

BARILETT

church of Christ

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday:
 Bible Study- 9:00am
 Worship- 10:00am
 Worship 6:00pm

Wednesday:
 Bible Study- 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY	JUL 21, 2010		David Jobe 385-0603
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Dirk Blevins	ELDERS	Mike Mitchell 647-4980 Rod Waterman 380-0819
FIRST SONG	Troy Waterman	PREACHER	Brent Moody 901.462.5368-C 901.432.5562-H
SECOND SONG	Brent Moody	ATTEND.	Sunday: AM- 151 PM- 124 Wed: 104
INVITATION	Lane Crawford	CONTRIB.	\$3,000
INVITATION SONG	David Jobe		
PRAYER	Larry Campbell		

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

-Matt 9.37-38

Understanding Love & Obedience

John is often thought of as the apostle of love. But he had a lot to say about obedience too. The first two chapters of First John center around obedience. According to John, love is lacking where obedience is absent. Love can only be made perfect by obedience. “But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him” (1John 2:5).

Those who claim to know God but do not follow His commandments are liars (1John 2:4). They profess to be in fellowship with God, and His people, but they really walk in darkness ((1John 1:6). Since, “God is light and in Him is no darkness at all” (1John 1:5), these people are not in fellowship with God at all. John makes it plain: “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked” (1John 2:6). Obedience and Love are inseparable. They cannot be isolated from each other. One who truly love’s God will live a life of faithfulness to Him. Jesus told us that love is the basis of the law. It ought to be the motivation behind obedience to God’s commandments:

Jesus said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” (Matthew 22:37-40)

The entire old law, as well as the new, is based on Jesus’ comments above. Jesus quoted from the books of Deuteronomy and Leviticus to support His answer. All of our actions should be motivated by a love for God and for our fellow man. Obedience is the natural result of such an attitude.

After stating that loving God is the greatest command, Jesus said “and the second is like it...love your neighbor...” The man who practices these two commandments will, without a doubt, be obedient to God. Through a series of logical thoughts John assures us of this. He says, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love” (1 John

4:7-8). Couple that with a previous statement in 1John 2:3, “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments...”

Let’s think through these two statements and form a connection between love and obedience: John’s first imperative tells us that only those who keep God’s commandments “know Him.” The second statement tells us that “everyone who loves...knows God.” On the other hand, those who do not love do not know God. One must love God to know Him; to know God requires keeping His commandments. Therefore, love and obedience are so intertwined one cannot truly exist without the other. Love cannot stand independent of Obedience, because it would fail to be true love. Obedience cannot be isolated from love, because to love is a commandment—the greatest commandment.

Anyone who tries to separate these indivisible aspects of Christian life is dabbling in a futile exercise. Unfortunately, some try to emphasize love as if it were superior to obedience. Actually, obedience is the method by which love is made manifest.

Upcoming Sermons:

“Offer To God Acceptable Worship”



Aug 1, 2010

Sunday at 10:00AM

Jesus said as much. “If you love Me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15). Maybe Jesus’ statement in John 15:14 hits home more easily with some, “You are my friends if you do whatever I command you.” Paul said, “Walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us...a sacrifice to God...” (Eph 5:2). Scripture, once again, joins love and obedience into a single action. Not only was Christ death on the cross an act of love, it was willingly done in obedience to the Father. “He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death...” (Phil 2:8). In the garden Jesus cried out, “not as I will, but as You will” (Matt 26:39).

The conclusion is simple: To walk as Christ walked, we have to be obedient and loving. When either attribute is missing in our lives, we are not walking in Jesus’ footsteps. “Whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked” (1John 2.6).

-Brent Moody
moody.brent@gmail.com

SUNDAY AM	JUL 18, 2010	JUL 25, 2010
USHER	Greg Merry	John Mitchell
SCRIP READING	Tom Woodard	Jim Bell
SONG LEADER	David Jobe	Mike Mitchell
LORD’S SUPPER	Jeff Carter	Raymond Carter
SERVE	Cary Johnson Ron Lanning Nathan Ledbury Dirk Blevins Leonard Brown	Matt Johnson Dan Learned Nathan Ledbury Leonard Brown Roger Buchanan
OPENING PRAYER	Raymond Carter	Jeff Carter
CLOSING PRAYER	Lane Crawford	Bob Daniel
SERMON	Brent Moody	Brent Moody
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Mike Mitchell	Rod Waterman

High Voltage Prayer
 Aug 13-15, 2010 Fri & Sat 7:30pm
 Friday- **The Power Who Hears**
 Sat- **Prayer: Empowering God’s Warriors**
 Sunday: 9am- **The Plugged-In Saint**
 10am- **The Plugged-In Family**
 6pm- **The Plugged-In Church**
 Guest Speaker: **Edwin Crozier**

News & Notes:

- Welcome to our visitors! Thank you for worshipping with us today. Feel free to ask us any questions.
- Katie, Chelsea, and Titus Moody are in Nashville. They will be home later this week.
- Remember **Emma Stanford**, **Bill Hayre**, and **Sandra Brown** in your prayers.
- New Member: Please Welcome **Daniel Ginn!**
Watch screen & email for updated announcements

SUNDAY PM	JUL 18, 2010	JUL 25, 2010
SCRIP READING	Ron Lanning	Dan Learned
SONG LEADER	John Hudson	Steve Coburn
OPENING PRAYER	Dirk Blevins	Leonard Brown
LORD’S SUPPER	Rod Waterman	Tom Woodard
SERVE	Bob Daniel	Kevin Freedhardt
CLOSING PRAYER	Carl Seckt	Steve Sigman
SERMON	Brent Moody	Brent Moody
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Mike Mitchell	Mike Mitchell

Bartlett church of Christ
 2704 Charles Bryan rd
 Bartlett, TN 38134
 901.377.8044