



Truth for Today

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Modesty 101

by Don Hooton

Styles change. What women *and men* wear today would shock most, if not all, a hundred years ago. And cultures do form descriptions of styles and businesses will market their products around cultural ideals.

But Christians should be different. We called to “be separate from them” (2Corinthians 6:17) and to be “holy in all your conduct” (1Peter 1:16). We should shine as beacons of light that “renounce ungodliness and worldly passions” as the “purified people” God has called to be (Titus 2:12). **“This is the will of God, your sanctification, that you abstain from sexual immorality” and “control [your] own body in holiness and honor” that “no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter” for “God has not called you for impurity.”** And “whoever disregards this, disregards God” (1Thessalonians 4:1-8).

This most certainly affects what we commonly call modesty. Modesty is defined as “1) the quality of being modest; freedom from vanity, boastfulness, etc. 2) regard for decency of behavior, speech, dress, etc., 3) simplicity; moderation (dictionary.com). According to *Vine’s*, the word translated “respectable” in 1Timothy 2:9 (ESV) is *kosmious*, which means orderly, well-arranged, seemly, or modest. The Greek word translated “modesty” (ESV) or “shamefastness” (KJV) is *aidos*, which means having a sense of shame, modesty, and reverence. A shamefaced person can blush when faced with things that are irreverent or immodest.

Summer has arrived. The flowers are blooming. Birds are singing. Pollen is spreading. And people are wearing fewer clothes – even in the pandemic. And the Bible does have something to say about this.

The first is **1Timothy 2:9-10**. Paul writes, *“I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God”* (NIV). In the NASB, the last clause is *“as befits women making a claim to godliness.”* What this means is that what we say we are – our clothing should say as well. What we wear must be “modest” or “proper” (NASB). According to *Vine’s Expository Dictionary*, it means, “orderly, well-arranged, decent, modest” (akin to *kosmos*, in its primary sense as “harmonious arrangement, adornment;” . . . is used in 1Ti 2:9 of the apparel with which Christian women are to adorn themselves.”

While the line is not drawn, the demand is. Everyone must wear clothes that the honest heart could call “modest” with no “it’s the other person’s problem” excuses. It should be worn “with decency and propriety” *which can only be judged by the observ-*

ers. It must not swarm with worldliness but with an attestation of good deeds and godliness. I’m not sure this is as hard as some people make it. However, the responsibility is on the person choosing the clothes to wear what is modest and wear it so others see us as decently dressing with propriety.

The second is **1Peter 3:3-4**. Peter writes, *“Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear—but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit”* (ESV). Emphasis on external beauty only attracts external seekers. Christians, especially Christian young people, need to appreciate that *their good works* make them attractive. If we adorned our spirit to be gentle and quiet as much as the world adorns itself in front of the mirror primping, what an amazing person we would really be. *Are we not hiding our true spirit by displaying our flesh?*

Another is **Romans 13:14**. Paul wrote: *“But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the lust of the flesh.”* On one hand, it is true that no matter how you dress, I need to work on my own lust so that I stay pure. However, based on this verse, if you dress in a way that triggers me, I must stay away from you. If you act or dress in a way that forces me to stay away, how is that putting on the Lord? Is that the way you see the Lord acting toward the people trying to do right? Do you really want to do that to our relationship?

What do you set out to do when you buy your clothes and wear them? Let’s make sure we are *honest*. When we are wearing skintight clothes, bikinis, cleavage-revealing blouses, muscle-defining shirts, thigh-displaying skirts, what is our goal? Is there part of us that wants to be lusted after? If so, we need to reconsider our dress because that is not dressing for godliness.

Last is **Galatians 5:19**. In the works of the flesh list, Paul says sensuality (licentiousness, lasciviousness) that will keep us from the kingdom of God. Sensuality refers to activity that promotes, indicates and arouses sexual desire. What does our dress say about sexual desire? Is our dress intended to promote sexual desire? We need to take care. Certainly, some are so given to their lusts that no matter what we wear, they will be provoked to sin. We are not charged with making sure everyone else keeps their lust under control. However, we must make sure we are being completely honest about the way we dress. Are we appealing to the senses? Perhaps a better question is not are we intending to arouse sexual desire, but are we intending not to arouse sexual desire.

If we get our heart right, we’ll get our dress right. And when our dress is right, it professes the godliness we have been called to live in. What are you professing this summer?

NEWS & NOTES

UPDATED PRAYER LIST

- **Mark Birdwell** will have more tests (cat scans) for follow-up after he injured his ribs.
- Special prayers for **Brenda Swann** whose son is greatly concerned about her being out with the spike in COVID and will not allow her to leave for services.
- **Keith Arrants'** niece, Michelle, is in a California ER on a ventilator after a COVID19 diagnosis.
- For those who prayed for the return of the daughter of **John Beighle's** friend, Charlie King, Valerie is now home and safe.
- **Isaac Crawford's** dad had a mini-stroke with some memory and motor skill issues. Isaac and Darnell are spending weekends to help his mother.
- **Erin Dulin's** grandmother passed away Friday at 98 after a heart attack. Arrangements pending.
- **Craig Preuss'** dad, Arthur, has scheduled cancer surgery for early August.
- **Dehbrenda Preuss'** dad, Bill Harrison is still undergoing treatments and not feeling well.
- Connor Foster, boyfriend of **Preuss' daughter Lindsay**, had a tracheostomy on Tuesday but still struggles with oxygen and heart rate and remains on the ventilator.
- **Cindy Via's** brother, Ron Morse, had eye surgery Monday. Surgery went well and he waits 2-3 weeks to see if he will regain any eyesight in his right eye.
- **ECONOMIC CHALLENGES.** There are still some of our church family who have had pay-cuts, furloughs and job loss. Please let the Elders know. There are many who are ready to help.

