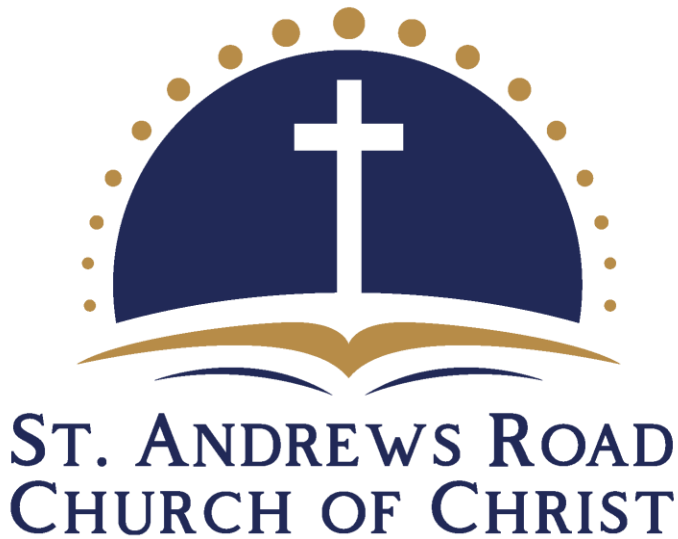


March 12, 2023

Volume 57 Issue 11



Worship Services & Bible Study

SUNDAYS	10:00 AM	Bible Class
SUNDAYS	11:00 AM	Worship
SUNDAYS	6:00 PM	Worship
WEDNESDAYS	7:00 PM	Bible Study

425 Saint Andrews Rd / Columbia, SC, 29210
803-772-0102

YouTube: Church of Christ St Andrews Rd



Hot Button Issues

If you want to stir things up today, just approach a Clemson fan and yell the words, "Go Gamecocks!" Or say to a ten-year-old, "We're having broccoli with our supper tonight," and watch his cheery countenance fall. If you could go back in time to the first century and approach a Pharisee in Jerusalem and only say the word, "Gentile," you would probably get a similar and likely worse reaction as you would from those above.

The apostle Paul was making his defense concerning the hope that was in him to some hostile Jews in Jerusalem, and they were giving him their full attention (Acts 21:40 - 22:22). But when Paul mentioned the word, "Gentile," they lost it. ***"And he [Jesus] said unto me [Paul], Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles." And they gave him audience unto this word, and then lifted up their voices, and said, "Away with such a fellow from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live." And as they cried out, and cast off their clothes, and threw dust into the air, (Acts 22:21-23).*** Upon hearing this one word, their prejudicial attitude was revealed toward the truth and toward people of other ethnicities. In the Truth For Today Commentary on the book of Acts, a question is asked regarding this verse: "Is there a word that touches a nerve, a phrase we cannot stand, a Bible topic that makes us uncomfortable, even angry?" That's a good question. Is there?

I can imagine there are some that get upset about the topic of denominationalism. But the distinctiveness of the church is written of in Scripture: **There is one body (Ephesians 4:4a)**. Some may take offense when the modern dance is questioned. But lasciviousness, which is defined as unbridled lust, indecent bodily movements, unchaste handling of males and females (Thayer), is listed among the works of the flesh in Galatians 5:19. The topic of money gets a lot of people fired up, especially concerning the weekly collection. **And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much (Mark 12:41)**. The verb, "beheld," is in the imperfect tense; meaning, it is continued or repeated action. Jesus was intensely interested in what some wish was never preached about in a sermon. Or how about the subject of social drinking? Should one partake of any amount of an intoxicant that has caused so much destruction to people's lives? **Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: And whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise (Proverbs 20:1)**. Or, though it may not be the most effective form of evangelism, door knocking is often met with a sense of dread. Paul wrote, **Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds (Colossians 4:2-3)**. Door knocking is challenging work, but a soul on the other side of a door just might be waiting for someone to show him a more excellent way.

Is there a word that touches a nerve with you? If so, why? Would you be willing to let down your guard and listen to the sum of God's word regarding the subject? Some in Paul's day were not, and just wanted him to be silenced. Why don't we try a better way to handle our discomfort? **Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD (Isaiah 1:18a)**.

Brotherly,
Jamie

JUST FOR TODAY

A JOT FROM JOHN,

JUST FOR TODAY I will try to live through this day only, and not tackle my whole life problem at once. I can do something for twelve hours that would appall me if I felt I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

JUST FOR TODAY I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, that, "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

JUST FOR TODAY I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires. I will take my "luck" as it comes and fit myself to it.

JUST FOR TODAY I will try to strengthen my mind. I will study. I will learn something useful. I will not be a mental loafer. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

JUST FOR TODAY I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn, and not get found out; if anybody knows of it, it will not count. I will do a least two things I don't want to do—just for exercise. I will not show that my own feelings are hurt; they may be hurt, but today I will not show it.

JUST FOR TODAY I will be agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becoming, talk low, act courteously, criticize not one bit, not find fault with anything, and not try to improve or regulate anybody except myself.

JUST FOR TODAY I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. I will save myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

JUST FOR TODAY I will have a quiet half hour all to myself and relax. During this half hour, sometime, I will try to get a better perspective of my life.

JUST FOR TODAY I will be unafraid. Especially I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful, and to believe that as I give to the world, so the world will give to me.

A failure to put to work the higher faculties of the soul will result in the loss of those faculties. Strength unemployed becomes weakness. Men are deprived of the talent they bury (Matt. 25:28). Opportunities slighted or neglected are soon withdrawn (Acts 13:44-46). The Christians who fail to supply the beautiful graces becomes blind and barren (2 Pet. 1:5-10). And the life that is barren is doomed to wither (Mark 11:12-14).

**Onward Rejoicing,
John B. Daniels, Associate Minister**

EGG HUNT

**Rescheduled for Sunday, April 2
More details to come.**

Fellowship Luncheon

Sunday, March 12

Bring something to share with everyone!

Leadership Day

**Sunday, March 12
4:00 PM**

Senior Bible Study

**Tuesday, March 14
10:00 AM
Fellowship Hall**

Youth Service Day

Grades 6 -12

**Saturday, March 18
10:00 AM - noon**

Home of John & Nancy Daniels

Men's & Preachers Meeting

**Tuesday, March 21
10:00 AM
Fellowship Hall**

"Night Out with Friends" Widows/Widowers Dinner

**Saturday, April 1
5:00 PM
Fellowship Hall
Please sign up or call the office.**