

Controlling The Self

As the Christian seeks to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ as we find in 2 Peter 1:5-8, they must begin with the foundation of faith. This is a necessary strong conviction and trust in both God and Jesus Christ. To this they add the quality of virtue (striving to become all that Jesus desires of them). Then they must all the while be increasing in knowledge (gaining awareness and understanding through study and experience of the will of God).

As our knowledge increases, we are to add self-control (temperance, KJV); which makes sense. What good is it to grow in knowledge of good and evil if we do not have the ability to make proper use of such knowledge?

Self-control is the discipline of one's self so as to live in harmony with the knowledge of right and wrong. The denial of self is necessary to follow Jesus (Luke 9:23). **One cannot be a disciple of Jesus without exercising self-control!** Yet most would agree that controlling the self is easier said than done.

The challenge of controlling the self is seen throughout the scriptures. The example of the tongue and just how hard it is to control can be seen in James 1:26; 3:2-10. The problem is real, yet the solution comes as we "crucify" the "flesh." By crucifying the flesh through our union with Christ in baptism, and then allowing the Spirit to lead us and empower us through the knowledge we gain through His Word, self-control will be a natural fruit born by the Christian as we grow and mature (Gal. 5:22-23).

We are to bring our body under subjection (1 Cor. 9:27). We are to deny ourselves ungodliness and worldly lusts (Titus 2:11 and 2 Tim. 2:22). We should be willing to deny self in service to others, Agape Love. That means denying one's pride (Phil. 2:3-4). **Controlling the self means not only the body, but also the ego! This is where commitment is necessary.**

Controlling the self through a commitment to God is a natural component to growing in the knowledge of Jesus. As faith without works is dead, so faith without self-control is meaningless. Striving for excellence (virtue) is not possible without the discipline and commitment of self-control. Increasing in knowledge is nothing but an academic exercise, unless we are able to apply that knowledge by exercising self-control.

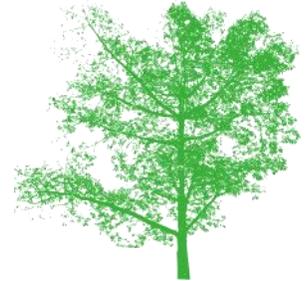
In this way, we develop that Christ-like character. Coming to truly know Him who through self-control offered Himself in service to His Father and for us.

Your Elders

To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



Chase Park Church of Christ

Ministers

Rusty Hills Pulpit

Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

Elders

John Denney

Curtis Hill

Sam Kachelman

Dennis Lawson

Greg Parker

Barry Todd

Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza Chalco, Mexico

Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico

Slava Savkovsky Ukraine

Barton Kizer..... Peru

Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

Lamifications—*Andrew Lamica*

What a fantastic night we had just over a week ago at the 2017 Senior Reception here at Chase Park. I believe it was a special night for each and every one of our graduates.

An event of that size does not happen because of the efforts of one person, it takes an entire team (and a big one at that!). I am so thankful for each and every person who had even the smallest part in making the night so wonderful for our graduates.

Though each person who helped deserves a "thank you" for the their efforts, I want to specifically mention a few. *Mrs. Mary Milam*, thank you for the delicious cakes that you always provide. Mrs. Mary selflessly offers her services of cake making each year for our Senior Reception.

Mrs. Leigh Gates, thank you for heading up the outstanding group of Junior parents in putting together the evening. Mrs. Leigh took care of a lot of things behind the scenes that needed doing with little recognition.

Sound room guys, thank you! The sound room guys make all the magic happen when it comes to the slideshows. I am very appreciative of their efforts from that evening. There were a few hiccups before the slideshow but you would never know it because of their talents and hard work!

Parents of our seniors, you have done an extraordinary job of raising some exceptional young ladies and young men. Because of the efforts you put in at home, my job was much easier. Thank you for allowing Candy and me to have a small part in the life of your family.

We have enjoyed every minute of it.