—See Enews for Ongoing Prayer List

MEETINGS, EVENTS, SINGINGS & STUDIES

- Sunday Worship Assemblies
 - Reserved seating for members and those

who regularly attend with us. Please contact an elder if there is any change planned in upcoming weeks: if you 1) will be out of town, 2) are changing your time slot (from last Sunday) or, 3) if you will have more than your family.

- KIDzONLY Summer BIBLE CLASSES | LiveStream Sundays, 8:00 a.m.
 - **BIBLE CLASS MATERIAL is available for parent pickup for graded classes from preschool through junior high in the hallway outside of classroom 1.**
- TEEN Summer BIBLE CLASS | Zoom Sundays, TBA.
- Summer ADULT CLASSES
 - *Songs Outside The Psalter* | LiveStream Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
 - *Psalms 119 | The Psalm of the Word* | LiveStream Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.
- BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES | will be postponed and resumed at a later date.
- 2:52 Kids Class [2-12] | (TBA)
- TEENS STUDY [13-18] | (TBA)
- YOUNG ADULTS | (TBA)
- TEEN DEVO [12-18] | (TBA)
- ADULT STUDY [30/40] | (TBA)
- BARNABAS GROUP | See Leo Betancourt
- WORKDAY | 8/1, 8-10 am
- YOUTH LECTURES | will be only a virtual event on Sat, Aug 8.
- MEETING with Ben Hall | 9/13-16
- WOMEN'S DAY with TBA | 10/10
- MEN'S DAY with David McClister | 11/7

DIRECTORY UPDATES

- **We would like all families** to update their information and ALL worship leaders to do the same. If you have any questions about the DIRECTORY application of our website, be sure to see **Brian Clark**. he most recent printed directory is in the foyer for members.
- We **rejoice** with the **DULIN** family in **Ethan's**

decision to become a Christian and be baptized last Thursday!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **WOULD YOU TEACH?** Contact John Beighle for info on teaching in September.
- **VOLUNTEER SIGN UPS.** See the Monthly Assignments and let Barrett Blankenship know if you cannot fulfill an assignment.
- **WOULD YOU ENCOURAGE?** See Leo Betancourt about getting involved in Barnabus Group.
- **HOSPITALITY?** Marissa Suarez will coordinate food for members who need assistance during an extended recovery period after surgery or for the family at a funeral. **We need a new volunteer to begin July through December.**

WEEKLY BIBLE READING

- **Week Thirty** (beginning 7/26)
 - Read Psalm 29, 79, 129
 - Memorize Psalm 29:1-2
- **Signup for weekly reminders at <https://www.remind.com/join/weeklymemo>**

Attendance	InPerson Average Last-Month	Virtual Average Last-Month	InPerson Last Week	Virtual Views Last Week
KidzOnly Bible Class	n/a	4	n/a	4
High School ZOOM	n/a		n/a	n/a
Sunday Adult Class	n/a	29	n/a	2
Sunday Worship AM	135	48	101	40
Sunday Worship PM	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wednesday PM	n/a	12	n/a	13

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE & WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS	8:30 AM July 26	10:00 AM July 26	Contact Information
<i>Communion Preparation</i>	G/L Chapman	G/L Chapman	Elders
<i>Sound Booth</i>	C. Latson	C. Latson	Keith Arrants 936.582.1244
<i>Foyer 1/Greeting</i>	A. Bohanan	S. Jones	George Chapman 281.298.1303
<i>Foyer 2/Usher</i>	L. Betancourt	A. Suarez	Norman Davis 832.326.2966
<i>SongLeading</i>	A. Bohanan	D. Haas	Don Hooton 936.443.6230
<i>1st Prayer</i>	B. Blankenship	N. Shows	Deacons
<i>Scripture Reading</i>	J. Dulin — Gen 2:7-25	T. Chandler — Luke 23:1-25	John Beighle 806.367.3389
<i>Communion</i>	N. Davis	B. Cleek	Adam Bohanan 281.798.1093
<i>Bread</i>	n/a	n/a	Brian Clark 281.513.0706
<i>Fruit of Vine</i>	n/a	n/a	Gary LeBlanc 281.292.0262
<i>Contribution</i>	n/a	n/a	Craig Preuss 832.477.0578
<i>Assist</i>	n/a	n/a	Evangelists
<i>Assist</i>	n/a	n/a	Don Hooton 936.443.6230
<i>Preaching</i>	D. Hooton	D. Hooton	Website
<i>2nd Prayer</i>	R. Randow	A. Suarez	www.woodlandschurchofchrist.org
<i>Announcements</i>	G. Chapman	H. Clark	Office Phone
<i>InterService Clean—Foyer/Bath</i>	K/N Davis	B/T Clark	281.367.2099
<i>InterService Clean—Auditorium</i>	N. Enright	N/C Shows	Church Email
<i>Doors Open @8 Lockup @11:30</i>	S. Dargan	G. Chapman	woodlandschurchofchrist@gmail.com