

Seeking Our Prayers

Ann Bass + Jo Byrnes + Joyce Coones + Sleatha Gore + Essie-lene Henderson + Buddy Johnson + Faye Kilpatrick + Bonnie Lord's father (Cullman, Alabama)

Out of Town

Devoise & Barbara Lord (*Virginia and Tennessee*)
Ronnie & Bonnie Lord (*Alabama*)

Song Leaders Class & Ladies Singing Class

This afternoon at 4:15 in the classroom building. The ladies are also encouraged to meet together this afternoon at 4:30 in the classroom building.

Church Directory

In an effort to finalize the congregation's photo directory, we are asking that everyone who has not yet had their photo taken to please see Cindy Hinds to get one taken. Also, if you have any changes to make to the directory, please see Jamey Hinds.

Gospel Meeting

The Midway congregation is hosting a three-night gospel meeting with brother Bob Waldron preaching, 7:30 tonight through Tuesday night (August 9-11).

Area Wide Gospel Singing

The Old Town congregation is hosting an area-wide gospel singing Friday evening, August 21, beginning at 7:00 PM. Everyone is encouraged to come and participate. Song leaders are especially encouraged to come and prepare to lead.

Chiefland Church of Christ

Meeting at 211 NE 2nd Street in beautiful Chiefland, Florida
PO Box 2539 • Chiefland FL 32644 • (352) 493-1242

THINGS ABOVE

"Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth"

—[Colossians 3:1-2]—

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www.ChieflandChurchofChrist.com

Applauding the Practice

By Joe Fitch

Long ago at the Olympic Games in Athens, it is said a feeble old man came in late. No seats were left. As he passed their seats, the Athenians laughed at him. Then he passed two Spartans. Quickly they rose to offer him a seat, for they had been trained to be modest and courteous. When the Athenians saw this, they cheered the Spartans. "Ah," said the old man, "The Athenians admire what is right; the Spartans practice it."

A godly man died suddenly. People were shocked — stunned by the unexpected. Brethren in Christ felt

keenly the loss of a dependable worker and companion. Men of all classes and persuasions gathered in small groups to sadly shake their heads, recall the past, and applaud a good man.

“He was sure a hard worker; he always tried to do more than was expected.” That was true. He exemplified Paul’s admonition: “Let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth” (Eph. 4:28). It was not the statement that was amazing but who said it — a lazy fellow who did nothing he could get out of.

Another added, “He was surely honest — as honest as the day is long.” A thought flashes to mind: “Provide things honest in the sight of all men” (Rom. 12:17). No one disagreed, but these words of praise fell from lips skilled in lies wherever a dollar is at stake.

The applause continues: “He was a church going man. Surely if there was ever a Christian, he was one.” Heads nod agreement, but neither they nor the speaker are accustomed to filling a pew when people gather to worship. They are more in the habit of walking roughshod over the principles of Christianity than in keeping them.

A preacher spoke to mourners of his dead friend and the Bible he lived by. “What a beautiful eulogy.” Yet many who were impressed by the words spoken refuse to live so that such can honestly be said of them.

When the applause subsides, an observer is compelled to add a final word — “Go, and do thou likewise” (Lk. 10:37). No greater tribute can be paid a good man than to imitate his devotion to good. “That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises” (Heb. 6:12).

I can’t help thinking as a result of listening and observing: Many people pay little attention in life to the things that are so important when it comes time to die.

We are so prone to compliment others for the very virtues which we carefully avoid cultivating in ourselves. A godly man commands the admiration of all — even the vile and irreligious.

There are far more people willing to applaud a good life than are willing to make the sacrifices necessary to live one.

Some folk are content with the office of spectator — applauding good but not practicing it.