Junior class, junior parents, and all others who served, thank you for everything you did that evening (whether it was noticed or not, I am appreciative of your efforts). Again, a large event like this takes a lot of people for it to be successful. Without people who have the heart of a servant, things like this never get off the ground. Thank you to every single person who had a hand in this year's Senior Reception!

Graduates (has that title sunk in yet?), as I said on Sunday evening, you are loved at Chase Park. We are so proud of the young adults you have become and we cannot wait to see what you will do in the years to come!

Evangelism Made Personal—Motivation (*Continued*)

Continuing consideration of Mark Copeland's motivation for evangelism, we can also add to our list of the things that motivated Jesus...**THE TERROR OF THE LORD**. Jesus was very much aware of God's "righteous indignation." He taught that we should "fear" God (**Mt. 10:28**). He warned of the judgment to come (**Mk. 9:43-48**). Knowing the "terror of the Lord," Jesus was willing to go to the cross that man might be saved. He even prayed for those crucifying Him (**Lk. 23:34**). Are we willing to make the effort to save others, like Jesus? We may not have to die for them, but are we even willing to speak to them? Or could it be that we don't take the "terror of the Lord" as serious as Jesus' early disciples did (cf. **2 Cor. 5:11**)?

How can we develop a healthy appreciation for "the terror of the Lord"? I recommend frequent "**meditating upon the word of**

God," especially those portions which describe God's judgments in the past (cf. **2 Pet 2:4-9**), and that provide warnings of the Judgment Day to come (**2 Thess. 1:7-10; Rev. 20:12-15; 21:8**).

Have we, like many, become complacent to the fact that there will be a Day of Judgment and condemnation? Could it be we have not let the Word of God have its true effect on our lives? A lack of concern and involvement in trying to reach the lost for Christ would certainly imply this to be the case!

Finally, we see that the Lord was moved by...**THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM**. As expressed by the writer of Hebrews (**Heb. 12:2**), Jesus was motivated by the joyful prospect of being with His Father, at His Right Hand. Notice that this enabled Him to "endure the cross" and "despise the shame." Does not the prospect of spending eternity with God move us to do what we can

to save souls? It must, if we also are to be willing to "endure the cross" or "despise the shame" that might be involved in evangelism!

To increase our level of appreciating what lies ahead for the faithful, I recommend regular "**contemplation upon what God has prepared for us**" as described in the Word of God. I find especially helpful those scenes pictured in **Rev. 7:13-17; 21:1-7**.

It also helps to "**think of what God will do for those we reach**." Paul did, as he describes in **1 Thess. 2:19-20**; and it gave him great joy that I am sure helped him to PRESS ON teaching others.

Since Jesus is the "**Author**" and "**Finisher**" of our faith (**Heb. 12:2**), we should be "looking unto Jesus" for the motivation we need to do His will. We should "consider Him" (**Heb. 12:3**), lest we become weary and discouraged in doing God's will.

Your Elders

News Of Interest

Sick

Redstone Village

Gladys Parker
Joe Parker

Crestwood Hospital

Bennie Jacks
Dwight Steele

Sympathy

To **Aleta Davidson** in the death of her brother, Bill Hunt, in Butler, Missouri.

Congratulations

To **Jared and Shelley Sharp** on the birth of **Bennett Cole** born Monday, May 22. Bennett weighed 7 lbs., 12 ozs. **Mark and Jan Rowe** are the proud grandparents.

Bloodmobile Reminder



The Life South Bloodmobile is here today, 11:15 a.m.—2:00 p.m., if you would like to give blood.

Church Offices Closed

Tomorrow, in observance of Memorial Day.



Library Book

The book, *Rest in Green Pastures; Encouragement for Shepherds*, edited by Chris McCurley, has recently been placed in our library. In this book nine shepherds offer encouragement, help and hope for common struggles faced by church leaders. In addition to the topics of appointing and qualifications of elders, topics include: “Things elders do that people see,” “Things elders do that people don’t see,” “The wife of an elder” and “The honor of serving as an elder.” This book offers encouragement to those serving as elders and understanding for those members whom they serve.

