



It's the Church's Responsibility to Meet My Needs

by Stan Mitchell

How many times I have heard someone say: "I left that church because they weren't meeting my needs."

The thing I'm struggling with is the vision of a church as a place where our needs ought to be met, as if we were entering a shop, then storming out because the service did not meet our expectations. All of which begs the question: Is the purpose of a church to meet my needs? Is that why we join a church – in order to be served?

You are aware that service is the Christian model. Jesus tells his disciples that though the way of the world is to demand things of others, "It shall not be so with you" (Matthew 20:25-28). When our model of church resembles worldly models, it is time to re-evaluate!

We do not draw our view of the church from military, political or business models! Greatness in the church lies not in calling the shots but in service. The real model is that of Jesus – the greatest servant of all. He declares that "the greatest among us" would be the one who serves the most (Matthew 23:11,12).

In the upside down world of Christianity, leadership is service, greatness is humility. In the Christian system, we "consider others as better" than ourselves, we "look not only" to our interests but to the interests of others (Philippians 2:3,4).

When we think of leadership in the church, the sound of water in a basin should fill our ears (John 13:12-14). To slightly misquote John F. Kennedy, we should "Ask not what your church can do for you, ask what you can do for your church."

Folks, service is not one of the ministries of the church; service is what Christians do!

I get it. Jesus is the loving, compassionate savior and the church is the collection of mistake-prone, flawed people who claim to follow him. I am not claiming that the church is perfect. I am claiming that the church is deeply valued by God! He shed his blood for it (Acts 20:28; Ephesians 5:25). The church is his radiant bride. The Lord lovingly and sacrificially gave himself for her (Ephesians 5:27).

We see a bunch of people who didn't meet our expectations; God sees his beautiful bride. Is God's love blind? Actually, no, love is truly love only if it loves in spite of imperfections.

Here are some practical suggestions

- Our contribution need not be big and flashy. Even a cup of water is noted by the Lord (Matthew 10:42).
- There doesn't have to be a program. We can simply do something good for someone else.
- But we can help by supporting church programs.
- Serving is something everyone – the young, the old, the shy – can do.
- Encouraging is a ministry (Acts 4:36,37). The church needs another Barnabas.

Someone says, "But I don't owe those people a thing!" (Well, we'll ignore a rather poor attitude toward your brethren).

Make no mistake, we do owe someone. We were "bought at a price" (1 Corinthians 6:20). In fact, the Lord calls on us to "lay our lives down for our brothers" (1 John 3:16).

The way we serve each other is the way we serve God. We do not serve in a vacuum; we serve in a church.

– Stan Mitchell (NOT our beloved songleader and dentist here at Fayetteville!) preaches for the Red Walnut church of Christ near Henderson, Tennessee, and teaches Bible at Freed-Hardeman University. This article comes to us by way of [Forthright Magazine](http://www.forthright.net). www.forthright.net

Heading For The Goal

by Dave Rogers

In the fall of 1993, a rather humorous news item in the sports sections of many newspapers noted that “anybody” could score a touchdown in professional football; even a 315 pound lineman. Now it wasn’t what you might think; this was not a case of desperation, nor a novel new play to confuse the opposing team. The offense simply fumbled the ball near their own goal, and this defensive lineman picked it up and rambled 17 yards into the end zone to score. Need we add that he was excited?

The point here is really very simple: You don’t have to be a “specialist” to reach the goal! This man’s normal “job” was not to carry the ball, but to prevent it from being carried. When opportunity presented **him** with the football, however, this “non-specialist” scored for his team!

This man’s experience spotlights the way we ought to be living **as Christians**; we are not all elders, or deacons, or preachers, or authorities on “personal work.” By being ready to seize the occasion however, we may have the opportunity to do great works in the kingdom simply because we are “in the right place at the right time.” What made the man in our illustration a hero was the fact that he knew what to do when opportunity “knocked.” We each need to ask ourselves if **we** know what to do when (spiritual) opportunities arise. It is important for us to realize that Jesus did **NOT** say “Sit down, and I will send people for you to teach.” Instead, He said “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations” (Matthew 28:19). Too often, saints lose “golden” opportunities to teach the lost because we are not **ready** when they come along. Until we have a firm sense of our goal, we will not be able to efficiently utilize our opportunities.

Brothers and sisters, we ought to be like Paul, who wrote “I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14). The word translated as **press** literally means “to persecute.” When Paul used it here, he was describing how doggedly he kept to his course of faithfulness in Christ. It was as if he was trying to stick close enough to the goal to smother it. This was no “part-time” effort with Paul, but a full-time commitment! **So should it be with us!**

You don’t have to be a wonderful public speaker, or an expert “personal worker” to teach someone about salvation; you just have to be willing to grab the chances that come your way. Sharing what you know about how to become a Christian imitates the work of our Master! Matthew, Mark, Luke and John **all** show more private teaching situations with the Lord than public ones. During this week, chances are that you will encounter someone who is interested in spiritual matters: **Will you be willing to “scoop up the ball and run for the goal?”**

Namesake

by Steve Higginbotham

It’s difficult to receive correction, isn’t it? It’s easy when being corrected to fall into judging the person’s motives for correcting us, taking offense at the way they corrected us, and searching out inconsistencies and errors in the life of the one correcting us.

