

# The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

Volume XXXII

June 9, 2013

Number 23

## THE CHRISTIAN AND SOCIAL MEDIA

*"Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding" (Prov. 17:27).*

Like it or not, social media is here to stay. While we shouldn't overreact to the dangers of this new media, we must not ignore them either. There needs to be more discussion about social media. I found online some good rules that I wanted to share:

Be careful before you hit send (James 1:19-20; Prov. 10:19; 15:2; 21:23). Could your message be taken the wrong way? Does this need to be kept private? Will it needlessly offend someone?

Don't vent anger (James 1:19-20; Eph. 4:26-27; Prov. 14:29; 29:11). Don't air family problems or church issues online. If you're angry at someone, go speak to them personally. The rest of us don't need to know.

Never lie (Eph. 4:25; Col. 3:9-10; Rev. 21:8). And embellishment is the same as lying.

Don't glorify self (Matt. 6:5, 7, 16; Prov. 25:27; 26:12). Hide the good you do. Advertise what is done for you, Give glory to God instead.

Watch out for ungodly influences (1 Cor. 15:33; 2 Tim. 2:16-18; 2 Pet. 2:18-20). Beware of worldly ideas, false teaching, filthy language, dirty jokes and gossip.

Don't let this become an addiction (1 Cor. 6:12). It can easily take over your life if you're not careful.

Protect your marriage (Prov. 7:5-27). The American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers says 81% of its members have used or faced evidence plucked from social networking sites in the past five years.

Use social networking to God's glory (Mark 16:15; Eph. 4:29; Col. 4:6; Matt. 5:14-16). There are so many positive ways we can use this new media. Let's use it to advance God's Cause, not the Devil's.

Father, protect us from the evils of social media. May you be glorified in every email, tweet and Facebook comment we post this day.

David Maxson

# Bulletin Board

Sermon  
Notes:

AM Lesson - Jack - "Five Principles of Real Faith"

PM Lesson - Brian Messerli - "Only One Way Up The Mountain"

Please keep the following members in mind who have difficulty being with us due to prolonged illness: **Dee Boyd, Doris Norman, Billie Glitsch and Don Hurd.**

**NEWS AND NOTES:** I don't have any fresh news about those suffering with illness. Many have been on the "sick list" for some time now, and need our prayers for recovery. Please remember them.

Sharon Alexander has a new grandson. He was born Thursday, and weighed in at 7lb., 9 oz. A good size baby who is named Alexander Jake Burrage. Just as for details from the proud "granny."

Many are gone this weekend. Steve, Muffy and girls are working at summer camp. Quite a few of our kids are going to that camp, and parents are taking them. It begins this afternoon. Our prayers for a safe trip and a good week. Barbara is visiting her daughter in the Washington area. Anita and I leave Thursday. I'll be in a gospel meeting in Pensacola. Nita comes home on Monday, and I'll be back Saturday the 22nd.

*"There is no ignorance like ignorance of God, and no poverty like poverty of soul."*

## An Angry Countenance

We say so much about gossiping and deal so severely with gossippers, yet we seldom strike a blow against those who lend the ear to malicious words. But the gossip could hardly persist in his misdeed without someone to give a hearing to him. And God is not silent about this matter. Consider the following two points: "The north wind drives away rain: so does an angry countenance a backbiting tongue" (Prov. 25:23). The point is simple: by a foreboding look, still the gossiping tongue. The backbiter must be made to see that we are no audience for his tales. The angry countenance serves two purposes. First, it spares us from hearing the complete bit of gossip, and second, it conveys our disapproval to the one who bears it. In all this we are provided an excellent opportunity to teach the offender God's will about talebearing.

Try as we may, we will probably not be able to escape all gossip, so our next responsibility regarding it is: don't repeat any that you might hear. Psalms 15 speaks of the happy future of him who does not "take up a reproach against his neighbor." One must not pass gossip down the table of conversation, for in so doing the hearer becomes a gossipper. Happy is he who not only refrains from gossip, but from listening.

Jim Ward

*'Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up hurriedly and run off as if nothing had happened.'*

### Assignments for today

Sunday, June 9, 2013

#### Morning Service

Announcements.....Mike Pharris  
Hymn Director.....Lee Williams  
Scripture Reading.....I John 5:8-14  
Scripture Reader.....Zach Kelsey  
Opening Prayer.....David Gorski  
Closing Prayer.....Mike Pharris

#### Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Michael Robinson  
Opening Prayer.....Jesse Knapp  
Closing Prayer.....Mike Pharris

## BELLAIRE church of Christ

8001 South Rice Ave • P.O. Box 1029  
Bellaire, Texas 77402  
713/668-4810

<http://www.bellairechurchofchrist.org>

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Bible study  
5:00 PM Worship

#### Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional  
**Minister and editor**  
Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

*The Reminder* is published weekly by the church of Christ in Bellaire