

The Oologah Informer

March 16th, 2014

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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

Sermon Series: The Sermon on the Mount – Lesson 1
Matthew 5:1-4

PM Sermon:

Putting God First

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The Book of Joshua – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

When Christians Sin - Swearingen

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

Tulsa KWHB TV 47
Sunday mornings at 7:30am

Responding to Regret

Randall Evans

Have you ever done something that you later regretted? Have you ever done something and regretted it the moment you did it? Have you ever regretted something even before you did it, but then went ahead and did it anyway? The answer to all three questions for most of us is, yes. The question is not will we have regrets, but rather how do we deal with those regrets? Regret is a very natural feeling, and it can be useful for our lives, but also dangerous depending on how we handle it.

Demonstration of Regret

We will note two demonstrations of regret in the scriptures.

The first is Judas. Judas Iscariot was one of the original 12 apostles. The apostles worked hand in hand with Jesus. They were chosen by Him, they listened to His teachings, they traveled together, ate meals together, and certainly experienced a close kinship. It is within this context that we find Judas and his betrayal particularly troubling. How could he betray one with whom he was so close? Regardless, Judas made the decision to betray Jesus, but then he experienced regret. Matthew 27:3-4 says, "Then Judas, which betrayed Him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood."

The second demonstration of regret is found in Matthew 21:28-31, "A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work today in my vineyard. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I will go sir; and went not. Whether of them twain did the will of the father?" The first son said he would not go, but he regretted his decision, changed his mind, and went.

Dealing with Regret

Both Judas and the penitent son experienced regret. But how they dealt with that regret was very different. Judas, sorely regretted betraying our Lord, but instead of seeking to make things right, he hung himself at perhaps his life's lowest point (Matt. 27:5). But what about the penitent son? He regretted his decision to disobey his father, and he repented of that decision and went to work. He did not get caught up in regret and make the problem worse. He simply corrected the problem and pressed on in obedience. The two comparisons are vastly different in their scope of importance, but the similarity between the two stands. Both men sinned, both experienced regret, but their reactions to their sins made all the difference. We can learn a valuable lesson from this in reference to our own regrets. We will all miss the mark from time to time, and when we do we should experience regret. However, when regret comes, our best option is to repent of our sins, thus defeating them, instead of loathing them and letting them defeat us. This is how we should all respond to regret. All erring children of God

should repent (Jas. 5:19-20). The alien sinner must Believe in Christ, Repent of every sin, Confess his faith in Christ before men and then be Immersed into Christ for the remission of his past sins (John 8:21,24; Luke 13:3,5; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-6).