



An Encouraging Message



By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.” -Matthew 7:16-20

“The ends justify the means.” Most of us would disagree with this statement, however, if we look at our attitudes, often our church service would fall under that blanket statement. We aren’t always excited about serving, but it has to be done so we do it, right? Christ even says in Matthew that prophets will be recognized by their fruit. So does that mean that we too will be recognized by our fruit? Is it enough in God’s eyes that we just get the job done, regardless of whether we do it willingly or not?

I’ll be honest, too often I find myself serving reluctantly, and my first response isn’t “I should be happy to serve!”, but is instead “At least I am serving the Lord, and this should count for something”. So what does the Bible have to say about the questions we just asked ourselves?

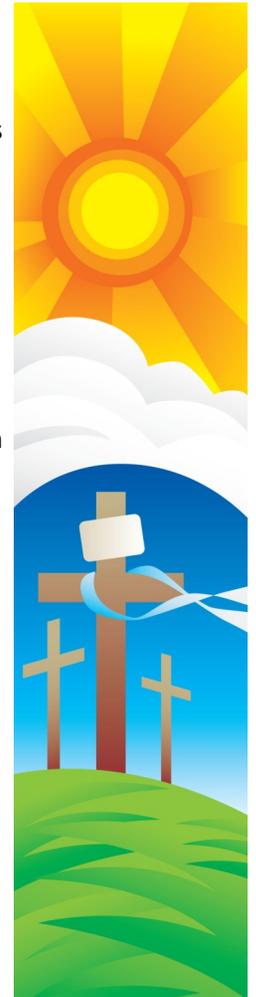
In the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector from Luke 18, Jesus tells us that it wasn’t the amount of the service that mattered, it was what was in the heart that counted. God doesn’t want us to serve because we feel it’s our “duty” as a Christian, he wants us to serve because we are excited we have a God who saved us and allows us to serve him. Scriptures clearly tell us that God does not want us to serve out of compulsion, but rather that “God loves a cheerful giver.”-2 Corinthians 9:7.

Great! I only need to give God what I can do with a cheerful heart, so Trustee work days are out for me, because I’d really rather be doing other things anyway, right? Not quite. When we keep reading from 2 Corinthians, God promises to bless us abundantly, making sure we are never in want and saying “They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.”- 2 Corinthians 9:9. God isn’t giving us an out to skip on service, rather, he again wants us to examine our motives and serve him generously and without worry.

Okay, God wants me to serve and he wants me to do it cheerfully, check and check. This must mean God looks at my service and says “Good job Josiah. You are a good Christian servant.” Correct? Not so fast--in Isaiah we are told that “all our righteous acts are like filthy rags.” What?! Why am I serving then? We are serving because we can offer “spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” [Italics added] -1 Peter 2:5. It’s only because of Christ that we even want to serve, and only through him that our service is acceptable to God.

Our time, talents and treasures. Ultimately these are all God’s anyway, we are just temporary stewards. So let’s thank God for them and for the ultimate gift of sending his Son to die for us on the cross and rise again by cheerfully giving back to him what’s already his. And if you see me with a frown on my face during the next church work day, just read me back 2 Corinthians 9:7!

*Josiah Schultz,
Elder, Board for Spiritual Welfare*

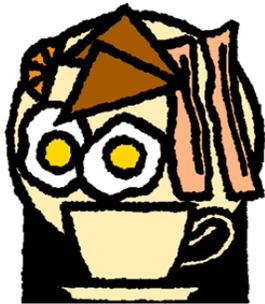




General Clean-Up Day

Saturday, April 12th

[Click here
to help clean](#)



Easter Breakfast Sign-Up

Sunday, April 20th

[Click here
to bring food](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES!



Lawn mowing

Please speak with Kent Turnidge if you'd be willing to help mow the church lawns this summer! We need more team members.

Thursday, April 3rd & 10th

Lent Worship Services @ 7PM
(April 10th, potluck/soup supper @ 6PM)



Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to bring any food items or can help with set-up or clean-up for our last soup supper.

Saturday, April 12th

Spring Cleaning from 8AM-4PM



We are giving our facilities a deep cleaning before Easter. Come on the 12th and lend a hand. If you cannot come that day, work can be completed the week prior to the 12th.

WISH Meeting @ 10AM

All women of PoP are invited to be part of WISH. Please meet in the library at 10AM for a brief meeting during cleaning day.

Tuesday, April 15th

Girl Pioneers @ 6:30PM

All girls in grades 1-8 are invited!



Sunday, April 20th

Easter Breakfast 9:15-10:15AM

Sign up at church if you can help: bring food, cook, set-up or clean-up

May 2-3-4

Men's Retreat at Kodachrome State Park

Watch for the sign-up posted at church!

Principal

Open Applications Last summer, the school board decided that there would be an annual open application period for our school's aide positions. The deadline to apply for a position for the 2014-2015 school year is May 1. Opening this application window does not mean we desire to change our current staff. It simply is a way for us to yearly update our list of willing applicants should the need ever arise to fill one of those positions. We thank our current aides for serving Prince of Peace and doing an amazing job: Megan Kelly—extended care; Kat Zahn—preschool; Tina Fennel—kindergarten. If you are interested in being an aide in the extended care, preschool, or kindergarten, please pick up an application in the office or see Mr. Sell.

Enrollment—The school board recently set some caps for student numbers in our classrooms for next school year. While there is still ample room for additional preschool and kindergarten children, grades 1-2 is currently full and a waiting list has begun. In addition, grades 3-5 has only a few remaining seats and grades 6-8 has one more opening. We thank God for His graciousness and ask for His wisdom to deal with the abundant blessings that He keeps providing.



Tuition Assistance—For those who qualify, tuition assistance may be available for families with children going into grades K-8. Prince of Peace recently started a tuition assistance program and will be taking applications in the near future. If you think you may need some assistance with next year's tuition, please see Mr. Sell for more information. The application process is set to begin, God willing, in early April, and the deadline will be May 1st (note the change from April 15). If you desire to contribute to the fund, please contact Keith Rigby, the church's financial secretary.

Love and Logic—The Love and Logic program has begun. Those parents attending the first two sessions have already seen the benefits of being consistent while showing empathy and holding their children accountable for their mistakes. There are still four more sessions to come. Interested? See Mr. Sell for more info.

Jeff Sell, Principal



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LENT

April 3

April 10*

Worship @ 7PM

*potluck before service at 6PM

PALM SUNDAY

April 13

Worship @ 8 & 10:45AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 17

Worship @ 7PM

GOOD FRIDAY

April 18

Meditation @ 12PM

Tenebrae Worship @ 7PM

EASTER

April 20

Sunrise Worship
6:45AM

Festival Worship
8 & 10:45AM

Breakfast 9:15-10:15AM