Pantry Item

Tomato Sauce

Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30p.m.
Speaker: **Michael Sims**
Song Leader: **Ray Brown**

Hospital Visitation

Team #4 (**McCall**), please pick up your assignments today following evening worship.

Family Care Program

Team/Sections C and D will meet today, potluck lunch.

Children’s Ministry Devotional

Today, after p.m. service. Dining room/Fellowship hall.



Super Seniors

Wednesday, May 31. Will go out to eat.

Vacation Bible School

Saturday, June 24. Work Sessions:
Today, 2:30—4:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 4, 2:30—4:30 p.m.

Thank You

“Ms. Edith was always very thankful for every call, card, visit and gift that she received while at home and during her years at the nursing home. Her friends and family would like to express their thanks to everyone who made her time pass by more pleasantly. She loved her church family and all those that showed so much care and concern. May God continue to bless this congregation for the love shown to each other.”

Friends of Edith Buchanan

“I would like to convey my sincerest thanks and appreciation and a special ‘thank you’ to everyone at Chase Park for the prayers that have been sent up to our Dear Lord on my behalf regarding my surgery and the recovery. Please know how much I love and appreciate everyone! When I got home, my mailbox was overflowing with beautiful cards, wonderful messages and lots of love! You guys are always there in a time of need. I truly appreciate everyone taking time out of their busy schedule to pray, send cards, and to come to the hospital on May 8 and sit with my Patrick, family, friends and coworkers. You are always there in a time of need and I am so blessed to be a part of this wonderful, loving congregation! Thank you for all you do for me and so many others! Thank You Lord for everyone at Chase Park and please continue to bless US as we continue to do YOUR goodwill! God bless you all ! In Christian love “

Bennie Jacks (Patrick Jacks)

Submitted May 17, after her first surgery.

Little Leaders

Some are confident and eager for their turn; others are scared and hesitant to stand up; but, regardless of their emotions or demeanor, one thing is for sure: they are all excited about the opportunity to stand before the congregation and lead them in singing. As adults, young and old, we enjoy watching these young boys lead singing almost as much as they enjoy doing it. We love to see their enthusiasm and joy, and let's be honest – they are just so cute. But make no mistake, allowing these young men to lead singing is much more than just an exercise in cuteness. It is an important and valuable tool in helping these boys to grow in experience, confidence, and skill as they learn to be leaders for the Lord. These opportunities also help to develop in them a love for service and leadership that will be a benefit to them and to the Lord's church for years to come.

We love our children and want to do all that we can to help them develop in their faith and abilities. We want to encourage them to use their talents for the Lord. We want to support them, build them up, and show our love for them. Therefore, we want to see these young men stand before us. We want to sing with them as they lead us. We want them to be encouraged by our smiling faces and raised voices. So, to that end, we are going to make a concerted effort to give them more opportunities to do just that. On the fourth Sunday of each month, beginning this afternoon, we are



going to devote the fifteen minutes before the beginning of our evening worship service, to being led in singing by any of our young boys who want to be involved. Our hope is that many of our boys will embrace this opportunity and that many of our adults will make an effort to be here a little early to encourage and support them. I can assure you that it will be a blessing for everyone involved, and who knows what good may be accomplished by this small effort. I hope to see you here.

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Statistics

Sunday, May 21, 2017

AM Worship	376
Month Average	390
Bible Class	300
PM Worship	NC
Wed., May 24 Bible Classes	235
Regency Ret. Worship	NC
Offering	\$18,036.19
Budget	\$18,000
Average '17	\$17,994
Under Budget for year	-\$136
Building Fund	\$145.00

Services

Sunday

Worship	9:00 a.m.
Bible Class	10:15 a.m.
Worship	5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Super Seniors	10:00 a.m.
Bible Class	6:30 p.m.

Web Site Home Bible Studies

<https://www.epcofc.org/home-bible-studies>

(Lesson 1 Link)

The Bible—God's Holy Word