. Several big bills that aim to protect minors online will be voted on this year as tech giants face increased scrutiny over their safeguards (or lack thereof), for younger users. Kids growing up even a decade from now may encounter a completely different digital landscape when it's their turn to learn about online literacy.



Facebook Babies

Teens who were born during the heyday of Facebook and Instagram oversharing are now horrified to discover what's been posted about their childhoods. **Why it's becoming a rite of passage:** It's always been a little weird to realize that your parents are real people, completely separate from you, with a backstory that dates back before you were cognizant. But for a generation that is discovering their parent's social media accounts, that realization

The subhead in the Atlantic article says "How would you feel if millions of people watched your childhood tantrums?"

can be a lot more complicated. People who posted baby photos, embarrassing stories, or complaints about their early parenting experiences a decade ago might now have a mortified teen on their hands. An article in The Atlantic describes how young people often joke about the embarrassment of their friends finding their parent's Facebook page – because many are filled with pictures and videos of themselves from when they were younger. Teens understand that what's posted on the internet will live on as a public record, and often try to adjust their content accordingly. Posts that depict their early lives may be part of their parent's personal journey, but ultimately, those baby photos and funny toddler stories belong to them just as much, if not more. **Start the conversation:** *Have you ever found something embarrassing posted about you online? How did you handle it?*

– Cultural Translator, May 26, 2023



Classes Next Quarter: Begins July 2nd

There will be **two adult classes and one young adult class** next quarter:

(1) Auditorium: "Jesus at work in the Gospels. How did Jesus spend His time? How did He interact with people when He was not performing miracles? What lessons can we draw from His examples?"

(2) Room 15/16 – Relationships I: "Building a Great Marriage."

If interested, you must **sign-up for this class.** The class is open to any-

one who is interested in improving their marriage. **However, there is limited classroom space** so we will give priority to those who have been married fewer years over those married longer.

If you are interested in attending, text or email David Posey at (530) 558-5057 or dpaulposey@mac.com.

Young adult class: "Jesus: making the best use of the time" Ephesians 5:15-17.

Also, remember that the **Junior High, High School, Young Adult, and the two adult classes will only meet on Sundays during the summer quarter. On Wednesdays everyone from 6th grade up will be in the auditorium for a special summer program focused on singing (more to come on that.**

If you have any questions do not hesitate to ask one of the elders.