

Church and Family

Local churches in the 1st century were made up, in part, of families: dads, moms, and children. Let's consider what local churches and families owe each other.

First, what does the local church owe the family. Families should not expect the local church to raise their kids or provide food and entertainment for their kids; that's the parent's job.

Families should expect the local church to have a pure membership (1 Corinthians 5:6), an atmosphere conducive of scriptural worship (Colossians 3:17), opportunities for service (Ephesians 4:16), and qualified leadership (Philippians 1:1).

Second, what do families owe the local church? Local churches should expect families to join with commitment (Acts 2:47; 9:26-28), to be encouraging (Acts 21:4-6), to live godly lives throughout the week (Romans 12:1-2, Titus 2:11-12), and to love their brethren and be loyal to them (Romans 12:10).

Local churches should also expect their families to be hard-working in the church (Romans 12:11). Families should give their contribution (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), work to be leaders (1 Timothy 3:1-13), attend regularly (Hebrews 10:24-25), and grow spiritually (2 Peter 1:5ff). Let's all work together, local church and family, to be unified and to grow to heaven.

- Chris Reeves -

News & Notes

Please mark your calendar with the following important dates...

March 18: Song practice; 5 pm; church building

April 5-8: Gospel meeting with John Gentry

June 4-8: VBS (tentative)

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
290 Warfield Blvd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

What's So Good About the Good News?

When was the last time you heard some “good news”? We all like to hear good news don't we? We need more good news! Because we live in a world where many bad things are going on like school shootings, etc., it would be nice to hear some good news.

The “gospel” is good news. The word “gospel” (Greek *euangelion*) in the New Testament means “good news” or “good tidings”. The “eu” prefix in the word above means “good” or “well”. When someone is “preaching” (Greek *euangelizo*), it means he is “proclaiming good news or glad tidings”. The “evangelist” (Greek *euangelistes*) is the one who proclaims the “good news” (Ephesians 4:11; 2 Timothy 4:5). So, the evangelist (*euangelistes*) is preaching (*euangelizo*) the gospel (*euangelion*). Good, good, good!

We hear the word “gospel” a lot, but do we know what it means? In this study, we will learn what it means for the gospel to be good news. The gospel is “good news” for four reasons.

First, the gospel is good because it is a “good” gift from heaven.

The gospel is a good gift from a good God in heaven (James 1:17). Our English word “gospel” originally came from the old Anglo-Saxon word, “God-spell,”

meaning “God’s story”.

The gospel is the “gospel of God” because it originates from God (Romans 1:1; 15:16; 2 Corinthians 11:7; 1 Thessalonians 2:8-9). The gospel is the “gospel of Christ” because it is about the salvation that Jesus Christ provides (Romans 1:9; 15:19; 2 Corinthians 2:12; 9:13; 10:14; Galatians 1:6-7, 11-12; Philippians 1:27; 1 Thessalonians 3:2; 2 Thessalonians 1:8). The gospel is the gospel that was preached “by the Holy Spirit sent forth from heaven” (1 Peter 1:12). Friend, God designed the gospel, and He will not give us anything that is not good for us.

Second, the gospel is good because it is the “good” news about salvation.

The gospel is good news about salvation (Ephesians 1:13). It is the good news about Jesus (Acts 5:42; 8:35; 11:20; 17:18; Galatians 1:16,23; Ephesians 3:8), good news about the kingdom of God (Acts 8:12), good news about God’s promises (Acts 13:32; see also Gal.3:8), good news about God’s grace (Acts 20:24), good news about the death, burial, resurrection, and witnessing of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-5; 2 Timothy 2:8).

What else? The gospel is the good news about the glory of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:3-6; 2 Thessalonians 2:14; 1 Timothy 1:11), the good news about the truth (Galatians 2:5; Colossians 1:5), the good news about unity (Ephesians 3:6), the good news about peace

(Ephesians 2:17; 6:15; see also Acts 10:36), and the good news about spiritual life and immortality (2 Timothy 1:10). Friend, we can be saved from sin. Now that’s good news!

Third, the gospel is good because it puts us in “good” standing with God.

We are begotten or born again through the gospel (1 Cor.4:15). In order to be born again, there are facts about Jesus to be believed (1 Corinthians 15:1-5), there are commands of Jesus to be obeyed (2 Thessalonians 1:8; 1 Peter 4:17), and there are promises from Jesus to be accepted (Colossians 1:23).

Fourth, the gospel is good because it makes us a “good” person around others.

The gospel provides a way to walk uprightly according to the truth in a sinful world (Galatians 2:14). The gospel offers a manner of life that is worthy of God’s calling (Philippians 1:27).

Want some good news? Why not repent of your sins, believe and confess that Jesus is the Christ, and be baptized (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 14:15; 15:7; Romans 10:16)? You can then live a daily life of sacrifice for the gospel (Mark 8:34-35; 10:29). Friend, don’t be shamed of the gospel (Romans 1:16), obey it today?