

Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry

July 17, 2022

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 14:40

Strengthening One Another by Duane Patton

On the apostle Paul's mind most often was his "deep concern for all the churches" (**2 Corinthians 11:28**; cf., **Colossians 4:12, 13**). This concern would be natural as the early church faced turmoil from outside influences of purely human traditions parading as spiritual guidance instead of the traditions of Christ and the apostles (**1 Corinthians 11:1**; **2 Thessalonians 2:15**; cf., **Matthew 28:20**). In view of this, consider the words of Paul as he wrote to the church of Christ at Colosse:

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him: Rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving" (**Colossians 2:6, 7, KJV**).

The ambassador of our Lord was interested in both the mutual and individual strength of the church and its members during complex and difficult times. What might be some principles for us to follow as we seek to walk in the Lord? Here are a few biblical suggestions.

We must build our Spiritual House on a Solid Foundation. Scriptures teach that "[e]very house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God" (**Hebrews 3:4**). The church, God's spiritual house (**1 Timothy 3:15**), is fully and finally established by Jesus' death, burial and resurrection (**1 Corinthians 3:11**; **15:1-5ff**). Such a firm foundation is needed in today's cultural and religious climate of relative truth and moral decay invading the everyday lives of so many. The basis of all we believe stands or falls on the undergirding of faith in Christ (**Hebrews 11:1ff**).

We need to work together as God's Spiritual Family. The Bible makes a clear and permanent distinction between those who genuinely belong to God and those who merely belong to the world (**2 Timothy 2:19**). As God's unique family, we grow stronger as we learn to be more involved with one another in view of the ministry God has entrusted to us. We are saved individually, but we are "built together" for a dwelling place of God (**Ephesians 2:19-22**; **3:14, 15**).

We should grow toward maturity by the persistent practice of Shared Faith. God's written word not only gives life to the world, but is the source of growth for all who hunger and thirst after righteousness (**Matthew 5:6**; **John 6:63**; **1 Peter 2:11-3**). Notably, the early church "went everywhere preaching the word" and, as a result, they grew in spirit and number, better able to discern good and evil and to remain faithful to the Lord. These early examples give us daily strength while growing in the grace and knowledge of Christ (**2 Peter 3:18**).

Seeking First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness

Services:

Sunday:

9 AM Bible Class

10AM Worship

6 PM Worship

Wednesday:

6 PM Prayer

& Bible Class

Local Works of Faith:

Sunnybrook Children's Home

Gulf Coast Bible Camp

Local Food Pantry

Annual Youth Events

Back-Pack Buddies

The Gospel of Christ TV (Every Sunday at 6:30 AM, Fox 25)

Foreign Missions:

Guyana

India

Guam

Subscribe to these on YouTube:

Vancleave Church of Christ Digital Ministries

The Mississippi Gospel Minute



1st Sunday of every month: Fellowship / Lunch followed by brief devotional, with no evening service.

E-mail: vcocministry@vancleavemschurch.org

Web Site: <https://www.vancleavemschurch.org>

Local Wi-Fi Network Access: SSID: 2Wire029 Key: 3995723302

Recent Prayer Requests & Announcements



Gary Harden had surgery that went well and he is recovering.

Lindsey Randall surgery went well, and will wear a neck brace for four weeks. Lindsey's Grandmother had surgery and is scheduled for another.

Dimple McVey of Ocean Springs Church of Christ, is in her 80's and is very sick. She need prayers

Sister Jackie's mother, Susan Flores, needs our prayers at this time.

Ira Lassiter passed away. **Cynthia Lassiter** needs our prayers during this difficult time.

Weldom McAdams granddaughter, Sarah, 1year old, has CoVId-19. Please pray for this child.

Brother Al Lowery will be preaching today in Duane Patton's absence. We are thankful for his able ministry and willingness to provide.

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. ~ Psalms 34:15

Please refer to previous Newsletter for those who need continued prayers

Mary McDaniel Earl Kenney Linda Kenney Elsie Ashcraft Frank Sentelle

Have requests or other announcements? Send email to vcocministry@vancleavemchurch.org

Rightly Dividing the Word

A weekly synopsis of every book of the Bible with a memory verse designed to increase our faith

Isaiah: Sixty six chapters in length, Isaiah is also one of the deepest and richest Old Testament books of prophecy. It consists of a collection of oracles, songs, and discourses written some 700 years before Christ. Isaiah prophesied judgment and hope for both Israel and the nations of the world; judgment would come to both not too long after the death of the prophet, but there would also be a future hope with the coming of the Messiah and New Covenant established by His death.

This week's memory verse:

"Come now, and let us reason together,' says the LORD, 'though your sins are as scarlet, they shall become white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, they shall be like wool.'"

(Isaiah 1:18)



Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15