

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM

Speaker, Robert Emerson

Study Sunday 10:00 AM

Worship Sunday 11:00 AM

Worship Sunday 5:00 PM

Singing every 2nd Sunday evening

Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

Preacher / bulletin editor: Kris Vilander**Phone:** (256) 472-1065; (256) 472-1042**E-mail:** kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org**Website:** www.haysmillchurchofchrist.orgCome study
with us!**Servants during July:****Songleader:** Chandler (29 July), Dwight (5), Stanley (12), Larry (19), David (26)**Reading:** Stanley (July), Chandler**Announcements:** Robert (July), Larry**Communion:** Lakin, Mike, David, Marty (July); Stanley, Marty, Robert, Mike**Wednesday Lesson:** Stanley (1), Kris (8), Mike (15), Larry (22), Stanley (29)**Lawn Mowing (week beginning):**

Robert (29 July), Larry (5), Kris (12), Billy (19), Marty (26)

Singing: Kris and Cindy's (29)**Area Meetings:** Cartwright (Singing, Aug 11; Meeting, Aug 12-15)**Hays Mill church of Christ**

21705 Hays Mill Road

Elkmont, AL 35620

**The Bible .
Examiner***"Examine everything carefully..." - 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB*

Volume 1

July 29, 2018

Number 19

The Power of Simplicity*By Bill Hall*

Jesus Christ had a deep appreciation for simple things. His teaching was profound, but always simple. He reached the hearts of His hearers, not with high-sounding philosophical jargon, but with illustrations and "to the point" teaching. He could see in a farmer sowing his seed, or a lily showing forth its beauty, or a shepherd leaving his flock to seek one lost sheep, or a loving father welcoming a wayward son, a lesson that could teach some spiritual truth.

His apostles were chosen from the humble class. He could appreciate people, not for what they possessed, but for what they were; and, in some cases, not for what they were, but for what they could become. He recognized true quality, and true quality is often found in the simple and humble.

The worship He ordained was simple in nature. "Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul spoke to them" (Acts 20:7). Even the poorest could worship, for all that was required of a material nature was a little bread and fruit of the vine. Those of little talent could worship, for God was listening in view of the heart rather than the beauty of the voice.

He authorized a simple organization for His church, with each congregation appointing its own bishops and deacons (Phil 1:1). There were no denominational associations, conferences, or synods. There were no inter-church organizations or societies. Yet, through the simple organization given the church by the Lord, the world of the first century was thoroughly evangelized and the needy among


them provided for. The Lord knew that success in His work would not be brought about through complexity of organization, but through dedication, faith and commitment on the part of His followers. We make a terrible mistake when we try to substitute the former for the latter.

Why this simplicity? "That no flesh should glory in His presence" (1 Cor 1:29). The complex systems which men devise tend to bring glory to themselves rather than to God.

To return to the simplicity which our Lord ordained might not be impressive to the worldly-minded, but, then, Jesus Himself is not very impressive to the worldly-minded. Besides, our purpose is not to impress the worldly-minded, but to please God and bow in

submission to His will. Let us do away with our super projects and complex systems. Let us learn to appreciate simple teaching and simple ways. Above all, let us learn to appreciate Bible teaching and Bible ways.

We like the following quote from Ed Harrell: "How foolish we are to think that God will be impressed with our voices when we sing; after all, He hears the angels sing! How foolish to think He will be impressed with our cathedrals; remember, He made the Grand Canyon!" What He is seeking for is a heart that is pure, loving, and obedient to His will. And that's simple.

—Via the *Bulletin of the church of Christ at New Georgia*, March 28, 2004 (not entirely sure of the date...) 

Adjusting the Thermostat

By Steve Klein

You've no doubt heard of Murphy's Law: If anything can go wrong, it will. I've recently discovered a similar universal truth. I'm thinking of calling it Klein's Thermostat Theorem. It goes something like this: In any room containing more than one person, the thermostat will

invariably be set so that half the people will be too cold, and the other half too hot. The follow-up truth, which we might call the Cold Feet Corollary, is that if only one person is in the room, half of his body will be too cold, and the other half too hot. And then there's the Air Adjustment Adage, which


states that, Any adjustment to the thermostat will please no more than half the people in the room and only make matters worse.

Despite the obvious truth of the Air Adjustment Adage, many people constantly attempt to adjust the thermostat in an effort to make themselves more comfortable. After many years of observation, I can now state with great assurance that 98.3% of the time, adjustments made to the thermostat are aimed at benefiting the person doing the adjusting (or those with similar body temperatures). The remaining 1.7% of adjustments are made to benefit either someone lying in a hospital bed or the President.

In Philippians 2:4 God commands, "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others." Here then is a principle that should guide Christians not only in adjusting thermostats, but also in many other every day actions. When it comes to matters of personal interest, where there is no right or wrong (like the

temperature of a room), we ought to be at least as concerned about others as we are ourselves.

In matters of opinion or personal judgment, our focus should not be on pleasing ourselves, but pleasing others. In Romans 15:1-2, the inspired apostle Paul concluded his discussion of such matters (found in Romans 14) with these words: "We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification." The critical issue here is not the temperature of a room, but learning to "walk in love" (Eph 5:2). Love "does not seek its own" (1 Cor 13:5). Love cares as much for the welfare of others as it does for its own welfare. The Lord Jesus who, "loved us and gave himself up for us" pleads with us to follow in his steps. "Let all that you do be done with love" (1 Cor 16:14).

—Adapted from the *Bulletin of the Church of Christ at New Georgia*, November 24, 2002 (again, not too sure of the date...) 

Remember in Prayer

Kenny Paul is beginning to see some progress following his stroke; we thank God for that! Buddy has had another bout with kidney stones, although it has been a while since the last. Tim has a recurring wound that plagues him... And please don't forget Lois Adams, Ruth Black, Carolyn Dennis, Dot Hice, Polly McNatt, and Hazel Teeples.