



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

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Forest Hill Church of Christ

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Gregory D. Mangrum
Harold D. Mangrum
Keith B. McAlister

Ministers:

Barry M. Grider,
Pulpit Evangelist
Matthew Jones,
Personal Evangelist
Jordan Pugh, Youth

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship.... 10:30 A.M.
Afternoon Worship.... 1:30 P.M.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

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Missions Supported:

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Free Bible Correspondence Course
Email: fbiblecourse@gmail.com

Little Things Mean a Lot

Barry Grider

The title of this article is from a song that was written during the 1950s with the following opening lyrics,

Blow me a kiss from across the room
Say I look nice when I'm not
Touch my hair as you pass my chair
Little things mean a lot.

There have been times when I did something to help my wife and she would say how greatly appreciative she was. I responded that it really was no big deal. She would wink and say "little things mean a lot." The Bible teaches that as well. "Love is kind" (1 Cor. 13:4). Kindness could be described as love in the "little things." Perhaps it includes a note sent to one who is facing a challenge, an embrace when another has lost something dear, praise when someone has done well, excitement when someone has won, or thoughtfulness when everybody forgets.

A life that bursts forth with the virtues of joy, peace, and kindness, comes from a heart that has learned how to love. Jesus was the personification of kindness. He is the One who, though never a parent, was most loved by children. He is the One who, though he never sinned, was most loved by penitent sinners. He is the One who, though poor, was most loved by the needy. Why?

Sweet is the tender love Jesus hath shown,
Sweeter far than any love that mortals have known,
Kind to the erring one, Faithful is He;
He the great example is, and pattern for me.

All the way to the cross Jesus was kind and mindful of others. Kindness comes from deep within. It comes from a heart that has a deep and meaningful relationship with the One who is "of great kindness" (Joel 2:13). Kindness is reflected in our speech. Because of kindness we refrain from saying some things that would be hurtful and serve no useful purpose. The person who says "I just speak the truth," but uses truth to abuse others does not properly understand how to use truth. Because of kindness we speak respectfully of others, offering encouragement to all. Fill your vocabulary with words of praise such as great, good job, awesome, way to go, etc. Do so because you want to be like Jesus and He was kind. Our words should be words of affirmation, help, and comfort. Let your speech, along with your actions, reveal a kind, warm, friendly, and helpful personality.

Learning to love in the little things will for sure help you and me enjoy life and make life enjoyable for others. Through kindness others will be drawn to us and will want to be more like us. Through kindness others will see Christ living in us and the gospel will have more impact upon the lost. What a better world it would be if in our homes, schools, congregations, businesses, and communities we could learn that little things mean a lot.

A Creed That Needs No Revision

E. L. Whitaker

[Editor's Note: This past Lord's Day, Forest Hill celebrated its 58th Anniversary as a congregation. We are so thankful for the one who wrote the following article and who served as our pulpit evangelist from our beginning in 1959 until his retirement in 1992. Though now with the Lord, we continue to appreciate his great influence.]

I am concerned and alarmed by some who are teaching false doctrine on many subjects today. We hear that elders have no authority; there are saved in every religious institution; instrumental music is no longer a matter of faith, etc.

Have we forgotten that the Bible is the Book we live by? God's people in these pungent days in which we live need to be reminded again and again of the authenticity, the infallibility and the authority of the Word of God. If we have no infallible standard of truth in the Word of God, we are at sea without a compass. If God's Word can be changed as proposed by some, this is exactly where we are. Yet, God has given us "A Creed That Needs No Revision."

Revelation 22:18,19 "...If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of prophesy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life..." I realize this scripture expressly refers to the book of Revelation, yet God expresses the same truth in every book of the Bible.

This suggests the thought that the Bible is a text book that needs no revision. The textbooks of grammar, math, science, etc., of today are not the ones of years ago. The creeds of long ago are not the creeds of today.

The word "creed" is from the Latin, "credo," which means, "I believe." Man believes with his heart. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:10). A man's life is governed by what he believes. "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he..." (Pro. 23:7). The acts in a man's life are usually in keeping with the thoughts of his heart.

One must have "testimony" before he can have faith. "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:30, 31). Since our creed is what we believe, and since our faith is based on testimony, it behooves us then to seek for the testimony that will determine the highest good for mankind as a whole.

Therefore, there are certain characteristics this creed must possess before the need of the human heart is met. There are some characteristics that must be present for "A Creed That Needs No Revision." If these characteristics are not present, then the creed will not pass the test God has given.

Universality. If this earmark is lacking, then it becomes an individual or a class creed. This is not the kind for which we are searching, for it must apply to the universal heart and therefore must be universal in its adaptability. God's Word

meets and satisfies the requirement. "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Simplicity. This creed must be brought to the level of the simple mind. Upon this plain the human family may gather, because the evaluated plains are unexplored except by the favored few who are able to mount upward in thought on eagles wings. The fruit for which we are seeking must grow on the lower branches of God's great tree of blessings. The Bible meets this demand. "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein" (Isaiah 35:8).

Profoundness. This creed must satisfy the most grasping and comprehensive mind. It must feed the deepest intellect and spiritual thirst. No intellect, however gigantic, must pass beyond it or its mission for that man is ended. The Bible satisfies this mark. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matt. 5:6). "While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" (Matt. 17:5).

