

Let's Be Sincere Followers Of Christ!

By Mike Riley

We've all met scoffers who thoughtlessly parrot the phrase, "The church is full of hypocrites!" But let's not be thoughtless in our response and dismiss such pronouncements without taking heed lest they be true.

Have we ever been like the Christian mother who glanced through her window, only to see a nosy, noisy neighbor approaching her door? Her young, impressionable children heard her as she growled, "Oh, no — not her again!" Whereupon she opened the door and insincerely exclaimed, "How very nice to see you!"

There's a saying that says, "A hypocrite will often pray on his knees on Sunday, and prey on his neighbors on Monday." The opponents of Christianity may not be so much against Christ as they are against the hypocrisy of His followers. Ironically, it hasn't occurred to them that no one was more opposed to hypocrisy than Jesus (cf. Matthew 6:2; Matthew 6:5; Matthew 6:16-18; Matthew 23:13-15; Matthew 23:23-29).

By our lips and by the example our daily living produces, we sometimes teach a mixed message. In Matthew 23:1-15, Jesus described the hypocritical teachers of the law and warned His disciples, "Do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do" (Matthew 23:3).

God forbid that some opponent of Christ would be influenced by any careless hypocrisy in our lives. As we live before others, let our prayer be "Lord, help us to be sincere followers of Thee, and sincere proclaimers of Thy Word" (cf. Joshua 24:14; 2 Corinthians 1:11-12; 2 Corinthians 2:14-17; Titus 2:6-8 KJV).



STERLINGTON Church of Christ



P.O. Box 82
1095 Highway 2
Sterlington, Louisiana 71280
www.sterlingtoncoc.com

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Elders:

Todd Chapman
Paul Simpson

Deacons:

Wayne Fowler
Billy Granger

Preacher:

David Garris
Buddy Hollis

Those to Serve Today

Announcements- Travis Rogers **Opening Prayer-** Paul Simpson

Communion- Todd Chapman **Closing Prayer-** Damien Miller

August 27th

Announcements- Todd Chapman **Opening prayer-** Ronnie Hayes

Communion- Jerry McDonald **Closing Prayer-** Lyle Russell

Announcements

—**Let's Be Encouragers!** A friend of Whitney Chapman is serving in the military, his address is:

PFC, **Blaine Wilson**, RN451
DCO 1-50 ITB
Bldg 3585
9597 Second Armored Division Rd
Ft Moore, GA 31905

—**Mini-Ladies Day:** Our next Ladies' Day is scheduled for Sept. 16th. Lunch will be provided. More details to come.

—**Question & Answer Series:** Our next Question and Answer Series will be scheduled when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

—**Children's Home Collection:** Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer. **The next pick-up is scheduled for Sept 30th.**

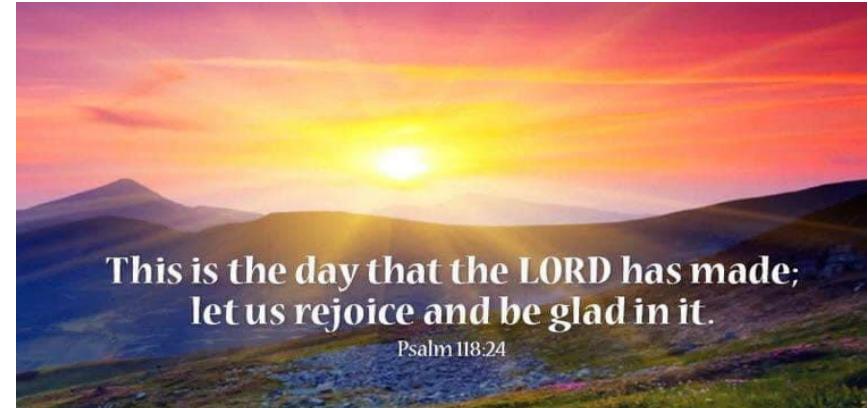
Please Pray For:

Donna Llewellyn, Joanne Randolph, John McDaniel, Gena Granger, Brax Williams, Jim Rhodes, Luckie Nappier, Kate Heavener, Rick Whittle, Carolyn Jones's granddaughter Emma, Steve Torres, Billy Granger.

Bereaved: Families of Fannie Jo Donavon, Cathy Allen, Chris Switzer, Charlie McDaniel Jr.

Continue to Pray For:

Dwain Flowers, Susie McGough, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James & Lorene Johnson, Bobby Barker, Gail Sewell, Renee Gee, Malea Zuber, Bobby Simmons, Tricia Muse, Elizabeth Hollis, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



August birthdays

- 2 - Lisa Guice
- 2 - Larry Silmon
- 4 - Brenda Fricke
- 6 - Sandy Van Loon
- 8 - Mandy Magee
- 8 - Travis Rodgers
- 20 - Leo Goodwin
- 26 - Brandon Rogers
- 30 - David Garris

August anniversaries

- 3 - Paul and Wanda Simpson
- 13 - Jerry and Joyce McDonald
- 14 - James and Lorene Johnson
- 20 - Wes and Whitney Chapman

