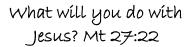
Schedule of Meeting Times:

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





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Servants during July:

Songleader: David (7), Chandler (14), Dwight

(21), Stanley (28), Larry (8/4) *Reading:* Chandler; Robert (Aug)

Announcements: Larry; Marty (Aug)
Table: Lakin, David, Peter, Stanley; Larry,

Buddy, Mike, Lakin (Aug)

Wednesday Lesson: Stanley (3), Kris (10), Mike (17), Larry (24), Stanley (31), Kris (8/7)

Lawn Mowing (week

starting): Stanley (7), Robert (14), Larry (21), Kris (28), Billy (8/4) Singing: The Emerson's

(7/28)

Area Meetings: Piney Grove (28-31); Needmore (Haleyville, 8/18-20)

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road Elkmont, AL 35620



Volume 2

July 28, 2019

Number 16

The Power of a Young Person's Influence

By Steve Klein

Children are natural imitators, not only of their parents, but also of each other. Paul alludes to this inborn mimicry when he commands us to "be imitators of God as dear children," Eph 5:1. So, children are "imitators." We know this. But we get so focused on "peer pressure" as a negative thing that we forget that young people can and should influence one another to do good. Yes, it is possible for them to imitate good. In fact, the Bible commands it! The Bible says, "Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good," 3 Jn 11.

There are important reasons for young and old alike to work at imitating good. For one thing, we'll have much less to fear in the way of negative consequences for our behavior. In 2 Peter 3:13, Peter asks,

"And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good?" It's just not very likely that you'll ever get in much trouble or be punished severely for following a good example. Besides this, the Lord will love and appreciate you if you will allow yourself to be influenced to do good. Proverbs 15:9 says that, "The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, But He loves him who follows righteousness."

The fact that young people can be influenced BY others necessarily implies that they can also be influences ON others. The Bible commands the young to be good examples, so that others will have something worthwhile to imitate. The young man Timothy was told, "Let no one despise your youth, but **BE AN EXAMPLE** to the believers in word, in

conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity," 1 Tim 4:12.

So, to the young we say **BE INFLUENCED** and **BE AN INFLUENCE**:

...let yourself be influenced to obey the gospel, and then influence someone else to do the same.

...let yourself be influenced to use pure speech, and then influence someone else to do the same. ...let yourself be influenced to dress modestly, and then influence others to do the same.

...let yourself be influenced to reverently participate in worship (no note passing, giggling, whispering), and then influence someone else to do the same.

...let yourself be influenced to be kind to others, and then influence someone else to do the same.

Reverence in Worship

By Gene Taylor

The reverence that is necessary for proper worship is not based on externals such as dimmed lights, etc. The proper reverent attitude that is to characterize every worshiper of God comes from within the individual. While this attitude must come from the heart of each person, there are a few things that would aid worship and help develop the reverence needed. Here are a few suggestions to help us improve in our worship:

First, prepare your mind mentally for worship. Know what you are doing and why you are doing it. Read a passage from the Bible, look over some of the songs that are to be sung or pray a silent prayer for strength and focus.

Second, keep the use of the restrooms by you and your children to a minimum during the worship period.

Third, be aware of toddlers to teens. They are never too young or too old to worship. Remember, attitudes learned while one is a youth are carried into adulthood.

Fourth, be as well rested as possible. You will then be physically and mentally alert.

Fifth, concentrate on what is going on. Put all other things out of your mind.

Many other things could be suggested but if we use these guidelines and determine in our heart to offer worship that is well pleasing to God, it will reap great benefits for us in this life and the life to come. Let us all learn to truly serve our merciful Father in spirit and in truth.

What about My Father and Mother?

By Foy E. Wallace, Jr.

"A man said to me, 'Brother, I can't take the doctrine you preach that one must be baptized to be saved, because it damns my father and mother who were not baptized.'

"Well, let us see. Do you think one must believe in Jesus Christ to be saved? 'Oh, yes,' he answers. Very well, I will just change my subject from baptism to faith. A Jew comes around and says, 'Mr. Preacher, I can't accept the doctrine you preach, that faith in Jesus is necessary to salvation, because my father and mother died without believing in Christ.'

"The Jew thinks as much of his father as you do of yours. By the same argument with which you eliminate baptism, because perchance it damns some of your ancestors, he also eliminates faith in Christ. Then I preach that the knowledge of God is necessary to salvation and a Chinese comes around, and says, 'I can't take the doctrine you preach, because it damns my poor father and mother, who died without the knowledge of God' — and there you see the whole plan of salvation is nullified by contingencies.

"Friends, I suggest that we leave the matter of clemency to the judge (a judge only has the power of clemency) and let us observe the law. I have no authority to preach clemency — I must preach what God commands men to do to be saved — and I know what the law says."

» Remember in Prayer «

Please pray for the **Emersons** as they grieve for the loss of Betty's cousin Connie; don't forget **Ruth Black** and **Madelene Britnell**, both in nursing homes; and continue to pray for Lois Adams, Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, Polly McNatt, and Hazel Teeples.