Vitality. It must be a living, growing reality, meeting man at every point of his upward progress. And in order so to do, it must be as capable of expansion as the soul. The Bible meets this desire. "For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Heb. 4:13).

Life Giving. It must possess power enough to quicken the soul and call forth the best there is in man; physically, intellectually, and spiritually. The Gospel meets this. "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63).

Model for Imitation. Outside rules and regulations cannot produce a perfect life. The world has tried and failed, but that inward principle can. This is brought about by following Christ. The Bible has this earmark. "The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me" (John 1:43).

Comprehensiveness. It contains every truth known to man. "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). There is no other creed like it. It is not such a creed as man would write if he could, because it condemns him, or would write if he would, because it surpasses him.

(continued on page 4)

LORD'S TABLE

PRESIDE:	Jonathan Beard	Eddie Ray
ASSIST:	Jack Braddock	Sean Ellis
	Eddie Graham	Cason Grider
	David Richardson	Marv Sowell

PRAYERS

A.M. OPENING:	John Connell
A.M. CLOSING:	Kevin Knipple
P.M. OPENING:	Evan Manning
P.M. CLOSING:	Buster Rogers

If you are unable to lead prayer or serve at the Lord's table, please contact Cedric Huff or Paul Connell.

RECORD, WEEK of January 8, 2017

BIBLE STUDY:	235
A.M. WORSHIP:	320
P.M. WORSHIP:	225
CONTRIBUTON:	\$18,617

OUR SICK

Bob Bergstrom, St. Francis Hospital Bartlett.
Betty Jones, Methodist Hospital Germantown.
Karla Kirby, daughter of former FH members Bryan & Pam Kirby, critical condition in ICU in LaGrange, Georgia.
ILL AT HOME: Mary Alice Bergstrom, Alan Hart, Avis Terry, Brenda Woods and Jerry Wright.

HOMEBOUND

Bessie Berry	Albert & Ruth House
Ann Castleman	Clarine Justice
Virginia Ditto	Ryan McCullar
Hazel Eskew	Helen Palazola
Tommy & Nell Herndon	Jerry & Betty Robbins
Anita Hopper	James Terry

INFORMATION LINE: 901-531-8849

REQUESTED PRAYERS: Jagger House, Madison Moore and Sarah Phillips.

KIRBY PINES Retirement Community worship service each fourth Sunday 8:00-8:45 a.m., conducted by Forest Hill. Our next service will be Sunday, January 22.

LEGACY ESTATES worship service each Sunday afternoon 3:00 p.m. conducted by Forest Hill.

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

Dear Forest Hill,
Many thanks to my brothers and sisters at Forest Hill. We truly appreciate your thoughts and prayers after my accident. I am on the road to recovery. Your support to my family was a blessing.

God Bless,
Alex Brandon and family

HEARTS AND HANDS

Team "A" (Paul Connell) will meet Sunday, January 22 after the morning service for a covered dish luncheon in the fellowship hall.

TEAM "B" (Warren Davenport) will receive assignments the week of January 22.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LADIES' and MEN'S CLASSES meet each Tuesday morning at 10:00.

NEW SERMON SERIES beginning Sunday, January 15. Brother Grider will preach a series of messages during each afternoon service centered on the theme, "In God's House."

JCs will meet Sunday, January 15 after the morning service in the MSOP break room. This month's act of worship focus is on "prayer." Food will be provided. Please let Melinda Braddock know if you plan to attend.

AREA-WIDE YOUTH DEVOTIONAL at Forest Hill, Monday, January 16 at 7:00 p.m.

ELDERS, DEACONS & PREACHERS PLANNING SESSION Saturday, January 21 at 8:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

2017 MSOP LECTURESHIP, March 26-30.

2017 VBS June 5, 6 & 7.

Last week's solution:
And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour? Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak. Mark 14:37-38.

CORNERSTONE

Replace each letter with a different letter to reveal the scripture.

GTJKCWTSQT DK SK CVS TEMP IKG TEMP. WGKEMXT
 DNMSAQ NKSTQD MS DNT QMAND KI VPP CTS. MI MD
 UT WKQQMUPT, VQ CFJN VQ PMTDN MS OKF, PMET
 WTVJTVUPO BMDN VPP CTS. XTVGPO UTPKETX,
 VETSAT SKD OKFGQTPETQ, UFD GVDNTG AMET WPVJT
 FSDK BGVDN IKG MD MQ BGMDDTs, ETSATVSJT MQ
 CMST; M BMPP GTWVO, QVMDN DNT PKGX.

J = C Solution next week S = N

A Creed That Needs No Revision (continued from page 2)

Perfection. It must be absolutely perfect: incapable of improvement. It was all placed there by the purpose and will of God. God's Word has this characteristic. "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple" (Psa. 19:7). "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

The Bible is the only creed man should have. It is the only book that has power to save. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (Rom. 1:16). Since it is God's power to save, we must leave it alone and preach and teach it just as the Bible so instructs.

Nothing is plainer in the New Testament than the fact that God's will must be obeyed, and not tampered with, for God will not be mocked.

Do not allow Satan to destroy your soul. Follow Christ and obey his word implicitly. The Bible is like no other book, it needs no revision. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Pro. 14:12).

(from *Gospel Advocate*, January 17, 1985)

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