But I guess that’s why David was said to be a “man after God’s own heart” (1 Samuel 13:14). You see, David faced the stinging rebuke by the prophet, Nathan. In fact, Nathan set him up in such a way that David had to have been humiliated and embarrassed. But what did King David do? Did he criticize Nathan for the way he rebuked him? No. Did he make excuses for his conduct? No. Did he seek out a way to discredit Nathan? No.

Do you know what King David did? He named a son after Nathan! Check it out (1 Chronicles 3:5). Not only did David not take offense at what Nathan did to him, he later named one of his son’s “Nathan.” That’s true humility and reflects a genuine desire to be right with God. David didn’t hate Nathan for his rebuke, he loved him for it.

Friends, those who have the courage to confront you for your own good aren’t worthy of our hatred or vengeance. In fact, in David’s case, his confronter was worthy of “namesake.” Give it some thought.

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Family Matters

Bob Howell – Started chemo treatments last week.

Ruby Fowler – Is home recovering from a broken leg.

Bill Croix – Is in Piedmont Fayette Hospital, room 231.

Carmen Valencia – (mother of a visitor, Juan) has kidney cancer. Her address is 671 West Sixth St, Apt. B, Tustin, CA 92780.

Butch/Joann Trawick – Butch broke bones in both feet in a fall about 6 weeks ago, and Joann broke two toes last week.

Elizabeth Jimenez – (Pelfrey's daughter) was due to be induced for childbirth last Thursday.

Members With Health Problems: Bill Benton, Shirley Jones, Lucille Amon, Becky Higginbotham, Marlene Etheridge, RuPearl Sharpe, Mattie Williams, Sally Wallace, Brenda Mitchell, Equillar Butler, Bernice Gillespie, Maylon Swann, Hick & Estell Higginbotham, Una Fortson, David & Shirley Lee, Butch & Joann Trawick, Forrest & Burma Chapman

Shut-ins: Valorye Whittaker, Annette Benefield, Lillian Gray, David Nash, Audrey Shaw, Jane Lankford, Joe Clark & Frances Elder

Others With Health Problems: Terry Crump, Carol Bomas (Charity Nash's aunt), Cathy Cavenden (Tiffany Durden's M-i-L), Suzanne Oderry (friend of Gayle Pelfrey), Dylan Carter (11 month-old daughter of the Hagins' friends), Loretta Russell (Ray's mother), Walter Campbell (Sylvester's brother), Joyce Greene (Denise's mother), Pamela Morris (Mitchell's friend), Nelda Hayes (Jack Sorrell's aunt), Tom Holcomb and Jean Benefield (Annette Benefield's Son-i-L and D-i-L), Nancy Ford (Joann Crook's sister), Virginia Poskevich (David's mother), Xernonia Fortson (Una's daughter), Eddie & Lil Cauthen (Joan Poskevich's B-i-L/Sis-i-L), Joe Hand (Jim Scoma's B-i-L) and Marvin Cook (Jean Johnson's brother)

Prayer Requested – Jason Campbell (Sylvester & Missy's son).

Military Members Deployed: SFC Chineka McKenzie (Kuwait), 335th Signal Command (T) (P), APO AE.

Rosa Bell, ECC—A, New Kabul Compound (NKC), APO AE 09354

AM3 Candace Butts (Connie Elder's daughter), US Navy

Deployed for FEMA – Missy Campbell is in Columbia, South Carolina.

2016 Spring Adult Classes

Sunday

Wednesday

Adult Classes	Auditorium	Genesis Dave Rogers	Matthew-Mark Dave Rogers
Ladies Class	Room 121	Proverbs Frances Kelly	Matthew – Mark Kenneth Fincher
	Room 122	Genesis Thomas Quinn	
	Room 201	1 st Principles Paul Lyons	

Calendar

Apr 1 – Fellowship Game Night at 6pm

Apr 3 – Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes Potluck Luncheon. Join us.

April 12 – Tuesday Ladies' Night Out hosted by Luann Rogers.

May 2 – Raintree Village Children's Food Truck. Please have your donations at the church building by Sunday May 1st.

May 10 – Tuesday Ladies' Night Out hosted by Sally Wallace

May 14-15 – Rose Show

May 22 – Lauren Sorrell's Bridal Shower at 2:30pm

May 30 – Office Closed for Memorial Day

June 5 – Jordan Pyron's Bridal Shower at 2:30pm

June 14 – Tuesday Ladies' Night Out hosted by Linda Howell and Annette Benefield

June 26 – Singing @ Hope Center, 2pm



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Youth Events

March 25-27 – LTL Convention

April 3 – LTL Potluck Luncheon

April 17 – Area Wide Youth Devotions COC at 6pm

May 1 – Senior Recognition Dinner after the PM Service. We would like your Senior pictures and Bio by April 17th.

