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Lilbourn Church of Christ
P.O. Box 270
Lilbourn, MO 63862

Address Service Requested



Times of Assembly:

Sunday:

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| Bible Class | 9:45am |
| Morning Worship | 10:45am |
| Evening Worship | 5:30pm |

Wednesday:

| | |
|-------------|--------|
| Bible Class | 7:30pm |
|-------------|--------|

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Do you want to be significant and do something important? If so, then you must put your faith in the Lord Jesus and follow Him. Only through Him can our lives truly be meaningful and pleasing to God. He is the only one through whom eternal life can be found (Acts 4:12; John 14:6; II Tim. 2:10). Are you "in Christ"? (Gal. 3:26-27). If you follow Him, one day you will stand before Him, hear His commendation, and receive your eternal reward.

— Shane Williams



Back Issues:

- Many back issues of 'The Lilbourn Light' are available on our website. View them online or print them off.

<http://www.Lilbourncofc.com>

The Lilbourn Light



"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" -Psalm 119:105



Volume 10

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Number 6

Of Eternal Importance

What you did today will not likely be remembered for any length of time. In fact, even the most significant accomplishments we make in our lives will probably not be remembered in 100 years. Would that change if you were someone important in this world? What if your efforts modernized an industry, improved many people's quality of life or impacted countless numbers of people in some way? You would likely find some satisfaction in these accomplishments but they would still have no meaning beyond the physical.

Jesus said that to find eternal meaning and significance we must know God and live for Him. A good deed done to gain the applause of our fellow man has no ultimate value. However a deed done with God in view has lasting value.

Col. 3:23-24, *"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."*

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God's rule for Giving

How much money does a person need to be considered "rich"? How much money does a person have to give away to be considered "generous"? I don't imagine that two people will agree on where that line is drawn. In fact, it may be impossible to give a specific answer to those two questions.

The apostle Paul did not set a percentage as a rule for giving, nor did he say that only those who are "well off" should give. Instead, he challenged the Corinthians by telling them about the Macedonian Christians who gave out of their "deep poverty" and "beyond their ability" (2 Cor. 8:2-5).

II Cor. 8:1-5, *"Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: ² that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. ³ For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, ⁴ imploring*

Our love for the Lord should provide us with all the reason we need to be generous in our giving.

us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. ⁵ And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God."

Why did they do this? Because "they first gave themselves to the Lord."

He reminded his readers of their Savior, the Lord Jesus,

who exchanged the riches of heaven for poverty on earth so that they might be rich for all eternity.

Vs. 9, *"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich."*

Can't you see God's great wisdom? It doesn't matter if we perceive ourselves to have an abundance or not! Whether we consider ourselves rich or poor, our love for the Lord should provide us with all the reason we need to be generous in our giving.

— Shane Williams

God's line of measurement

It is true that you cannot define a word by using the same word to describe it. It just doesn't work. You can't explain a term by comparing it with itself. It would do little good to describe "repentance" as 'what happens when one repents.'

You also can not describe a word by making up your own definition. Oh, it's fun sometimes to try and come up with a funny definition for an unknown word. However, when you want to know the definition of a word, you find a good dictionary!

All of this is likewise true in evaluating one's character. In 2 Corinthians 10, the apostle Paul showed the foolishness of trying to judge our own character by our own opinions (vss. 12-18).

2 Cor 10:12, *"...but when they measure themselves by themselves, and compare themselves with themselves, they are without understanding."*

Vs. 18, *"For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends."*

What we are is what the Lord says we are. One cannot change that by using an inferior standard.

We would be wrong to evaluate ourselves by devising our own standard and guidelines. We must use God's line of measurement. He evaluates our lives by the standard of His unchanging Word. What we are is what

the Lord says we are. One cannot change that by using an inferior standard.

As we take inventory of our lives and what we have done in the Lord's service, let's not be too quick to commend ourselves. The real test is

whether we are of those *"whom the Lord commends"* (vs. 18).

— Shane Williams

God's Plan for Saving Man

- ⇒ Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:17)
- ⇒ Believe the Gospel (Hebrews 11:6; John 20:31)
- ⇒ Repent of Past Sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)
- ⇒ Confess Faith in Christ (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32)
- ⇒ Be Baptized in water (Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16; Gal. 3:27; I Pet. 3:21)
- ⇒ Live Faithful (Heb. 10:35-39)