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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.
Sonshiners: 4:45pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

Lessons from John – Lesson 13
The Resurrection
(John 20:24-28)

PM Sermon

Daniel – Lesson 7

Sunday AM Bible Class:

D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

Facing Challenges in 2021 & Beyond
– R. Earl

The Gospel of Christ TV Program

on Saturday @ 7:30am on Channel 53

BibleWayMediaMedia.org

Daily podcasts available on our website
& mobile app

The Oologah church of Christ only uses
the **KJV, NKJV or ASV** translation of
the Bible in classes & sermons.

The Oologah Informer

January 3rd, 2021

Thoughts from the Preacher

“Leaf”

“I am going to turn over a new leaf in the new year.”

This is a common phrase this time of year.

How about the Christian who is striving to be a better servant of Christ?

Will it be a new life, or the other side of the same old leaf?

“THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT”

Larry Yarber

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Galatians 5:22-23). Fruit in this scripture is singular. This means that if one has the fruit of the Spirit in themselves that they possess all of the above attributes. If we do not have any one of these attributes within, then we do not possess the fruit of the Spirit. Let’s note carefully, “the fruit of the Spirit.”

Love is more than just lip service. Jesus said unto His disciples, “If ye love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). By inspiration, John penned, “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and his commandments are not grievous” (1st John 5:3). Again, Jesus said, “If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love” (John 15:10), and again, “Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you” (John 15:14). One cannot possess the love of God without keeping His commandments. We are not a friend of God unless we keep His commandments. The love of God is centered around the keeping of His commandments. Jesus asked of His own people, “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say” (Luke 6:46)? He also said, “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 7:21). Do we really love God, or are we just offering Him lip service?

Love for our fellowman is more than lip service. Jesus told His disciples, “A new commandment I give unto you. That ye love one another: as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one to another” (John 13:34-35). He also told them, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13). By inspiration, James asked, “If a brother or sister be naked and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye

give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit” (James 2:15-16)? John stated, and then asked, “But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth” (1st John 3:17-18). Do we really love our brethren, or do we just give Him lip service?

Love for mankind, in general, is more than lip service. When asked by one of the Pharisaical lawyers, which commandment was greater than all, “Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40). By inspiration, Paul penned, “For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself” (Galatians 5:14). Again, Paul wrote to in Rome, “Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law” (Romans 13:8-10). Jesus took our love one step further when, “He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep” (John 21:17). Friends, if we really love our fellowman, we will take the time to teach him the gospel before it is everlasting too late. Do we really love our fellowman? Let us ask ourselves, “Does the fruit of the Spirit abide in me”?

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Galatians 5:22-23).