June 12-17 – Camp Inagehi Week

Area Events:

Apr 9 & 23 – McDonough Church of Christ, 9am-12:30pm, "How to Become an Effective Speaker in 10 Hours" – J.J. Turner, instructor

April 2 – McDonough COC Ladies' Day, "The Blessings of Being a Godly Woman" – Speaker, Becky Blackmon

April 8 – Central Church of Christ Area Wide Singing, 7-11pm

WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

Call To Worship

Scripture Reading
Prayer
Song Leader
Preside Lord's Supper
Server
Server
Server
Server
Server
Server
Server
Sermon
Response Elder
Announcements
Song
Closing Prayer

3/27

Jordan Madison
Larry Rose

Brad Hopkins
Ben Rogers
Randal Bell
Ray Russell
Gayle Pelfrey
Jake Garner
Morris Jones
Cliff Nash
Dave Rogers
Jim Garner
Greg Nash

Jim Pelfrey

Evening Service

Prayer
Sermon
Server
Server
Closing Prayer

David Hopkins
Song Service
Anthony Ravenell
Rick Sharpe
Gayle Pelfrey

G. S. O. P. Spring Classes At Fayetteville April 4 – June 30 1-2 Hr Credit (or Audit)

13-week successive courses:

- Monday April 4th 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm 1st & 2nd Timothy
(Instructor Steve Vice)
- Monday April 4th 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Genesis
(Instructor Rush Wyatt)
- Thursday April 7th 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Intro to Old Testament
(Instructor Randy Kea)
- Thursday April 7th 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Intro Research and Composition
(Instructor David Rogers)

Fayetteville Church of Christ 2016 Goal - Evangelism

Address:

870 Redwine Road
Fayetteville, Georgia
30215

Monday –Friday , 9-4
Office Telephone
(770) 461-3617,
(770) 461-8231 Fax

Email: mail@fcoc.com

Web Page: <http://www.fcoc.com>



www.Facebook.com/Fayettevillecoc

Ministers:

Dave Rogers
(361) 649-6638
Dave.rogers@fcoc.com

Greg Nash,
(404) 455-1546 (cell)
gnash999@gmail.com

Office Secretary:

Susie Graham
celiagram@bellsouth.net

Elders:

Tom Durden
(770) 652-7389
Jim Garner
(770) 461-3197
Greg Nash
(404) 455-1546
Jim Pelfrey
(770) 629-2061

Deacons:

Dennis Graham
David Hopkins
Hugh Kelly
Jerry Kendrix
Andy Johnson
Paul Lyons
Stan Mitchell
David Poskevich
Anthony Ravenell
Jack Sorrell

Assembly Schedule:

Sunday
9:00 am Bible Classes
10:00 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Worship Service

10:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Class
(September 11—May 14)

7:00 pm Wednesday Night Bible Study

7:00 pm Thursday Night Ladies Class
(September-May)

Communion Preparation

April - Brenda Mitchell

Nursery

27 Susie Graham

Care of Building

16-31 Stan Mitchell/Curtis Hurt
1-15 Anthony Ravenell/Eric Hagin
16-30 Jack Sorrell/Larry Rose

Ushers

27 Shirley Allender/Lewis Armstrong
3 Michael Boesterli/Sammy Hugh
10 Andy Johnson/Jim Lindsey
17 K Killingsworth/Michael Madison

24 Gayle Pelfrey/Rory Bell

Media Center Helpers

April 3 & 10 Morris Jones
April 17-24 Ben Rogers

Open Arms

27 Susie Graham, Zeke Poskevich,
Barbara Edmonds,
Linda Armstrong,
Jack & Carla Sorrell
4/3 Sally Wallace, Laura Gibson,
Connie Kelly, Martha Vickery ,
Theresa Green,
Hugh Kelly & Ron Biles

Wednesday Evening Devotional

30 David Hopkins
6 Larry Rose
13 Dave Rogers
20 Morris Jones
27 Anthony Ravenell

Our Missionaries



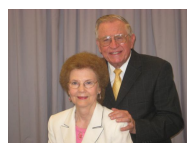
Graham, Elizabeth, Joshua, Megan,
Bethany & Elijah McDonald
Scotland, 11 Woodhead Ct,
Westfield, Cumberland,
North Lanarkshire, G68 9DB
Email: graham@gmcd.net
Skype: gmcd105 or www.gmcd.net



Scott, Rebecca & Violet Shanahan
Pohnpel
scottshanahan@hotmail.com



Kenloy & Ivell Walker
Mandeville, Jamaica
Old Harbour Church of Christ,
876-569-2039



Forrest & Burma Chapman,
State of Georgia
email: ftc1952@alltel.com

April 2016

Evangelism

Response Elder: Tom Durden

"His work is honorable and glorious, And His righteousness endures forever." Psalm 111: 4

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
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<p><i>10</i></p> <p>Bible Q & A</p>	<p><i>11</i></p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>Kamryn Neal Ladies' Night OUT hosted by Luann Rogers Tuesday Morning Bible Study at 10am</p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>Martha Vickery</p>	<p><i>15</i></p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>Charity Nash</p>																																																																																																		
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