

Shepherd's Voice

Orcutt Christian Church Newsletter



Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

The Minister's Musings

Bro. Archie Miller

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A Call to Recenter

Has your prayer life suffered a hit?
Has your Christian life become stale?
Are you progressing in your relationship with Jesus?
Have you lost interest in daily study of God's inspired Bible?
Are you in the habit of not worshipping our heavenly Father on the Lord's Day?
Do you think it is unimportant that you fellowship with the brothers and sisters?
Do you feel as if you need a fresh start with God?

John, the Revelator, says:

Revelation 2:1-5 (TLB)

¹ "Write a letter to the leader of the church at Ephesus and tell him this: "I write to inform you of a message from him who walks among the churches and holds their leaders in his right hand. "He says to you: ² I know how many good things you are doing. I have watched your hard work and your patience; I know you don't tolerate sin among your members, and you have carefully examined the claims of those who say they are apostles but aren't. You have found out how they lie. ³ You have patiently suffered for me without quitting. ⁴ "Yet there is one thing wrong; you don't love me as at first! ⁵ Think about those times of your first love (how different now!) and turn back to me again and work as you did before;

So, how does one recenter their lives on **the One** sitting on Heaven's Throne? How does one return to their first love? In answer, I'd like to suggest reading, studying, and applying the message contained in the five hymns of Revelation, found in 4:8; 4:11; 5:9; 5:11; and 5:13.

**Worthy! Take the book,
Open its seals.
Slain, paying in blood, you
purchased for God persons
From each family and language and
culture and race.
Then you made them
kingdom-priests for our God
Priest-kings,
They'll rule the earth.
Revelation 5:9**

Elder Ed Saunders



I had a very busy a week at Boise Bible College. We had the theme of “Spirit Mindedness.” Each were different aspects of how the Holy Spirit work through us and others.

The main speaker was Dr. Mark Moore, Teaching Pastor of Christ’s Church of the Valley in Phoenix, AZ. He serves this large church with 9 campuses and with 25,000 to 35,000 attending. He was a excellent speaker.

A church where I attended in Eagle, ID, started in the home with 9 people. Dr. Charles Craine preaches there now with around 3,500 in attendance. When I attended Boise Bible College, Eagle only a population of a couple hundred.

At the conference, I attended a class called “Leading with the Spirit.” We want to be a live and healthy church, growing spiritually and serving the Lord.

Dr. Rich Cromey met in a house, and went from 7 to 35 in a year.

What is leadership? It is to encourage others to swift responsibility, management, to influence. This is done by the 5 E’s for success:

Education, Experience, Energy, Enthusiasm, Excellence.

Leaders need a clear vision and empowerment to change. Acts 1:8 - you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes. When we go outside, God will take care of the inside. When you decide to go, keep going. It’s all about relationship. When God has something He wants you to do, do it! Just say “YES!”

Do you ever think about the power of your words? Meditate on my poem ...

WORDS

Words can cut the heart and soul, can be as sharp as a razor blade. When carelessly passing your lips, they can destroy and tear apart.

Words can be mean and terribly cruel, when sent out in a stream of hate.

Words carry a message of our true

Words intent when blasted out with real thought.

Words are so important that they must be guarded, so that they are used to bring joy and peace.

Words will tell more about you, they bare your true image.

Words can build mountain of trust, when kept true and honestly sent.

Words can raise one fallen, and help them see there’s always hope.

Words can make you feel as high as a kite, and raise your spirits to the mountain’s height.

Words well used can grip your soul, and help you onward go. Use your words to praise things done, to build one up and give one fun.

Words can cut the hear and soul, can be as sharp as a razor blade.