

Simple Stuff by Dee Bowman (condensed)

Christianity is about the simple, sincere things of life. It is not a complicated maze of instructions and liturgies, one where a multitude of days and feasts are to be observed. Paul says we have been delivered from all that (Gal. 5:1). Nor is this Christian life one where there is no discipline, one where a subjective ethic becomes the rule of faith and practice in ones life (Acts 23:1-f). It is rather a submission of ones will to the will of Jesus with all that that entails.

Christianity is not measured by great deeds, but by the multitude of small things done. There is little flamboyance in it, nor is there much need for any. Rather, it 's the sincere desire of a person to do his best at whatever is his situation or assignment. It 's rather simple, actually. It 's just knowing where you are going and doing the best you can to make it there.

Whatever happened to simplicity? Whatever happened, for instance for doing small acts of kindness just for the thrill of doing them, and just because it's right? Whatever happened to doing them when nobody is looking or when you can by no means be profited from the action? There is considerable to be said for the simple life.

A simple attitude toward truth is a noble thing, even if nobody admires you or rewards you for it. What's wrong with looking for holiness and piety and truth and righteousness without making some big deal out of it? A right attitude toward truth is not complicated. It just means that you have subscribed to the Bible and that you have made a commitment to follow it regardless of where it leads or what are the consequences for having done so. It means you want to apply it to yourself even when it hurts and even when you know it may not be popular. But you don't have to make some big deal out of that; it just says you realize that "ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (Jno. 8:32).

A simple love is a noble thing and, in the final reality, is the divine mucilage that bonds everything good together. "And put on love, which is the bond of perfectness," the Apostle Paul said (Col. 3:14). It's love that binds one to his brethren; it's love that binds the husband and wife; it's love that forms the bond with those who consider themselves your enemy; it's love that marks your growth as you make your way toward your reward; it's love that binds desire to expectation to form hope; it is love that makes kindness and patience work together. Read I Corinthians 13 where Paul personifies love to show it's various behaviors.;

I once ran across a saying scribbled on a torn piece of paper which still bore the creases from having been folded up in some purse or billfold. It said,

"The stature of a man is measured by his friendliness and courtesy for someone who can do absolutely nothing for him."

God isn't looking for flamboyant Christians, but for sincere ones—those who will love one another because the have been loved by God; those who will correct one another, but in the love of Christ; those who will suffer if need be in order to do the simple things that fit them for divine association.

So why, tell me, do we complicate matters. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." How hard is that?

For additions or corrections to the directory please contact Mike Mendez

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For corrections, suggestions, or to have something included in the bulletins, please contact Ryan or Jennifer Stiltz at 924-0435 or email at stiltz_family@sbcglobal.net

Welcome

to the

Church of Christ

meeting at Mack Road

This morning's sermon:



Congregational Meeting Times:

Sunday

Morning Bible Study 9:30 am

Worship Service 10:30 am

Evening Service 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study 10:00 am

Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visitors

The members here would like to offer a special welcome to our visitors today. Please allow us to shake your hand and talk with you, as we take great joy in getting to know you. Visitor cards are available at the pews for you to provide us with a record of your attendance. We appreciate you taking the time to fill these out.

Important dates to remember:

November:

Sun. 29th - 5th Sunday of the month friends service. Members are encouraged to invite a friend to morning services.
Sun 29th - Elders, Deacons & preachers meeting @ 4:30 at the bldg.

Fellowship Opportunities:

Sun. 22nd - Group 2 meets after evening services
Sun. 12/6 - Mountain Mike's following morning services



Ladies House to House Fellowship

Lesson Book: "Developing Inner Strength, Living in the Joy of God's Love"

Next class: *If you would like to host a class, please let Jennifer know*
January -
February -

Classes

Young Adults Class: Fridays at Caleb's home. See Caleb for details.

Psalm 119:105-112 (NAS)

Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.

I have sworn and I will confirm it,
That I will keep Your righteous ordinances.

I am exceedingly afflicted;
Revive me, O LORD, according to Your word.

O accept the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD,
And teach me Your ordinances.

My life is continually in my hand,
Yet I do not forget Your law.

The wicked have laid a snare for me,
Yet I have not gone astray from Your precepts.

I have inherited Your testimonies forever,
For they are the joy of my heart.

I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes
Forever, even to the end.

Birthdays this week:

Louise Carter	November 24
Tom Zeigler	November 26
Jonathan McDaniel	November 27

Anniversaries this week:

George and Fae Fritzsche	November 22
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